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(2) Future specific model plans (to be protected only until the date on which the specific model to which the plan pertains is first offered for sale); and

(3) Future vehicle production or sales figures for specific models (to be protected only until the termination of the production period for the model year vehicle to which the information pertains).

[68 FR 44228, July 28, 2003, as amended at 69 FR 21425, Apr. 21, 2004]

APPENDIX C TO PART 512—EARLY WARNING REPORTING CLASS DETERMINATIONS

(a) The Chief Counsel has determined that the following information required to be submitted to the agency under 49 CFR 579, Subpart C, if released, is likely to cause substantial harm to the competitive position of the manufacturer submitting the information and is likely to impair the government's ability to obtain necessary information in the future:

(1) Reports and data relating to warranty claim information and warranty adjustment information for manufacturers of tires;

(2) Reports and data relating to field reports, including dealer reports, product evaluation reports, and hard copies of field reports; and

(3) Reports and data relating to consumer complaints.

(b) The Chief Counsel has determined that the following information required to be submitted to the agency under 49 CFR 579, Subpart C, if released, is likely to cause substantial harm to the competitive position of the manufacturer submitting the information:

(1) Reports of production numbers for child restraint systems, tires, and vehicles other than light vehicles, as defined in 49 CFR 579.4(c); and

(2) Lists of common green tire identifiers.

[72 FR 59470, Oct. 19, 2007]

APPENDIX D TO PART 512—VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER INFORMATION

The Chief Counsel has determined that the disclosure of the last six (6) characters, when disclosed along with the first eleven (11) characters, of vehicle identification numbers reported in information on incidents involving death or injury pursuant to the early warning information requirements of 49 CFR part 579 will constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy within the meaning of 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(6).

[72 FR 59470, Oct. 19, 2007]

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APPENDIX E TO PART 512—CONSUMER ASSISTANCE TO RECYCLE AND SAVE (CARS) CLASS DETERMINATIONS

(a) The Chief Counsel has determined that the following information required to be submitted to the agency under 49 CFR part 599, if released, is likely to cause substantial harm to the competitive position of the entity submitting the information:

(1) Vehicle Manufacturer Issued Dealer Identification Code;

(2) Dealer Bank Name, ABA Routing Number and Bank Account Number; and

(3) CARS Dealer Code and Authorization Code.

(b) The Chief Counsel has determined that the disclosure of the new vehicle owner's name, home address, telephone number, state identification number and last six (6) characters, when disclosed along with the first eleven (11) characters, of the new vehicle identification numbers reported in transactions submitted to the agency under 49 CFR Part 599 will constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy within the meaning of 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(6).

[74 FR 37897, July 29, 2009]

APPENDIX F TO PART 512—OMB CLEARANCE

The OMB clearance number for this part 512 is 2127-0025.

[74 FR 37897, July 29, 2009]

PART 513—WHISTLEBLOWER PROGRAM

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APPENDIX A TO PART 513—FORM WB-INFO

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APPENDIX C TO PART 513—FORM WB-AWARD

AUTHORITY: 49 U.S.C. 322 and 49 U.S.C. 30172; delegation of authority at 49 CFR 1.95.

SOURCE: 89 FR 101972, Dec. 17, 2024, unless otherwise noted.

§513.1 General.

This part 513 describes the whistleblower program established by the Agency to implement the Motor Vehicle Safety Whistleblower Act, 49 U.S.C. 30172, explains procedures that a potential whistleblower must follow to be eligible for an award, and the circumstances under which information that may reasonably be expected to reveal the identity of a whistleblower may be disclosed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Potential whistleblowers should read these procedures carefully because failure to take required steps in a timely fashion in conformance with these rules may result in disqualification from receiving an award. Questions about the whistleblower program or these rules should be directed to the NHTSA Office of the Chief Counsel at NHTSAWhistleblower@dot.gov. Unless expressly provided for in this part, no person is authorized to make any offer or promise, or otherwise bind the Agency with respect to the payment of any award or the amount thereof, and any such offer or promise will not be honored.

§513.2 Definitions.

(a) *Statutory definitions.* All terms used in this part have the same meaning as in 49 U.S.C. 30102(a) or (b), unless otherwise defined in this part.

(b) *Other terms.* As used in this part:

Administrative action. The term “administrative action” means all or a portion of an action, other than a judicial action, brought by the NHTSA or the U.S. Department of Transportation under 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301 that may result in civil penalties or other monetary payment paid to and collected by the United States government. It specifically includes settlement agreements and consent orders that are entered into by the Agency.

Agency. The term “Agency” refers to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

Collected monetary sanctions. The term “collected monetary sanctions” means monies, including penalties and interest, ordered or agreed to be paid and that have been collected by the United States, pursuant to the authority in 49

U.S.C. 30165 or under the authority of 49 U.S.C. 30170.

Contractor. The term “contractor” means an individual presently or formerly providing goods or services to a motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier, or dealership pursuant to a contract.

Covered action. The term “covered action” means any administrative or judicial action, including any related administrative or judicial action brought by the Secretary, NHTSA, or the Attorney General under 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301, or a regulation thereunder, that in the aggregate results in monetary sanctions exceeding \$1,000,000. The over \$1,000,000 threshold can be satisfied if the total amount of monetary sanctions paid by multiple defendants or parties and collected by the United States totals more than \$1,000,000 in the covered action.

Dealership. The term “dealership” means a person selling and distributing motor vehicles or motor vehicle equipment primarily to purchasers that in good faith purchase the vehicles or equipment other than for resale.

Employee. The term “employee” means an individual presently or formerly employed by a motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier, or dealership.

Independent knowledge or analysis. The term “knowledge” as used in this part means factual information in the potential whistleblower’s possession that is not generally known or available to the public and is not already known to NHTSA. The potential whistleblower may gain independent knowledge from the potential whistleblower’s experiences, communications, and observations in the potential whistleblower’s business or social interactions. As used in this part, “analysis” means the potential whistleblower’s examination and evaluation of information that may be generally or publicly available, but which reveals information that is not generally known or available to the public. This analysis must be the potential whistleblower’s own analysis, whether done alone or in combination with others. NHTSA will not consider the potential

whistleblower's information to be derived from the potential whistleblower's independent knowledge or analysis if the potential whistleblower obtained the information:

(i) Solely through a communication that was subject to the attorney-client privilege or work product doctrine; or

(ii) By a means or in a manner that has been determined by a United States federal court or state court to violate applicable federal or state criminal law.

