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Sent on 03 26 2013 **Expires on** 04 09 2013
From Parts and Service Division
Subject (Acura) Counterfeit Airbags - Department of Justice Victim's Notification

To: All Acura dealers
Attn: Dealer, GM, Svc Manager, Parts Manager
From: Bruce Smith

Subject: Counterfeit Airbags – Department of Justice Victim's Notification

It has come to the attention of American Honda that the U.S. Department of Justice is in process of contacting persons who *counterfeit airbag, an airbag containing a counterfeit part, or a vehicle in which a counterfeit airbag or counterfeit part was* contacted by the DoJ have been identified as victims during the investigation of a criminal case. Information is provided through the **Notification System**. Additional details may be found at: <http://www.justice.gov/usao/ncw/victimwitness/igorborodin.html>

Persons receiving the information package are warned of the dangers of counterfeit airbags. They are advised that if they *airbag parts or salvage title vehicles* from specifically named sources, they should "...immediately contact a factory-authorized inspection of the airbag to ensure that it is a genuine, factory-authorized automobile part." Unfortunately, and contrary to information, American Honda lacks the ability to assist our dealer's efforts to provide absolute certainty replacement airbag counterfeit. Vehicles affected by the counterfeit parts issue will be ones that have been previously repaired, likely due to a conducting a disassembly that will be costly to a consumer and will not yield the absolute assurance they expect. American better approach is for the consumer to first determine vehicle history. We will provide all consumers that contact American assist them to make the best decision possible.

We ask that American Honda dealers refer owners of Honda and Acura vehicles that received the **Victim Notification to c Relations** at 1-800-382-2238, and then select option 6.

The NADA has published guidance for their dealers that we believe to be sound advice. We encourage interested dealers titled: *NADA Guidance for Responding to Counterfeit Air Bag Questions*.

For further information please see:

<http://www.nhtsa.gov/About+NHTSA/Press+Releases/2012/Safety+Advisory:+NHTSA+Alerting+Consumers+to+Dangers+>

<http://collision.honda.com/airbagaware/to-help-determine-if-you-have-a-counterfeit-airbag>