CONSUMER ADVISORY ON GM IGNITION SWITCH RECALLED VEHICLES

The vehicles GM recalled for defective ignition switches are unsafe to drive.* GM’s recall letter states:

*There is a risk, under certain conditions, that your ignition switch may move out of the “run” position, resulting in a partial loss of electrical power and turning off the engine. This risk increases if your key ring is carrying added weight (such as more keys or the key fob) or your vehicle experiences rough road conditions or other jarring or impact related events. If the ignition switch is not in the run position, the air bags may not deploy if the vehicle is involved in a crash, increasing the risk of injury or fatality.

Recognizing the risk of the engine shutoff, power steering loss and airbag non-deployment is not limited to a multiple keys on a key ring, the Center for Auto Safety advises consumers to:

1) Park their ignition switch recalled vehicle.
2) Demand a free loaner car that GM has empowered dealers to provide “where consumers don’t feel safe driving their car.”
3) Have the dealer repair the vehicle as soon as you receive notice parts are available.

In addition to experiencing rough road conditions, there are multiple other causes that can turn the ignition off such as driving over railroad tracks, running off the road, or hitting one of the numerous potholes that plague the roads due to this past severe winter.

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