Motor vehicle defect. The term “motor vehicle defect” means a defect in a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment.

Noncompliance. A “noncompliance” occurs when a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment does not comply with an applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard.

Original information. The term “original information” means information that—

(i) Is derived from the independent knowledge or analysis of an individual;

(ii) Is not known to the Secretary or Agency from any other source, unless the individual is the original source of the information;

(iii) Is not exclusively derived from an allegation made in a judicial or an administrative action, in a governmental report, a hearing, an audit, or an investigation, or from the news media, unless the individual is a source of the information; and

(iv) Is provided to the Agency for the first time after December 4, 2015.

Original information that leads to a successful resolution. The Agency will consider that the potential whistleblower provided original information that “leads to” a successful resolution of a covered action in the following circumstances:

(i) The potential whistleblower gave the Agency original information that was sufficiently specific, credible and timely to cause the Agency to open an investigation, reopen an investigation that the Agency had closed, continue an investigation the Agency would not have continued but for the information, or to inquire concerning a different potential violation of Chapter 301, or a regulation thereunder, as part of a current investigation, and the U.S.

Department of Transportation, Agency, or U.S. Department of Justice brought a successful judicial or administrative action based in whole or in part on conduct that was the subject of the potential whistleblower's original information; or

(ii) The potential whistleblower gave the Agency original information about conduct that was already under investigation by the Agency and the potential whistleblower's information significantly contributed to the success of the covered action and the U.S. Department of Transportation, Agency, or U.S. Department of Justice brought a judicial or administrative action that achieves a successful resolution based in whole or in part on conduct that was the subject of the potential whistleblower's original information.

Part supplier. The term “part supplier” means a manufacturer of motor vehicle equipment.

Potential whistleblower. The term “potential whistleblower” refers to an employee or contractor of a motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier, or dealership submitting information to the Agency in accordance with and pursuant to this part.

Related administrative or judicial action. The term “related administrative or judicial action” means an action that was brought under 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301 by the U.S. Department of Justice, the U.S. Department of Transportation, or the Agency and is based on the original information provided by the whistleblower.

Secretary. The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Transportation.

Successful resolution. A successful resolution, when referring to any administrative or judicial action brought by the Secretary, Agency, or the Attorney General relating to any potential motor vehicle defect, potential noncompliance, or any violation or alleged violation of any notification or reporting requirement under 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301, or a regulation thereunder, which is likely to cause unreasonable risk of death or serious physical injury, includes any settlement of the action by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Agency or the U.S. Department of Justice or final decision or judgment

in whole or in partial favor of the Agency, the U.S. Department of Transportation, or the U.S. Department of Justice.

Whistleblower. The term “whistleblower” means any employee or contractor of a motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier, or dealership who voluntarily provides to the Agency original information relating to any motor vehicle defect, noncompliance, or any violation or alleged violation of any notification or reporting requirement of 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301, or a regulation thereunder, which is likely to cause unreasonable risk of death or serious physical injury.

§513.3 Representation.

A whistleblower or potential whistleblower may be represented by a legal representative.

§513.4 Procedures for submitting original information.

(a) A potential whistleblower's submission must be made by completing a WB-INFO form and submitting it to the Office of the Chief Counsel, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, by email to NHTSAWhistleblower@dot.gov or other submission method expressly designated on NHTSA's website for such submissions.

(b) By completing the WB-INFO form, the potential whistleblower must declare under penalty of perjury at the time the whistleblower submits information pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section that the information is true and correct to the best of the potential whistleblower's knowledge and belief.

(c) A potential whistleblower may provide original information to the Agency anonymously through use of a legal representative. The legal representative must submit the information on behalf of the potential whistleblower pursuant to the procedures specified in paragraph (a) of this section. Prior to the legal representative's submission, the potential whistleblower must provide the legal representative with a completed WB-INFO form that the potential whistleblower has signed under the penalty of perjury. When the legal representative

makes the submission on behalf of the potential whistleblower, the legal representative must certify that the legal representative:

(1) Has verified the potential whistleblower's identity;

(2) Has verified that the potential whistleblower is an employee or contractor of a motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier, or dealership;

(3) Has reviewed the potential whistleblower's signed WB-INFO form for accuracy and that the information contained therein is true and correct to the best of the legal representative's knowledge, information and belief; and

(4) Has obtained the potential whistleblower's non-waivable consent to provide the Agency with the original WB-INFO form for the potential whistleblower in the event that the Agency requests it.

(d) If a potential whistleblower submitted original information to the Agency after December 4, 2015 but before January 16, 2025, the submission will be deemed to satisfy the requirements set forth in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section.

§513.5 Confidentiality.

(a) *In general.* Notwithstanding 49 U.S.C. 30167, the Secretary and any officer or employee of the U.S. Department of Transportation shall not disclose any information, including information provided by a whistleblower to the Secretary, that could reasonably be expected to reveal the identity of a whistleblower, except in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552a, unless:

(1) Disclosure is required to a defendant or respondent in connection with a public proceeding instituted by the Secretary, the Agency, or any entity described in paragraph (c);

(2) The whistleblower provides prior written consent for the information to be disclosed; or

(3) The Secretary, or other officer or employee of the U.S. Department of Transportation, receives the information through another source, such as during an inspection or investigation under 49 U.S.C. 30166, and has the authority under other law to release the information.

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(b) *Use by Attorney General.* Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this section, nothing in this section is intended to limit the ability of the Attorney General to present such evidence to a grand jury or to share such evidence with potential witnesses or defendants in the course of an ongoing criminal investigation.

(c) *Availability to Federal Government agencies.* Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this section, without the loss of its status as confidential in the hands of the Administrator, all information referred to in paragraph (a) of this section may, in the discretion of the Administrator, when determined by the Administrator to be necessary or appropriate to accomplish the purposes of 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301, be made available to the U.S. Department of Justice or an appropriate department or agency of the Federal Government, acting within the scope of its jurisdiction, provided that each entity shall maintain information as confidential in accordance with the requirements of paragraph (a).

(d) *Redaction.* When disclosing any information under paragraph (a) of this section, the Secretary and any officer or employee of the U.S. Department of Transportation shall take reasonable measures not to reveal the identity of the whistleblower by taking measures not to reveal the whistleblower's name, and redacting the whistleblower's name when information is disclosed under paragraph (a).

