**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: [Date]**

**CONTACT: [Name, Phone Number, Email]**

### Safe Cars Save Lives: Drivers Should Check Their Vehicle During Vehicle Safety Recalls Week

**[City, State]** — *Safe Cars Save Lives*: This is the lifesaving message the U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is sharing with all vehicle owners. NHTSA urges vehicle owners to check their vehicle for open recalls during Vehicle Safety Recalls Week March 3-9, 2025. The safety week coincides with the start of Daylight Saving Time, which begins Sunday, March 9, 2025. In 2023 alone, there were 1,000 safety recalls affecting more than 34 million vehicles and other automotive equipment in the United States.

“Checking for recalls is free, quick, and easy,” said **[Local Community Leader]**. “During Vehicle Safety Recalls Week in March, we are urging everyone to take a few minutes to check for an open safety recall. Remember that every vehicle recall is important and should be repaired immediately. Your diligence will help keep you and others safe on the roadways.”

**Two Ways to Check for Recalls**

NHTSA has two ways to check for open safety recalls:

* First, drivers can use the free, user-friendly [Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) or License Plate Look-Up Tool](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cangela.astrup.ctr%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Outlook%5C3D59GOJB%5CNHTSA.gov%5Crecalls), located at [NHTSA.gov/recalls](http://www.NHTSA.gov/recalls). This web tool allows vehicle owners to check for open safety recalls on their vehicles or automotive equipment, such as tires and car seats.
	+ To use the VIN Look-Up Tool, vehicle owners can go to [NHTSA.gov/recalls](http://www.NHTSA.gov/recalls) and enter their vehicle’s 17-digit VIN into the search bar. To use the License Plate Look-Up Tool, vehicle owners can go to NHTSA.gov/recalls and enter their vehicle’s license plate and state into the search bar. In seconds, the vehicle owner will know if their vehicle is subject to an open safety recall. While there, vehicle owners can [sign up for Recall Alerts](https://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/nhtsa/subscriptions). If a vehicle is included in a future recall, they’ll receive an email letting them know. NHTSA’s free web recalls tool will provide details on any unrepaired recall in a vehicle for at least the past 15 calendar years. It will also provide details on unrepaired safety recalls from major automakers, motorcycle manufacturers, and some medium/heavy truck manufacturers.
* Drivers can also check for open safety recalls by downloading the free [SaferCar app](https://www.nhtsa.gov/safercar-app). Once in the app, enter a vehicle’s VIN and NHTSA will send an alert if a safety recall is issued.
	+ Think of the [SaferCar app](https://www.nhtsa.gov/safercar-app) as a virtual garage: Once a user downloads the app — available for iOS and Android — they can add any vehicle or related equipment, like tires, trailers, and car seats. [SaferCar](https://www.nhtsa.gov/safercar-app) notifies the user of all related recalls, even directing them to local dealerships so they can quickly make an appointment and get it fixed quickly and for free. If someone already downloaded the app, Vehicle Safety Recalls Week is a good time to make sure their vehicle and equipment information are up-to-date in the app.

Both methods for checking recalls are free and easy. In both cases, drivers will need to enter either the vehicle’s VIN, located on the lower portion of their car’s windshield on the driver’s side, or license plate. The VIN is also located on a vehicle owner’s registration card, and it may be shown on their insurance card. Drivers may also access NHTSA’s [investigations and recalls resources page](https://www.nhtsa.gov/resources-investigations-recalls), which contains interactive recall and recall completion rate dashboards.

**Stay Recall Aware Every Day**

NHTSA urges drivers to participate in Vehicle Safety Recalls Week March 3-9, 2025. But the awareness doesn’t have to stop there. Drivers can take advantage of NHTSA’s free resources — the [VIN or License Plate Look-Up Tool](file:///C%3A%5C%5CUsers%5C%5Cangela.astrup.ctr%5C%5CAppData%5C%5CLocal%5C%5CMicrosoft%5C%5CWindows%5C%5CINetCache%5C%5CContent.Outlook%5C%5C3D59GOJB%5C%5CNHTSA.gov%5C%5Crecalls), the [SaferCar app](https://www.nhtsa.gov/safercar-app), and the [investigations and recalls resources page](https://www.nhtsa.gov/resources-investigations-recalls) — and be covered every day of the year.

Even with alerts and warnings emailed or mailed by manufacturers, millions of recalled vehicles go unrepaired every year. This puts drivers, passengers, and other road users at risk. In fact, an urgent air bag recall is still ongoing, currently the largest vehicle recall in U.S. history, which has resulted in 28 deaths in the United States.

If a driver believes their vehicle may have a safety-related defect that isn’t part of a current recall, contact NHTSA online at NHTSA.gov or by calling the agency’s Vehicle Safety Hotline at 888-327-4236. Sometimes just one complaint is enough to trigger a safety recall.

For more information on NHTSA’s Vehicle Recalls, visit [NHTSA.gov/Recalls](https://www.nhtsa.gov/recalls).

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