



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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IN RE:

GENERAL MOTORS LLC IGNITION SWITCH LITIGATION

14-MD-2543 (JMF)

This Document Relates To:
Ward v. General Motors LLC, 14-CV-8317 (JMF)
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ORDER

JESSE M. FURMAN, United States District Judge:

Attached as Exhibit 1 to this Order is language about the facts of the case that the Court intends to read as part of its preliminary instructions to prospective jurors tomorrow before they are asked to complete the written questionnaire. (The language is similar, though not identical, to the description in the written questionnaire itself.)

Any objection or suggestion with respect to the proposed language shall be submitted (after conferring with the other side) by letter **no later than today at 8 p.m.** Any objection or suggestion shall make specific reference to the relevant page and line number.

The parties are advised that the Court does not intend to have a court reporter present for its preliminary instructions tomorrow. That said, any counsel is free to attend and, upon request, the Court is prepared to docket its prepared remarks after the fact. (If counsel wish to attend, they should contact Chambers to determine the approximate time to be in the Jury Assembly Room at the Daniel Patrick Moynihan U.S. Courthouse, 500 Pearl Street.)

SO ORDERED.

Dated: June 28, 2017
New York, New York



JESSE M. FURMAN
United States District Judge

EXHIBIT 1

PROPOSED DESCRIPTION OF THE CASE:

1 This is a civil case. There are two parties: the Plaintiff, Dennis Ward, and the
2 Defendant, General Motors LLC (sometimes called “New GM”). (General Motors
3 LLC is sometimes called “New GM” because its predecessor company, General
4 Motors *Corporation*, or “Old GM,” went bankrupt in 2009; New GM acquired
5 many of the assets and some of the liabilities of Old GM in the bankruptcy.) Mr.
6 Ward seeks damages for injuries he allegedly suffered in a car accident that
7 occurred near Tucson, Arizona, on March 27, 2014, while driving his 2009
8 Chevrolet HHR, a car that was manufactured by Old GM. Mr. Ward alleges that
9 the accident occurred because the braking and power-steering functions of the car
10 failed and that that failure was the result of a defect in the ignition switch of the car
11 — a defect that allowed the ignition key to move from the “run” to the “accessory”
12 or “off” position too easily. Mr. Ward alleges that New GM was aware of the
13 defect and failed to adequately warn him about it.

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15 Mr. Ward brings two claims against New GM, based on Arizona law because the
16 car accident took place in Arizona. The first claim is for negligence. The second
17 claim is for strict product liability. New GM denies liability for both of the claims,
18 denies that there was a defect in the ignition switch of Mr. Ward’s car, and denies
19 that any defect caused any of Mr. Ward’s alleged injuries and damages.