(e) *Section 552(b)(3)(B).* The identity of the whistleblower and the information provided to Secretary by the whistleblower shall be considered exempt from disclosure under the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552 to the fullest extent permitted by law.

(f) *The whistleblower.* The person should self-identify as a whistleblower at the time the person first submits original information relating to any potential motor vehicle defect, potential noncompliance, or any violation or alleged violation of any notification or reporting requirements under 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301 or a regulation thereunder by submitting a WB-INFO form. If the person is represented by a legal representative, that legal representative should identify the client as a whistle-

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blower at the time the legal representative first submits original information relating to any potential motor vehicle defect, potential noncompliance, or any violation or alleged violation of any notification or reporting requirements under 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301 or regulation thereunder on behalf of the legal representative's client in the WB-INFO form.

§513.6 Prerequisites to the consideration of an award.

(a) Subject to the eligibility requirements described in this part, NHTSA may, but is not required to, authorize payment of an award to one or more persons who:

(1) Provide a voluntary submission to the Agency;

(2) Provide in that submission original information relating to any potential motor vehicle defect, potential noncompliance, or any violation or alleged violation of any notification or reporting requirement of 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301 or a regulation thereunder, which is likely to cause unreasonable risk of death or serious physical injury; and

(3) The original information provided in that submission leads to the successful resolution of a covered action.

(b) To be eligible, the person must have given the Agency original information in the form and manner that the Agency requires in §513.4. The Agency may, for good cause, waive this requirement.

§513.7 Whistleblowers ineligible for an award.

No award under §513.10 shall be made:

(a) If the amount of monetary sanctions collected in a covered action does not exceed \$1,000,000;

(b) To any whistleblower who is convicted of a criminal violation by a United States federal or state court related to the covered action for which the whistleblower otherwise could receive an award under this part;

(c) To any whistleblower who, acting without direction from an applicable motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier, or dealership, or agent thereof, deliberately causes or substantially contributes to the alleged violation of

a requirement of 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301 or a regulation thereunder;

(d) To any whistleblower who submits information to the Agency that is based on the facts underlying the covered action submitted previously by another whistleblower;

(e) To any whistleblower who fails to provide the original information to the Agency in the form required by § 513.4 without good cause shown;

(f) To any whistleblower who knowingly and intentionally makes any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation, or who makes or uses any false writing or document knowing the same to contain any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or entry; or

(g) If the applicable motor vehicle manufacturer, parts supplier, or dealership has an internal reporting mechanism in place to protect employees from retaliation, to any whistleblower who fails to report or attempt to report the information through such mechanism, unless:

(1) The whistleblower reasonably believed that such an internal report would have resulted in retaliation, notwithstanding 49 U.S.C. 30171(a);

(2) The whistleblower reasonably believed that the information:

(A) was already internally reported;

(B) was already subject to or part of an internal inquiry or investigation; or

(C) was otherwise already known to the motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier, or dealership; or

(3) The Agency has good cause to waive this requirement.

§ 513.8 Provision of false information.

A person who knowingly and intentionally makes any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation, or who makes or uses any false writing or document knowing the same to contain any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or entry, shall not be entitled to an award under this section and shall be subject to prosecution under section 1001 of title 18.

§ 513.9 Procedures for making a claim for a whistleblower award.

(a) Whenever any administrative or judicial action, including any related administrative or judicial action,

brought by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Agency, or U.S. Department of Justice under 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301 in the aggregate results in collected monetary sanctions exceeding \$1,000,000, the Agency will publish on the Agency's website a "Notice of Covered Action." Such Notice will be published subsequent to a final judgment, order, or agreement that alone, or in the aggregate, results in collected monetary sanctions exceeding \$1,000,000. A claimant will have ninety (90) days from the date of the Notice of Covered Action to file a claim, including any attachments, for an award based on that action, or the claim will be barred. The claim is deemed filed on the date that it is received by the Agency.

(b) To file a claim for a whistleblower award, the claimant must complete the WB-AWARD form and submit it no later than ninety (90) calendar days from the date of the Notice of Covered Action to NHTSA's Office of the Chief Counsel by email to NHTSAWhistleblower@dot.gov or another method expressly designated on NHTSA's website. If the ninetieth day falls on a weekend or federal holiday, the claim deadline is the next business day.

(c) If the claimant provided original information anonymously pursuant to § 513.4, the claimant must disclose the claimant's identity on the WB-AWARD form and the claimant's identity must be verified in a form and manner that is acceptable to the Agency prior to the authorization of payment of any award to such claimant.

(d) If a claimant filed a claim for a whistleblower award after December 4, 2015 (the date of the enactment of the FAST Act) but before January 16, 2025, the claim submission will be deemed to meet the requirements of § 513.9.

§ 513.10 Award determinations.

(a) Once the time for filing any appeals of the covered action (and all related actions) has expired, or where an appeal has been filed, after all appeals in the covered action and related actions have concluded, and over \$1,000,000 in monetary sanctions have been collected, the Agency will evaluate all timely whistleblower award

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claims submitted on a WB-AWARD form in accordance with the criteria set forth in this part. The Agency may require the claimant to provide additional information relating to the claimant's eligibility for an award or satisfaction of any of the conditions for an award.

(b) The determination of whether, to whom, or in what amount to make an award shall be in the discretion of the Administrator. In determining whether to grant an award to a whistleblower eligible for an award and the amount of an award, the Administrator shall take into consideration, as appropriate:

(1) Whether a whistleblower reported or attempted to report the information internally to an applicable motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier, or dealership;

(2) The significance of the original information provided by the whistleblower to the successful resolution of the covered action;

(3) The degree of assistance provided by the whistleblower and any legal representative of the whistleblower in the covered action;

(4) The statutory purpose of incentivizing whistleblowers; and

(5) The public interest or such additional factors as the Administrator considers relevant.

(c) If the Administrator determines that an award is warranted, the Administrator shall determine the amount of such award or awards to one or more whistleblowers. Whistleblower awards shall be in an aggregate amount equal to—

(1) Not less than 10 percent, in total, of monetary sanctions collected in the covered action; and

(2) Not more than 30 percent, in total, of monetary sanctions collected in the covered action.

(d) Following the Administrator's determination, the Agency will send each whistleblower claimant an Order setting forth whether the claim is granted or denied, and if granted, setting forth the award amount. If the Administrator determines that an award is warranted, in no event will the total amount awarded to all whistleblowers in the aggregate be less than 10 percent or greater than 30 percent of the

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amount of monetary sanctions collected in the covered action.

