

### **Kia Motors America Statement Regarding ABC Action News Inquiry – 1/18/19**

Kia Motors America (KMA) cannot comment on Mr. Vaughn's departure from KMA, and it is our policy to never retaliate against any employee for bringing up safety concerns or employment matters. We take our policy against retaliation very seriously. KMA provides an anonymous ethics hotline to its employees for reporting these types of safety concerns and any other matters and KMA's Human Resources Department is investigating allegations relating to the handling of these safety concerns. Following the investigation, KMA will institute appropriate remediation, if any, on how such matters are addressed by the company.

KMA is voluntarily conducting a recall campaign to perform inspections of vehicles that had their engine replaced under 17v224 to confirm the high pressure fuel pipe was properly installed to the fuel pump outlet by Kia dealers. The practice of using new materials is intended as a precautionary step to ensure that fuel pipes are not damaged in the repair process. Mr. Vaughn's assertions about fire dangers caused by inadvertent fuel pipe recycling are not borne out by our investigations or analyses.

With regards to customer Wolfe, as previously stated, KMA works directly with our customers and will provide the results of the vehicle inspection to the customer when complete.

Non-collision fires are not limited to Kia vehicles and it is important to gain a full understanding of this industry-wide matter. KMA has concerns about the methodology and analysis used by the Center for Auto Safety for evaluating vehicle safety or identifying a vehicle defect. KMA continues to cooperate with NHTSA to analyze all relevant information associated with any fire or other safety-related matters and will take any necessary corrective action in a timely manner.

Owners are encouraged to contact Kia Consumer Affairs at 800-333-4542 with any questions or concerns related to this matter.