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

To: All Honda 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 have "received a counterfeit airbag, an airbag containing a counterfeit part, or a vehicle in which a counterfeit airbag or coil part was installed." Persons contacted by the DoJ have been identified as victims during the investigation of a criminal case. Information is provided to them via the **Victim 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 purchased "... airbags, airbag parts or salvage title vehicles" from specifically named sources, they should "...immediately contact a factory-authorized dealer and request an inspection of the airbag to ensure that it is a genuine, factory-authorized automol. Unfortunately, and contrary to the published information, American Honda lacks the ability to assist our dealer's efforts to provide absolute certainty replacement airbags are or are not counterfeit. Vehicles affected by the counterfeit parts issue will be or have been previously repaired, likely due to a collision. Rather than conducting a disassembly that will be costly to a consumer will not yield the absolute assurance they expect, American Honda believes a better approach is for the consumer to first check vehicle history. We will provide all consumers that contact American Honda a guide that can assist them to make the best possible.

We ask that American Honda dealers refer owners of Honda and Acura vehicles that received the **Victim Notification** to contact **Honda Automobile Customer Service** at 1-800-999-1009, and then select option 7.

The NADA has published guidance for their dealers that we believe to be sound advice. We encourage interested dealers to read the article 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+of+Counterfeit>

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

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