(e) No contract with the Agency is necessary for a whistleblower to receive an award.

§513.11 Appeals of award determinations.

(a) A claimant may appeal any determination made by the Administrator under §513.10 to an appropriate court of appeals of the United States not later than 30 days after the Order is issued by the Administrator.

(1) If no claimant files an appeal within 30 days after the Order is issued by the Administrator, no appeals are permitted with respect to the claim that is the subject of the Order.

(2) If any claimant appeals within 30 days after the Order is issued by the Administrator, no payments with respect to the covered action will be made until the appealed award determination action is concluded.

(b) These rules do not entitle claimants to obtain from the Agency any privileged materials such as pre-decisional, attorney-client privileged, attorney work product privileged, or internal deliberative process materials related to the Administrator's Order and/or any privileged material relating to whether, to whom, and in what amount to make a whistleblower award.

(c) The Agency may make redactions to the materials constituting the record as necessary, including but not limited to making redactions to comply with statutory restrictions, the Agency's enforcement and regulatory functions and regulations, and to comply with requests for confidential treatment from law enforcement, regulatory authorities, or persons submitting information to the Agency pursuant to 49 CFR part 512.

(d) Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 30172(h)(3), the court shall review the determination made by the Administrator in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 706.

§513.12 Procedures applicable to the payment of awards.

(a) A recipient of a whistleblower award is entitled to payment on the award only to the extent that a monetary sanction upon which the award is

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based is collected in the covered action.

(b) Payment of a whistleblower award for a monetary sanction collected in connection with a covered action shall be made within a reasonable time following the later of:

(1) The date on which the monetary sanction totaling over \$1,000,000 is collected; or

(2) The completion of the appeals process for all award determination claims arising from the Administrator's Order relating to the covered action.

**APPENDIX A TO PART 513—FORM WB-
INFO**

OMB Number: 2127-0767
Exp. [DATE]
NHTSA Form 1684

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION (NHTSA)****FORM WB-INFO
WHISTLEBLOWER SUBMISSION**

See Privacy Act Statement, Submission Procedures, and Completion Instructions below.

A. INFORMATION ABOUT YOURSELF			
1. Last Name		2. First Name	3. M.I.
4. Street Address			5. Apartment/Unit #
6. City	7. State/Province	8. ZIP/Postal Code	9. Country
10. Telephone	11. Alt. Phone	12. Email Address	13. Preferred Method of Communication
14. Occupation			
15. Current Employer Name			
16. Current Employer Address			
17. Your relationship to the company about whom the concern is raised:			
B. INFORMATION ABOUT THE MOTOR VEHICLE MANUFACTURER, PART SUPPLIER, OR DEALERSHIP ABOUT WHICH THE CONCERN IS RAISED			
1. Company Name			
2. Street Address			

3. City	4. State/Province	5. ZIP/Postal Code	6. Country
7. Do you or did you work for the motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier or dealership about which the concern is raised? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, please provide dates. If no, please identify what motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier or dealership you work or worked for:			
8. Does this motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier or dealership have an internal reporting mechanism? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ I Don't Know			
9. If the answer to number 8 above is yes, did you report this issue through the internal reporting mechanism? ☐ Yes. Date Reported: _____ ☐ No. Reason for not reporting _____			

C. LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE – SEE INSTRUCTIONS)			
1. Legal representative's Name			
2. Firm Name			
3. Street Address			
4. City	5. State/Province	6. ZIP/Postal Code	7. Country
8. Telephone		9. Email address	

D. TELL US ABOUT THE ISSUE INVOLVING THE MOTOR VEHICLE MANUFACTURER, PART SUPPLIER, OR DEALERSHIP	
1. Date(s) of alleged conduct:	2. Is the conduct ongoing? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ I Don't Know
3a. Have you or your legal representative had any prior communication with the NHTSA concerning this matter? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
3b. If yes, provide the name of the NHTSA staff member(s) with whom you or your legal representative communicated and date of such communication:	
4a. Is your allegation related to a potential safety-related defect or a noncompliance with an applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
4b. If yes, please provide a detailed description of allegation and a detailed description of how the allegation affects vehicle/system/component performance and/or compliance. Please include the make, model, model year, part number, component number, etc. if known	
5a. Is your allegation related to any violation or alleged violation of any notification or reporting requirement of the Safety Act? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
5b. Provide a description of the notification or reporting issue. State in detail all facts pertinent to the alleged violation.	
6. Describe all supporting materials in your possession and the availability and location of any additional supporting materials not in your possession. If necessary, please use additional sheets.	

E. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)
1. Describe how you learned about or obtained the information that supports your allegations. In addition, if any information was obtained from a public source, identify the source with as much particularity as possible.
2. Identify with particularity any documents or other information in your submission that you believe could reasonably be expected to reveal your identity and explain the basis for your belief that your identity could be reasonably expected to be revealed if the documents or information were disclosed to a third party.
3a. Have you or your legal representative taken any other action regarding the issue or your allegations? ☐ Yes ☐ No 3b. If "Yes," please provide details. Use additional sheets, if necessary.
4. Did you acquire the information through a means or manner that has been determined by a United States federal court or a state court to violate applicable federal or state criminal law? ☐ Yes ☐ No If the answer to this question is yes, please contact NHTSA's Office of the Chief Counsel before you submit this form.
5. Did you acquire the original information that you are submitting to NHTSA solely through a communication that was subject to a privilege, such as the attorney-client privilege or attorney work product doctrine? ☐ Yes ☐ No If the answer to this question is yes, please contact NHTSA's Office of the Chief Counsel before you submit this form.
6. Provide any additional information that you think may be relevant. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

F. PROSPECTIVE WHISTLEBLOWER'S DECLARATION

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I fully understand that I may be subject to prosecution and ineligible for a whistleblower award if, in my submission of information, my other dealings with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, or my dealings with another authority in connection with a related action, I knowingly and willfully make any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations, or use any false writing or document knowing that the writing or document contains any false, fictitious or fraudulent statement or entry.

Print Name

Signature

Date

G. CERTIFICATION OF LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE OF ANONYMOUS WHISTLEBLOWER (IF APPLICABLE)

I certify that I have reviewed this form for accuracy and that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

I further certify that I have verified the identity of the person on whose behalf this form is being submitted by viewing the person's valid, unexpired government issued identification (*e.g.*, driver's license, passport) and will retain an original, signed copy of this form, with Section F signed by the person, in my records.

