



**RECEIVED**

*By Recall Management Division at 2:31 pm, Jun 23, 2014*

June 23, 2014

Ms. Nancy Lewis  
Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Attention: Recall Management Division  
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Spartan Motors Chassis, Inc. - Defect Information Report

Dear Ms. Lewis:

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations Spartan Motors, Inc, on behalf of Spartan Motors Chassis, Inc. (Spartan Chassis) hereby reports a defect relating to motor vehicle safety. Spartan Chassis has determined a defect involving the fuel system on certain Gladiator model chassis cabs built between October 22, 2012 and February 12, 2014.

Please contact me with any questions as it relates to this matter.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wesley D. Chestnut'.

Wesley D. Chestnut  
Lead, Compliance



Spartan Motors, Inc.  
1541 Reynolds Road  
Charlotte, MI 48813  
P: 517.543.6400 ext. 3275  
M: 517.231.0712  
E: [Wes.Chestnut@spartanmotors.com](mailto:Wes.Chestnut@spartanmotors.com)  
W: [www.spartanmotors.com](http://www.spartanmotors.com)



## Defect Information Report

14009

**573.6(c)(1):** Spartan Motors Chassis, Inc.  
1541 Reynolds Road  
Charlotte, MI 48813

**573.6(c)(2):** Emergency Response chassis cabs affected by this recall are equipped with remote mounted fuel filter and aluminum engine tunnel overlay. Vehicles excluded from this recall do not have this combination of equipment.

<b>Make</b>	Spartan Motors Chassis, Inc.
<b>Models</b>	Gladiator
<b>Model Years</b>	2013 – 2014
<b>Vehicle Type</b>	Emergency Response Chassis Cab
<b>Weight Range (GVWR)</b>	45,500 lbs – 69,500 lbs
<b>VDM Range</b>	10/22/2012 through 2/12/2014

Table 1

**573.6(c)(3)** The total number of vehicles potentially containing the defect is shown in **Table 2**.

<b>Model</b>	<b>Model Year</b>	<b>Number Involved</b>
Gladiator	2013	6
Gladiator	2014	3
<b>Total</b>		9

Table 2

**573.6(c)(4)** 100% of the vehicles produced between the dates of manufacturing shown in **Table 1** contain the defect.

**573.6(c)(5)** Aluminum engine tunnel overlay makes contact with the high pressure fuel fitting on the remote mounted fuel filter. Although no fuel leaks have been reported, the continued contact may cause the fitting to wear through, or break resulting in a fuel leak, without warning. Leaking fuel in the presence of an ignition source may result in a vehicle fire.



- 573.6(c)(6)** **April 2014** – During a field evaluation of an emergency response vehicle, the condition of the high pressure fuel fitting contacting the aluminum engine tunnel overlay was observed. After the evaluation, the issue was presented to the Corrective Action Review Team. A team was assigned to evaluate the issue. During an engineering evaluation, it was determined interference could exist in product models equipped with a remote mounted fuel filter and the aluminum engine tunnel overlay.
- May 2014** – The team assigned to evaluate the condition worked in conjunction with the engine manufacturer to identify potential failure modes.
- June 16, 2013** – The team presented potential failure modes to the Campaign Approval Board and Spartan Motors Chassis, Inc. determined a defect related to motor vehicle safety may exist in the affected product models.
- 573.6(c)(8)** A new remote fuel filter mounting bracket moving the filter inboard will be provided at no charge. Customer notification is expected to begin mid-July.