



U.S. Department of Justice
Consumer Protection Branch
Washington, DC 20530

February 10, 2012

Michael & Elana Laham
P.O. Box 66
Renton, WA 98057

Re: Automobile Information Disclosure Act

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Laham:

This letter is in response to your follow-up correspondence, dated January 30, 2012, regarding an alleged violation of the Automobile Information Disclosure Act and your request for information regarding our contact with Kia of Puyallup (KoP), 111 Valley Avenue NE, Puyallup, WA 98372, regarding your allegations. I note you brought a private action in Small Claims Court in Pierce County, Washington, against KoP, that was dismissed by the judge.

Our contact with KoP, resulted in KoP maintaining the "Evaluation Vehicle and the Ordered Vehicle both had the manufacturer's 'Monroney Label' affixed."

Government agencies frequently are not able to resolve individual complaints on an informal basis, especially when factual disputes exist. In limited instances, depending upon the facts presented and statutory authority, a governmental body may be authorized to institute suit on behalf of the general public. Generally, however, such suits are instituted only when a matter involves or affects a significant number of individuals. You should be aware that, even when a governmental agency is able to institute legal action on behalf of the public, successful prosecution often does not result in restitution of financial losses to affected individuals.

Although I appreciate your concern, I can only suggest that you continue to seek the advice of a private attorney as to your rights and any possible remedies available to you.

I regret that we cannot be of direct assistance in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth L. Jost
Deputy Director
Consumer Protection Branch
Civil Division


Kenneth C. Maddox
Consumer Affairs Specialist