I further certify that I have obtained the person's non-waivable consent to provide the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration with the original signed WB-INFO form in the event that the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration requests it.

Print Name of Legal representative and Law Firm, if Applicable

Signature

Date

Privacy Act Statement

The Privacy Act of 1974 requires that the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) inform individuals of the following when asking for information. This form may be used by an employee or contractor of a motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier, or dealership, or a legal representative acting on such person's behalf, who wishes to provide NHTSA with information relating to any potential motor vehicle defect, potential noncompliance, or any violation or alleged violation of any notification or reporting requirements of 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301 or regulation thereunder, which is likely to cause unreasonable risk of death or serious physical injury. The information provided will allow the Agency to evaluate the claim and elicit information relevant to whistleblower eligibility requirements. This information may be disclosed to the U.S. Department of Justice or an appropriate department or agency of the Federal Government, acting within the scope of its jurisdiction, consistent with the confidentiality requirements set forth in 49 U.S.C. 30172(f). NHTSA may also disclose information that could reasonably be expected to reveal the identity of a whistleblower in certain limited situations, including when the whistleblower provides prior written consent. *Id.*

Furnishing the information contained in this form is voluntary but a decision not to do so will result in you not being eligible for award consideration.

Questions concerning this form may be directed to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Office of the Chief Counsel by email to NHTSAWhistleblower@dot.gov.

Notice of Whistleblower Rights and Protections

This brief description will provide you with an overview of the whistleblower rights and protections.

Whistleblowers, as that term is defined in 49 U.S.C. 30172(a)(6), have a right to keep their identity confidential in most situations. 49 U.S.C. 30172(f). Generally speaking, any information which reasonably could be expected to reveal the identity of a whistleblower may be disclosed only under limited circumstances. One circumstance where NHTSA could reveal such information is if the whistleblower gives prior written consent. 49 U.S.C. 30172(f)(1)(B).

The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552, gives the public access to records of the Federal Government. Individuals can obtain information from many categories of records of the Government—not just materials that apply to them personally. NHTSA must honor requests under the FOIA, with some exceptions. Information that could reasonably be expected to reveal the identity of a whistleblower is exempted from FOIA disclosure by statute. *See* 49 U.S.C. 30172(f)(3); 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(3)(B).

NHTSA may disclose information that could reasonably be expected to reveal the identity of a whistleblower if it follows the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552a (the Privacy Act of 1974). 49 U.S.C. 30172(f)(1). The Privacy Act prohibits the disclosure of information from a system of records (where information is retrieved by the name of the individual or by some identifying number, symbol, or other identifying particular assigned to the individual) absent the written consent of the subject individual, unless the disclosure is pursuant to one of the twelve statutory conditions.

Furthermore, under 49 U.S.C. 30171, employees providing certain motor vehicle safety information have protections from discrimination. Under 49 U.S.C. 30171(a)(1), a motor vehicle manufacturer, parts supplier or dealership may not discharge an employee or otherwise discriminate against the employee because the employee provided, caused to be provided, or is about to provide (with knowledge of the employer) or cause to be provided to the employer or the Secretary of Transportation information relating to any motor vehicle defect, noncompliance, or any violation or alleged violation of any notification or reporting requirement of the Safety Act (49 U.S.C. Chapter 301).

General Information

- To be eligible for an award under NHTSA’s whistleblower program, you must first provide us with your information through one of two ways. After completing this WB-INFO form, send it to NHTSA electronically to NHTSAWhistleblower@dot.gov, or submit it by any such method that the Agency may expressly designate on its website (<https://www.nhtsa.gov/laws-regulations/whistleblower-program>).
- Submitting your information is the first step. If the information you submit leads to the successful resolution of a covered action that in the aggregate results in collected monetary sanctions exceeding \$1,000,000, you will have an opportunity at a later date to submit a claim for an award. That is a separate process and is described in our

whistleblower rules at 49 CFR Part 513.

- You have the right to submit information anonymously. If you are submitting information anonymously, you must be represented by a legal representative in this matter and Sections C and G of this form must be completed. Otherwise, you may, but are not required to, have a legal representative. If you are submitting information anonymously, please skip Part I of these instructions and proceed directly to Part II. Otherwise, please begin by following the instructions in Part I.

Part I: Instructions for filers who are disclosing their identity to NHTSA

- You are required to complete Sections A, B, D, E, and F of this form. If you are represented by a legal representative in this matter, you must also complete section C. Specific instructions for answering these questions can be found in Part IV below.
- If you are represented, your legal representative does not need to complete Section G.
- You will need to submit the WB-INFO form in accordance with the Submission Procedures in 49 CFR Part 513.

Part II: Instructions for anonymous filers

- If you are submitting information anonymously, you must be represented by a legal representative on this matter.
- You are required to complete Sections A, B, C, D, E, and F of this form and give the signed original to your legal representative. Specific instructions for answering these questions can be found in Part IV below.
- Your legal representative must retain your signed original WB-INFO form.

Part III. Instructions for legal representatives representing anonymous filers

- Obtain a completed and signed original WB-INFO form, filled out in accordance with the Part II above. You must retain this signed original in your records.
- You must prepare a WB-INFO form, completing Sections B, C, D, and E with your client's information. You must also sign the declaration in Section G.
- You will need to submit the WB-INFO form you completed in accordance with submission procedures in 49 CFR Part 513.

Part IV. Instructions for Completing Form WB-INFO

Section A: Information About Yourself

Questions 1-16: Please provide the following information about yourself:

- Last name, first name, and middle initial;
- Complete address, including city, state/province, zip/postal code, and country;
- Your telephone number, and if available, an alternate number where you can be reached;
- Your email address (to facilitate communications, you are strongly encouraged to provide your email address);
- Your preferred method of communication;
- Your occupation;
- Your current employer;
- Your current employer's address; and

- Your relationship to the company about whom the concern is raised.

Section B: Information About the Motor Vehicle Manufacturer, Part Supplier, or Dealership About Which the Concern is Raised

Questions 1-7: Please provide the following information about the motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier, or dealership about which the concern is raised:

- Company name of the motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier or dealership;
- Complete address of the motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier, or dealership, including city, state/province, zip/postal code, and country; and
- Complete whether you work or worked for the motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier, or dealership about whom the concern is raised. If yes, please provide dates that you work or worked for the company. If no, provide the name of the motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier, or dealership you work or worked for.

