



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

ODI SCREEN RESUME

IDENTIFICATION: IE01-023

DATE OPENED: 6-5-01

SUBJECT: Fuel Tank Fuel Leakage

PROMPTED BY: Letter from the Arizona Department of Public Safety

INVESTIGATORS: W. Duckwitz

MANUFACTURER: Ford Motor Company

MODEL(S): Crown Victoria Police Interceptor

MODEL YEAR(S): 1996-1999

VEHICLE POPULATION: 20,000 (est.)

PROBLEM DESCRIPTION: The Arizona Department of Public Safety (State Police) allege the fuel tank in this model vehicle is susceptible to fuel leaks (by puncture) and fire after the vehicle is hit from behind.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	Symptom 1
COMPLAINTS:	5
CRASHES:	7
# INJURIES:	2
# FATALS:	6
FIRES:	7
OTHERS	0

DESCRIPTION OF SYMPTOM (S): After a rear-end collision the fuel tank is punctured resulting in fuel leakage and fire.

ACTION: Recommend opening a Preliminary Evaluation

INVESTIGATOR: *William Duckwitz*

DIVISION CHIEF: *J. White*

DATE: 6-5-01

DATE: 6-5-01

SUMMARY: ODI has received five letters requesting NHTSA investigate certain MY 1996-1999 Crown Victoria Police Interceptor vehicles for a possible design flaw/safety defect that allows the vehicle's fuel tank to be punctured after the vehicle is hit in a rear-end collision.

An investigation is recommended to ascertain the frequency and safety implications of the issue.