



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

June 1, 2012

MS. LIZ JONES  
TIFFIN MOTORHOMES, INC.  
105 2<sup>ND</sup> STREET NW  
RED BAY, AL 35582

NVS-215et  
12V-228

Subject: AIR BRAKE SYSTEM

Dear MS. JONES:

This letter serves to acknowledge Tiffin Motorhomes, Inc.'s (Tiffin) notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 121, "Air Brake Systems," which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the vehicles listed below.

Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

**Makes/Models/Model Years:**

TIFFIN/PHAETON/2012

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 12V-228

**Mfg's Report Date:** May 21, 2012

**Components:** SERVICE BRAKES, AIR

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 2

**Summary:**

TIFFIN MOTORHOMES (TIFFIN) IS RECALLING TWO MODEL YEAR 2012 PHAETON RECREATIONAL VEHICLES BUILT ON A SPARTAN CHASSIS AND EQUIPPED WITH 3030 BRAKE CHAMBERS. THESE VEHICLES FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NUMBER 121, "AIR BRAKE SYSTEMS" BECAUSE THEY DO NOT MEET THE PARK BRAKE AND DRAW BAR REQUIREMENTS.

**Consequence:**

THE PARK BRAKE MAY NOT BE SUFFICIENT TO HOLD THE VEHICLE IN PLACE. ACCORDINGLY, THE VEHICLE COULD ROLL AWAY AND STRIKE AND INJURE A BYSTANDER OR CAUSE A CRASH WITHOUT WARNING.

**Remedy:**

THE AFFECTED VEHICLES HAVE NOT BEEN SOLD YET AND TIFFIN HAS NOTIFIED THE DEALERS THAT ARE IN POSSESSION OF THE VEHICLES. SPARTAN DEALERS WILL INSTALL IMPROVED BRAKE CHAMBERS PRIOR TO SALE. OWNERS MAY CONTACT TIFFIN MOTORHOMES AT 1-256-356-8661.

**Notes:**

OWNERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

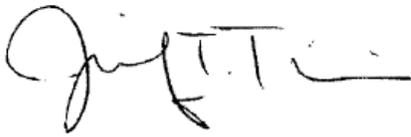
Please be reminded of the following requirements:

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter in which the campaign was initiated. Thereafter, quarterly reports will be due on or before 30 days after close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Edison Thompson who may be reached by phone at 202-366-9525, or by email at [Edison.Thompson@dot.gov](mailto:Edison.Thompson@dot.gov), or through the office email at [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto:RMD.ODI@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you toward a successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jennifer Timian  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement