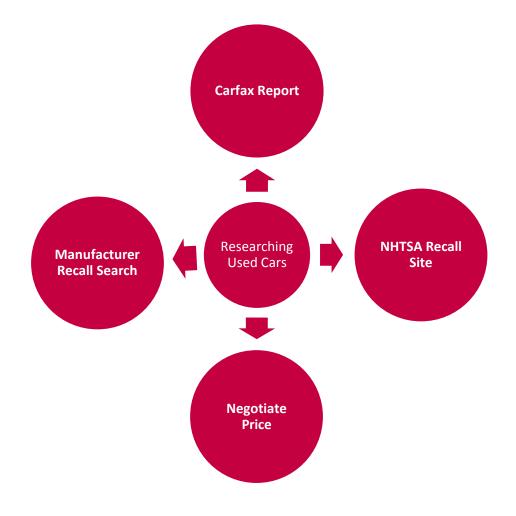


Tennessee Used Car Recall Resource

Buying a used car is a difficult process. Part of the anxiety experienced by used car consumers is the fear that they will be purchasing a car that may fall apart or have hidden defects. Additionally, many used car buyers are worried that there are safety recall issues with a used car.

In light of the millions of vehicles that have been recalled in 2014 by Toyota, General Motors and many other auto manufacturers, it is important that residents of Tennessee have a detailed resource to evaluate used cars and a vehicle's recall history.



Provided By Knoxville, TN Auto Accident Law Firm Greg Coleman Law





Now that you have decided to purchase a used car, the research begins. Conducting extensive research is key to making sure you have the information you need to make an informed decision. A vehicle history report can provide detailed information about many issues, including ownership, miles, accidents and damage to the vehicle. In terms of recalls, however, there are two recall-related questions that a vehicle history report from Carfax can help you answer:

- 1) Has the car ever been recalled?
- 2) Was the recall ever fixed by a previous owner?

Ordering a Car Fax Report

The online car resource, <u>Carfax</u>, allows consumers to use the license plates of used cars to access a vehicle's history report. A Carfax report includes, among other things, information about:

- Mileage
- Owners
- Structural damage
- Lease, rental, taxi or police use
- Rebuilt title status
- Airbag deployment
- Salvage
- Estimated miles
- Recalls
- Warranty

Evaluating a Used Car

Carfax provides car owners and potential car consumers with detailed information about the safety of a vehicle. For instance, anyone considering whether to purchase a used car or not should identify and copy the VIN number on the vehicle before moving forward with purchasing the vehicle.

Oftentimes, individuals know they need to have a mechanic evaluate and review a potential used vehicle. But they forget that before they pay for the expense of a used car mechanic review, one of the easiest steps is to pull a report of the vehicle's purchase, recall, and accident history. If there are major red flags you can bypass the mechanic review and pass on the car.





A recalled vehicle is any vehicle that an auto manufacturer or the NHTSA has declared unsafe to drive due to a safety defect. If you are looking at a used car, get the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) and checkout the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's <u>VIN look-up website</u>.

On Aug. 20, 2014, the NHTSA launched an online resource for consumers. With the VIN look-up tool it is easy to accurately evaluate whether a used vehicle is risky due to a recall notice that was unfulfilled. The VIN look-up tool, available at <u>http://www.safercar.gov/vinlookup</u>, is an easy way to evaluate any and all cars including used cars that consumers are considering purchasing.

With an easy to use interface, consumers can enter the VIN of a vehicle and identify if it has been subject to a recall at any time in the last 15 years and whether there are any recalls that are incomplete on the vehicle.

Vehicle Identification Number Look-Up Tool





Manufacturers are now required to provide recall information on their corporate websites. The following auto companies have their recall information listed on the corporate website.

Fifteen Largest Auto Companies and Their Recall Websites

- GM
 - o https://recalls.gm.com/#/
- Toyota
 - http://www.toyota.com/recall?srchid=sem|google|Brand|Support_Recalls|Recall_Toyot a|Existing|Brand_Owner
- Ford
 - o http://owner.ford.com/servlet/ContentServer?pagename=Owner/Page/RecallsPage
- Honda
 - o <u>http://owners.honda.com/service-maintenance/recalls</u>



- Hyundai
 - o <u>https://www.hyundaiusa.com/recall/</u>
 - Mazda
 - o http://www.mazdausa.com/MusaWeb/displayRecallOwners.action
- Kia
- o <u>http://www.kia.ca/kia-recall</u>
- Volvo
 - o http://www.volvocars.com/us/top/yourvolvo/Pages/RecallInformation.aspx
- Mercedes-Benz
 - o http://www.mbusa.com/mercedes/recall
- Nissan
 - o http://www.nissanusa.com/recalls-vin#/
- Subaru
 - o <u>http://www.subaru.com/vehicle-recalls.html</u>
- BMW
 - <u>http://www.bmwusa.com/standard/content/owner/safetyrecalls_new.aspx?mobileoverride=true</u>
- Chrysler Group
 - o https://www.moparownerconnect.com/oc/us/en-us/sub/Pages/RecallsQuery.aspx
- Volvo
 - o http://www.volvocars.com/us/top/yourvolvo/Pages/RecallInformation.aspx
- Volkswagen
 - o http://www.vw.com/web/vw/recall/



Negotiate a Used Car Price

If an owner or a dealer has not fixed an outstanding recall request on a vehicle, it does not mean you should pass on the vehicle. However, it gives you additional leverage and information about the amount of maintenance that has been done on the vehicle.

If a previous owner is attempting to convince you that the car has had regular maintenance and has no safety defects, an outstanding safety recall that has not yet been fixed is important information. You can use existing recalls to negotiate the price of a used vehicle downward.



Tennessee auto accident law firm, Greg Coleman Law, created this used car recall resource to assist consumers across the state in identifying, evaluating and remedying potential recall defects.



Despite all of your research, it is possible that you could still purchase an unsafe car. If you or a loved one has been involved in a car accident, contact the lawyers at Greg Coleman Law.

The <u>experienced car accident lawyers</u> at Greg Coleman Law can help you identify whether a safety defect due to a recall caused your accident. Our firm will hold the negligible parties responsible for your injuries accountable and get you the financial compensation you deserve.

When you want justice, our law firm will be there for you.

Call 865-247-0080 today.



Additional Online Resources

- Used Car Buying Guide
 - o http://www.carfax.com/used-car-buying-guide/car-buying-tips
- Tennessee Consumer Affairs Division
 - o http://state.tn.us/consumer/lemon.shtml
- NHTSA VIN Look-Up Tool
 - o https://vinrcl.safercar.gov/vin/