



SAFETY BULLETIN

24-001

June 28, 2024

TO: All Personnel

FROM: Battalion Chief Fossum

SUBJECT: TDA Safety Issue

Recently an issue was identified on one of the TDA's with extrication equipment (particularly struts) housed in a transverse compartment. During a recent 911 response, one of the struts may have hit the center of the compartment doors, which likely caused it to pop open—in turn impacting a mirror of a vehicle. A secondary item of concern is that the pin holding the locking mechanism at the top of the door was loose (image 4), which may have been a contributing factor. These can be tightened by the engineer with an allen wrench and pliers and should be documented in Fleetio. A third element of concern was that the door alarm wires had been sheared or cut, not allowing for an alarm to sound when the compartment door opened. That may not have had any influence on the outcome of this incident specifically, but if during morning checks, alarms aren't sounding when they should be, that needs to be documented within Fleetio and reported as a safety concern to fleet through your chain of command. One easy way to check alarm function is the LED lights on either side of the door should activate when the TDA has power or is running and the doors are opened.

We are recommending that all individuals on any apparatus, especially TDAs, to ensure that during their morning checks, they identify that there are no items that can freely swing against the interior doors. The attached pictures show where the struts were housed (image 1), and where the struts have struck the door multiple times (image 3). Also, ensure all doors properly close and latch, by pushing firmly on the door to make sure the door is secure. Do not rely upon a visual assessment. Logistics is currently working on a fix for this identified issue. It was also noted that several of the TDA door latches are "sticky" and may have a tendency to not completely shut (image 5). If this is occurring, use spray lubricant on door pull handles and latches to help remedy the issue. If there are noted issues of compartment doors popping open while driving, please document in Fleetio immediately and work through your chain of command for necessary mechanical fixes. There have been several conversations noting this has occurred with different TDAs, but the assumption is that it was human error, not a mechanical issue.

Take time during all apparatus checkoffs to identify gear or equipment that could impact the interior of cabinet doors. If items are identified, take immediate action to change, remove, or relocate those items until a proper course of action can be determined. For systemic issues, continue to report these in Fleetio and fleet will continue address these.



Image 1 - Compartment Doors Opened



Image 2 - Strut Sleeves



Image 3 - Strut Impact Marks



Image 4 - Loose Locking Pin

