



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

# ODI RESUME

Investigation: DP 07-001  
 Prompted By: AN ENGINEERING FIRM  
 Date Opened: 07/30/2007  
 Principal Investigator: Steve Chan  
 Subject: Seatback Recline Mechanism Failure

Manufacturer: Ford Motor Company  
 Products: 1989-1992 Ford Probe  
 Population: 163741 (Estimated)

Problem Description: Seatbacks recline in a vehicular collision event due to partial engagement of the recline mechanism.

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	0		
Crashes/Fires:	0		
Injury Incidents:	0		
# Injuries:	0		
Fatality Incidents:	0		
# Fatalities:	0		
Other*:	1		

\*Description of Other: The petition.

Action: The petition will be evaluated for a grant or deny decision.

Engineer: Steve Chan SNC Date: 07/30/2007  
 Div. Chief: Gregory E. Magno Date: 07/30/2007  
 Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter Date: 07/30/2007

Summary: On June 29, 2007, ODI received a petition submitted by Mr. Richard H. McSwain of McSwain engineering Inc. The petitioner requested that the agency commence a proceeding to determine the existence of a defect related to motor vehicle safety with respect to the seatback recline mechanism in the model year 1989-1992 Ford Probe vehicles.

The petitioner alleged that the vehicle's seat recline mechanism may engage only partially allowing the seatback to recline in a vehicular collision event.