Question 8: Please check the correct box stating whether the motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier, or dealership about which the concern was raised has or had an internal reporting mechanism. The choices are yes, no, and I don't know.

Question 9: If you checked the "yes" box in response to the question of whether the motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier or dealership had an internal reporting mechanism, please provide the following information:

- If you reported the issue through your company's internal reporting mechanism, check the box "yes" and provide the date that you reported to the internal reporting mechanism.
- If you did not report the issue through your company's internal reporting mechanism, check the box "no" and provide your reason for not reporting to the internal reporting mechanism.

Section C: Legal representative Information. Complete this section only if you are represented by a legal representative in this matter. If you are submitting your information anonymously and you want to be considered for an award under NHTSA's whistleblower program, you must be represented by a legal representative, and this section must be completed.

Questions 1-9: Provide the following information about the legal representative representing you in this matter:

- Legal representative's name;
- The legal representative's firm's name;
- The firm's complete address, including city, state, and zip code;
- Your legal representative's telephone number; and
- Your legal representative's email address.

Section D: Tell Us About the Issue Involving the Motor Vehicle Manufacturer, Part Supplier, or Dealership:

Question 1: Please provide the date that the alleged conduct began.

Question 2: Check the option that best describes whether the alleged conduct is ongoing.

Question 3a: Indicate whether you or your legal representative have had any prior communication with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration ("NHTSA") concerning this matter.

Question 3b: If you answered "yes" to Question 3a, provide the name of the NHTSA staff member(s) with whom you or your counsel communicated and date of such communication.

Question 4a: Check the option that best describes whether your allegation is related to a potential safety-related defect or noncompliance with an applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS).

Question 4b: If you answered "yes" to Question 4a, provide a detailed description of the allegation and a detailed description of how the allegation affects vehicle/system/component performance and/or compliance. Please include the make, model, model year, part number, component number, etc. if known.

Question 5a: Check the option that best describes whether your allegation is related to any violation or alleged violation of any notification or reporting requirement of the Safety Act.

Question 5b: If you answered "yes" to Question 5a, provide a description of the notification or reporting issue. State in detail all facts pertinent to the alleged violation.

Question 6: Describe all supporting materials in your possession and the availability and location of additional supporting materials not in your possession. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

Section E: Additional Information

Question 1: Describe how you learned about or obtained the information that supports your allegations. In addition, if any information was obtained from a public source, identify the source with as much particularity as possible. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

Question 2: Identify with particularity any documents or information in your submission that you believe could reasonably be expected to reveal your identity, and explain the basis for your belief that your identity could be reasonably expected to be revealed if the documents or information are disclosed to a third party.

Question 3a: Check the option that best describes whether you or your legal representative have taken any other action regarding the issue or your allegations.

Question 3b: If your answer to Question 3a was "Yes," provide details. Use additional sheets if necessary.

Question 4: Check the option that best describes whether you acquired information through a means or manner that has been determined by a United States federal court or a state court to violate applicable federal or state criminal law. The question also contains a statement that if the answer to this question is yes, to please contact NHTSA's Office of the Chief Counsel before you submit this form.

Question 5: Check the option that best describes whether you acquired the original information that you are submitting to NHTSA solely through a communication that was subject to a privilege, such as the attorney-client privilege or attorney work product doctrine. The question also contains a statement that if the answer to this question is yes, to please contact NHTSA's Office of the Chief Counsel before you submit this form.

Question 6: Provide any additional information that you think may be relevant. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

Section F: Prospective Whistleblower's Declaration

This is to be completed and signed by the person submitting the information.

Section G: Legal representative Certification

This is to be completed and signed by a legal representative for an anonymous person submitting information. If you have a legal representative and are not submitting this form anonymously, this section does not need to be completed.

APPENDIX B TO PART 513—FORM WB-
RELEASE

OMB Number: 2127-0767
Exp. [DATE]
NHTSA Form 1684

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION (NHTSA)

FORM WB-RELEASE
WHISTLEBLOWER RELEASE FORM

See Notice of Whistleblower Rights and Protections, Privacy Act Statement, Submission Procedures, and Completion Instructions below.

A. Information			
1. Last Name	2. First Name	3. M.I.	
4. Street Address		5. Apartment/Unit #	
6. City	7. State/Province	8. ZIP/Postal Code	9. Country
10. Name of the motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier, and/or dealership to which this issue relates:			

B. Release

I understand that in the course of an inquiry or analysis surrounding my allegations, it may become necessary for NHTSA to reveal information that reasonably could be expected to reveal my identity to persons or their counsel or agents at the organization or institution against which such allegations are made or other entities.

☐

CONSENT - I have read and understand the above information and authorize NHTSA to reveal any information that could reasonably be expected to reveal my identity to persons at the organization or institution against which my allegations are made, or their agents or counsel, to governmental entities outside the United States and to other persons or entities that NHTSA determines should have access to this information to assist in NHTSA's analysis, inquiry or investigation. **I further understand that I am not required to consent to this release, and do so voluntarily.**

C. Prospective Whistleblower's Signature

Signature	Date
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Notice of Whistleblower Rights and Protections

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The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552, gives the public access to records of the Federal Government. Individuals can obtain information from many categories of records of the Government--not just materials that apply to them personally. NHTSA must honor requests under the FOIA, with some exceptions. Information that could reasonably be expected to reveal the identity of a whistleblower is exempted from FOIA disclosure by statute. *See* 49 U.S.C. 30172(f)(3); 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(3)(B).

NHTSA may disclose information that could reasonably be expected to reveal the identity of a whistleblower if it follows the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552a (the Privacy Act of 1974). 49 U.S.C. 30172(f)(1). The Privacy Act prohibits the disclosure of information from a system of records (where information is retrieved by the name of the individual or by some identifying number, symbol, or other identifying particular assigned to the individual) absent the written consent of the subject individual, unless the disclosure is pursuant to one of twelve statutory conditions.

Furthermore, under 49 U.S.C. 30171, employees providing certain motor vehicle safety information have protections from discrimination. Under 49 U.S.C. 30171(a)(1), a motor vehicle manufacturer, parts supplier or dealership may not discharge an employee or otherwise discriminate against the employee because the employee provided, caused to be provided, or is about to provide (with knowledge of the employer) or cause to be provided to the employer or the Secretary of Transportation information relating to any motor vehicle defect, noncompliance, or any violation or alleged violation of any notification or reporting requirement of the Safety Act (49 U.S.C. 30101 et. seq.).

Privacy Act Statement

The Privacy Act of 1974 requires that the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (“NHTSA”) inform individuals of the following when asking for information. This form may be used by an employee or contractor of a motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier, or dealership who wishes to provide prior written consent for the Agency to disclose information which could reasonably be expected to reveal their identity. Furnishing this form is voluntary.

Questions concerning this form may be directed to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Office of the Chief Counsel by email at NHTSAWhistleblower@dot.gov, or a NHTSA attorney with whom you have previously been in contact.

General Information and Submission Procedures

- This form should be used by persons that want to provide prior written consent to the Agency to disclose information which could reasonably be expected to reveal their identity.
- You must sign the WB-RELEASE form as the prospective whistleblower.
- You must submit your form to NHTSA in one of following ways: by emailing it to NHTSAWhistleblower@dot.gov or by any such method that the Agency may expressly designate on its website (<https://www.nhtsa.gov/laws-regulations/whistleblower-program>).

Instructions for Completing Form WB-RELEASE**Section A: Information**

Questions 1-9: Please provide the following information about yourself:

- last name, first name, and middle initial; and
- Complete address, including city, state/province, zip/postal code, and country.

Question 10: Please provide the name of motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier and/or dealership to which the issue relates.

Section B: Release

Check the box before the word “**CONSENT**” to indicate your consent to allow the Agency to reveal any information that could reasonably be expected to reveal your identity to persons at the organization or institution against which your allegations are made, or their agents or counsel, to governmental entities outside the United States and to other persons or entities that NHTSA determines should have access to this information to assist in NHTSA’s analysis, inquiry or investigation.

This section also informs you that you are not required to consent to this release and that you do so voluntarily.

Section C: Prospective Whistleblower’s Signature

This section must be signed and dated by the prospective whistleblower.

APPENDIX C TO PART 513—FORM WB—
AWARD

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION (NHTSA)

FORM WB-AWARD
WHISTLEBLOWER AWARD APPLICATION

See Privacy Act Statement, Submission Procedures, and Completion Instructions below.

A. CLAIMANT'S INFORMATION (REQUIRED FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS)				
1. Last Name		2. First Name		3. M.I.
4. Street Address				5. Apartment/Unit #
6. City	7. State/Province	8. ZIP/Postal Code		9. Country
10. Telephone	11. Alt. Phone	12. Email Address		13. Preferred Method of Communication
B. LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE – SEE INSTRUCTIONS)				
1. Legal Representative's Name				
2. Firm Name				
3. Street Address				
4. City	5. State/Province	6. ZIP/Postal Code	7. Country	
8. Telephone	9. Email Address			

C. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND OTHER INFORMATION

1. Did you acquire the original information that you submitted to NHTSA solely through a communication that was subject to the attorney-client privilege or attorney work product doctrine? ☐ Yes ☐ No
2. Did you acquire the original information that you submitted to NHTSA by a means or manner that was determined by a United States federal court or state court to violate applicable federal or state criminal law? ☐ Yes ☐ No
3. Are you currently a subject or target of a criminal investigation in the United States, or have you been convicted of a criminal violation by a United States federal or state court, in connection with the allegations or conduct that you submitted to the NHTSA? ☐ Yes ☐ No
4. Indicate whether any of the factors in 49 CFR 513.7 apply, which could make you ineligible for an award. ☐ Yes ☐ No
5. If you answered "Yes" to any of Questions above, provide details. Use additional sheets, if necessary.

D. ISSUE DETAILS

1. How did you submit original information to NHTSA? ☐ By email to NHTSAWhistleblower@dot.gov ☐ Other: _____
2. Date(s) that you submitted the information:
3. Name of motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier and/or dealership to which this issue relates

E. NOTICE OF COVERED ACTION AND RELATED ACTION

1. Date of relevant Notice of Covered Action
2. Notice Number
3. Case Name
4. Case Number
5. Date of relevant Notice of Covered Action for any related action
6. Notice Number of Related Action
7. Case Name of Related Action
8. Case Number of Related Action

F. AWARD JUSTIFICATION

Explain the basis for your belief that you should receive an award in connection with your submission of information to NHTSA. Specifically address how you believe you voluntarily provided NHTSA with original information that led to the successful resolution of a covered action. Provide any information that you think may be relevant in light of the criteria for determining the amount of an award set forth in 49 U.S.C. 30172 and 49 CFR Part 513. Use additional sheets, if necessary.

G. CLAIMANT'S DECLARATION

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I fully understand that I may be subject to prosecution and ineligible for a whistleblower award if, in my submission of information or other interactions with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, or my dealings with another authority in connection with a related action, I knowingly and willfully make any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations, or use any false writing or document knowing that the writing or document contains any false, fictitious or fraudulent statement or entry.

Print Name

Signature

Date

Privacy Act Statement

The Privacy Act of 1974 requires that the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration ("NHTSA") inform individuals of the following when asking for information. This form may be used by an employee or contractor of a motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier, or dealership, or a legal representative acting on such person's behalf, who wishes to apply for a whistleblower award for providing original information that led to the successful resolution of a covered action. The information provided will allow the Agency to evaluate the claim and elicit information relevant to whistleblower eligibility requirements. Furnishing the information is voluntary but a decision not to do so will result in you not being eligible for award consideration.

Questions concerning this form may be directed to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Office of the Chief Counsel by email to NHTSAWhistleblower@dot.gov or a NHTSA attorney with whom you have previously been in contact.

General Information

- This form should be used by persons making a claim for a whistleblower award in connection with information provided to NHTSA. To be eligible for an award, you must meet all the requirements set forth in 49 U.S.C. 30172 and the rules thereunder, as

contained in 49 CFR Part 513.

- You must sign the WB-AWARD form as the claimant. If you provided your information to NHTSA anonymously, you must now disclose your identity on this form and your identity must be verified in a form and a manner that is acceptable to the Agency prior to the payment of any award.
- Your WB-AWARD form, and any attachments thereto, must be received by NHTSA within ninety (90) days of the date of the Notice of Covered Action to which the claim relates.
- You must submit your form to NHTSA in one of following two ways: emailing it to NHTSAWhistleblower@dot.gov or by any such method that the Agency may expressly designate on its website (<https://www.nhtsa.gov/laws-regulations/whistleblower-program>).

