

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 22V-255

**Manufacturer Name :** Ford Motor Company**Submission Date :** APR 14, 2022**NHTSA Recall No. :** 22V-255**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 22S27**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Ford Motor Company

Address : 330 Town Center Drive

Suite 500 Dearborn MI 48126-2738

Company phone : 1-866-436-7332

**Population :**

Number of potentially involved : 252,936

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle 1 : 2020-2021 Ford Explorer Police FHEV

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : ALL

Power Train : HYBRID ELECTRIC

**Descriptive Information :** For 3.3L FHEV Police and 3.3L Gas Police vehicles, the recalled part was introduced into production on 11/10/2018 and was taken out of production on 04/07/2022. For 2.3L RWD, 3.0L PHEV, 3.3L FHEV , and 3.0L ST retail vehicles, the affected software was introduced into production on 11/10/2018 and was taken out of production on 4/07/2022. Affected vehicles are equipped with suspect rear axle bolts and an older version of Electronic Park Brake Software on retail units. These vehicles are not produced in VIN order. Information as to the applicability of this action to specific vehicles can best be obtained by either calling Ford's toll-free line (1-866-436-7332) or by contacting a local Ford or Lincoln dealer who can obtain specific information regarding the vehicles from the Ford On-line Automotive Service Information System (OASIS) database.

Production Dates : NOV 10, 2018 - OCT 31, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2020-2021 Ford Explorer Police 3.3L Gas

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : ALL

Power Train : GAS

**Descriptive Information :** For 3.3L FHEV Police and 3.3L Gas Police vehicles, the recalled part was introduced into production on 11/10/2018 and was taken out of production on 04/07/2022. For 2.3L RWD, 3.0L PHEV, 3.3L FHEV , and 3.0L ST retail vehicles, the affected software was introduced into production on 11/10/2018 and was taken out of production on 4/07/2022. Affected vehicles are equipped with suspect rear axle bolts and an older version of Electronic Park Brake Software on retail units. These vehicles are not produced in VIN order. Information as to the applicability of this action to specific vehicles can best be obtained by either calling Ford's toll-free line (1-866-436-7332) or by contacting a local Ford or Lincoln dealer who can obtain specific information regarding the vehicles from the Ford On-line Automotive Service Information System (OASIS) database.

**Production Dates :** NOV 10, 2018 - JAN 31, 2021

**VIN Range 1 : Begin :**

NR

**End :** NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 3 : 2020-2022 Ford Explorer 2.3L RWD / 3.0L PHEV / 3.3 L FHEV Retail / 3.0L ST GAS  
Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES  
Body Style : ALL  
Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : For 3.3L FHEV Police and 3.3L Gas Police vehicles, the recalled part was introduced into production on 11/10/2018 and was taken out of production on 04/07/2022. For 2.3L RWD, 3.0L PHEV, 3.3L FHEV , and 3.0L ST retail vehicles, the affected software was introduced into production on 11/10/2018 and was taken out of production on 4/07/2022. Affected vehicles are equipped with suspect rear axle bolts and an older version of Electronic Park Brake Software on retail units. These vehicles are not produced in VIN order. Information as to the applicability of this action to specific vehicles can best be obtained by either calling Ford's toll-free line (1-866-436-7332) or by contacting a local Ford or Lincoln dealer who can obtain specific information regarding the vehicles from the Ford On-line Automotive Service Information System (OASIS) database.

Production Dates : OCT 22, 2018 - APR 11, 2022

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

## Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Affected vehicles were built with a 3-point mounted axle design. On some units the rear axle horizontal mounting bolt may fracture. Powertrain torque through the driveline causes axle rotation of the pinion angled towards the subframe, which exerts a bending force on the rear axle bolt. Peak torque is normally experienced during a launch event. After numerous peak torque events are experienced, the bolt may suffer a fatigue failure, which will lead to the axle housing moving out of position, resulting in a condition described by customers and dealer technicians variably as loud, grinding, binding, or clunking noises.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : If the rear axle bolt breaks, the driveshaft/half shafts may become

Description of the Safety Risk : disconnected, resulting in loss of transmission torque to the rear wheels which is necessary to hold the vehicle in park. If the parking brake is not applied, the loss of the primary park torque will allow the vehicle to roll in park increasing the risk of crash and injury.

Description of the Cause : The joint design is not robust to peak axle input torques and manufacturing variability. The primary contributor is insufficient bearing area for maximum joint loads. This results in bearing area deformation, increasing bending stress on the bolt, which may lead to a fatigue failure

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : NA

### Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Axle Cover  
Component Description : Axle Cover  
Component Part Number : L1MW-4A028-G

Component Name 2 : Bushing  
Component Description : Bushing  
Component Part Number : L1MW-4B425-B

### Supplier Identification :

#### Component Manufacturer

Name : Mobex Global  
Address : 26290 West 8 Mile  
Southfield Michigan 48033  
Country : United States

### Chronology :

Chronology is provided as an attachment

## Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : For 3.3L FHEV Police built before October 14, 2020, and 3.3L Gas Police vehicles built before January 31, 2021, owners will be notified by mail and instructed to take their vehicle to a Ford or Lincoln dealer to have the bushing and axle cover replaced. There will be no charge for this service.

For 2.3L RWD, 3.0L PHEV, 3.3L FHEV, and 3.0L ST retail vehicles , owners will be notified by mail and instructed to take their vehicle to a Ford or Lincoln dealer to have the PCM software updated to engage the Electronic Park Brake when Park is commanded. There will be no charge for this service.

Ford provided the general reimbursement plan for the cost of remedies paid for by vehicle owners prior to notification of a safety recall in May 2021. The ending date for reimbursement eligibility is to be defined.

Ford will forward a copy of the notification letters to dealers to the agency when available.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : Parts were modified to add weight savers and to increase the fastener engagement length in order to avoid material deformation.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : NA

## Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Notification to dealers is expected to occur on April 19, 2022. Mailing of owner notification letters is expected to begin June 06, 2022 and is expected to be completed by June 10th 2022

Planned Dealer Notification Date : APR 19, 2022 - APR 19, 2022

Planned Owner Notification Date : JUN 06, 2022 - JUN 10, 2022

\* NR - Not Reported