Instructions for Completing Form WB-AWARD

Section A: Claimant's Information

Questions 1-13: Please provide the following information about yourself:

- Last name, first name, and middle initial;
- Your complete address, including city, state/province, zip/postal code, and country;
- Your telephone number, and if available, an alternate number where you can be reached;
- Your email address (to facilitate communications, you are strongly encouraged to provide your email address); and
- Your preferred method of communication.

Section B: Legal representative Information. Complete this section only if you are represented by a legal representative in this matter. If you are not represented by a legal representative in this matter, leave this Section blank.

Questions 1-9: Provide the following information about the legal representative representing you in this matter:

- Your legal representative's name;
- The firm name;
- Your legal representative's complete address, including city, state, and zip code;
- Your legal representative's telephone number; and
- Your legal representative's email address.

Section C: Eligibility Requirements and Other Information

Question 1: Indicate whether you acquired the original information that you submitted to NHTSA solely through a communication that was subject to the attorney-client privilege or attorney work product doctrine.

Question 2: Indicate whether you acquired the original information that you submitted to NHTSA by a means or manner that was determined by a United States federal court or state court to violate applicable federal or state criminal law.

Question 3: Indicate whether you are currently a subject or target of a criminal investigation in the United States or whether you have been convicted of a criminal violation by a United States federal or state court in connection with the allegations or conduct that you submitted to NHTSA.

Question 4: Indicate whether any of the factors in 49 CFR 513.7 apply, which could make you ineligible for an award.

Question 5: If you answered "yes" to Questions 1, 2, 3, or 4 above, provide details. Use additional sheets if necessary.

Section D: Whistleblower Information Details

Questions 1-3: Provide the following information about the whistleblower information that you submitted to NHTSA:

- Select the method by which you submitted original information to NHTSA. If you selected "Other" describe how you submitted the information;
- Provide the date that you submitted the original information to NHTSA; and
- Provide the name of the motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier, and/or dealership to which the issue relates.

Section E: Notice of Covered Action

The process for making a claim for a whistleblower award begins with the publication of a "Notice of Covered Action" on NHTSA's website. This notice is published whenever a judicial or administrative action brought under 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301 by NHTSA, the U.S. Department of Transportation, or the U.S. Department of Justice results in collected monetary sanctions exceeding \$1,000,000.

A Notice of Covered Action is published on NHTSA's website subsequent to the entry of a final judgment, order or agreement that by itself, or collectively with other judgments, orders or agreements previously entered in the action, results in collected monetary sanctions exceeding the \$1,000,000 threshold.

Question 1: Provide the date of the Notice of Covered action to which this claim relates.

Question 2: Provide the notice number of the Notice of Covered Action.

Question 3: Provide the case name referenced in the Notice of Covered Action.

Question 4: Provide the case number referenced in the Notice of Covered Action.

Question 5: Provide the date of the relevant Notice of Covered Action for any related action.

Question 6: Provide the notice number of the related action.

Question 7: Provide the case name of the related action.

Question 8: Provide the case number of the related action.

Section F: Award Justification

Use this section to explain the basis for your belief that you should be granted an award in connection with your submission of information to NHTSA. Specifically address how you

believe you voluntarily provided NHTSA with original information that led to the successful resolution of a covered action. Provide any information that you think may be relevant in light of the criteria for determining the amount of an award set forth in 49 U.S.C. 30172 and 49 CFR Part 513.

49 U.S.C. 30172(c) provides that in determining an award made under 49 U.S.C. 30172(b), the Secretary shall take into consideration: (i) if appropriate, whether a whistleblower reported or attempted to report the information internally to an applicable motor vehicle manufacturer, part supplier, or dealership; (ii) the significance of the original information provided by the whistleblower to the successful resolution of the covered action; (iii) the degree of assistance provided by the whistleblower and any legal representative of the whistleblower in the covered action; and (iv) such additional factors as the Secretary considers relevant.

Section G: Claimant's Declaration

This section must be completed and signed by the claimant.

PART 520 [RESERVED]

PART 523—VEHICLE CLASSIFICATION

Sec.

- 523.1 Scope.
- 523.2 Definitions.
- 523.3 Automobile.
- 523.4 Passenger automobile.
- 523.5 Non-passenger automobile.
- 523.6 Heavy-duty vehicle.
- 523.7 Heavy-duty pickup trucks and vans.
- 523.8 Heavy-duty vocational vehicle.
- 523.9 Truck tractors.
- 523.10 Heavy-duty trailers.

AUTHORITY: 49 U.S.C. 32901; delegation of authority at 49 CFR 1.95.

§ 523.1 Scope.

This part establishes categories of vehicles that are subject to title V of the Motor Vehicle Information and Cost Savings Act, 15 U.S.C. 2001 *et seq.*

(Authority: Sec. 301, Pub. L. 94–163, 80 Stat. 901 (15 U.S.C. 2001))

[42 FR 38362, July 28, 1977]

§ 523.2 Definitions.

As used in this part:

Ambulance has the meaning given in 40 CFR 86.1803.

Approach angle means the smallest angle, in a plane side view of an automobile, formed by the level surface on

which the automobile is standing and a line tangent to the front tire static loaded radius arc and touching the underside of the automobile forward of the front tire.

Axle clearance means the vertical distance from the level surface on which an automobile is standing to the lowest point on the axle differential of the automobile.

Base tire (for passenger automobiles, light trucks, and medium-duty passenger vehicles) means the tire size specified as standard equipment by the manufacturer on each unique combination of a vehicle's footprint and model type. Standard equipment is defined in 40 CFR 86.1803.

Basic vehicle frontal area is used as defined in 40 CFR 86.1803–01 for passenger automobiles, light trucks, medium-duty passenger vehicles and Class 2b through 3 pickup trucks and vans. For heavy-duty tractors and vocational vehicles, it has the meaning given in 40 CFR 1037.801.

Breakover angle means the supplement of the largest angle, in the plan side view of an automobile that can be formed by two lines tangent to the front and rear static loaded radii arcs and intersecting at a point on the underside of the automobile.

Bus has the meaning given in 49 CFR 571.3.

Cab-complete vehicle means a vehicle that is first sold as an incomplete vehicle that substantially includes the vehicle cab section as defined in 40 CFR 1037.801. For example, vehicles known