

# If you owned or leased a Ford Explorer on August 9, 2000, you could get benefits from a legal settlement.

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PARA UNA NOTIFICACIÓN EN ESPAÑOL, LLAMAR O VISITAR NUESTRO WEBSITE

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A settlement has been reached between Ford Motor Company ("Ford") and residents of Texas, California, Illinois, and Connecticut involving 1991-2001 model year Explorers. This notice is for Texas residents. The class action is about whether Ford misled consumers to pay more for those Explorers than they should have. The settlement provides discount certificates towards the purchase or lease of any new Ford, Lincoln, or Mercury.

If you are in the Class, you may send in a claim to ask for a certificate, exclude yourself from, or object to, the settlement. The Superior Court of California, Sacramento County authorized this notice, and will have a hearing to decide whether to approve the settlement, so that benefits can be issued. Get a detailed notice at [www.ExplorerClaims.com](http://www.ExplorerClaims.com).

## WHO'S INCLUDED?

The settlement includes certain Ford Explorer owners and lessees in four states. In Texas, the Class includes anyone who owned or leased a 1991-2001 model year Explorer in Texas on August 9, 2000, and who was a resident of Texas as of December 5, 2007.

## WHAT DOES THE SETTLEMENT PROVIDE?

The settlement provides certificates for \$500 toward the purchase or lease of a new Ford Explorer or \$300 toward the purchase or lease of any other new Ford, Lincoln, or Mercury vehicle. The certificates will be valid for 12 months from the date issued. The certificates can be used in conjunction with other Ford offers and incentives, but only one certificate can be used at a time.

Also, for a period of 12 months after certificates are issued, Ford agrees to make available on its website, [www.Ford.com](http://www.Ford.com) (a) warnings that Ford provides in all Owner's Guides for its 2007 model year sport utility vehicles regarding the importance of restraint usage by adults and children, driving practices and cargo loading practices to reduce the risk of rollover, and tire safety; (b) downloadable copies of Ford's publication, "Driving Your SUV or Truck" (formerly referred to as "4-Wheeling With Ford") that Ford provides with its 2007 model year sport utility vehicles; and (c) a separate publication on tire safety. Ford also will provide on its website instructions on how to obtain extra copies of 2007 Owner's Guides in both English and Spanish.

Other benefits, and more details about the settlement, can be found in a document called the Settlement Agreement which is available at [www.ExplorerClaims.com](http://www.ExplorerClaims.com). The settlement doesn't mean that any law was broken, and Ford denies all claims of wrongdoing in this case.

## HOW CAN YOU ASK FOR A CERTIFICATE?

Simply call or go to the website to get a claim form. To get a certificate you need to fill out and send in a claim form and supporting documents postmarked no later than **April 29, 2008**.

## CAN I GIVE MY CERTIFICATE AWAY?

With some limitations, you can give your certificate to someone else. On the claim form you can elect to have your certificate issued to someone else who lives in your state. After you receive your certificate you can transfer it to an immediate family member (*i.e.*, your spouse, sibling, child, or domestic partner). You can ask for the transfer by writing the Settlement Administrator at the address listed on the certificate. Please note that you may not receive any compensation for requesting that the certificate be issued in the name of another person.

## WHAT ARE YOUR OTHER RIGHTS?

If you don't want to be legally bound by the settlement, you must exclude yourself by **April 3, 2008**, or you won't be able to sue, or continue to sue, Ford on your own about the legal claims in this case ever again. If you exclude yourself, you can't get any certificate from the settlement. If you stay in the settlement, you may object to it by **April 3, 2008**. The detailed notice explains how to exclude yourself or object.

The Court will hold a hearing in this case, known as *Ford Explorer Cases*, JCCP Nos. 4226 & 4270, on **April 15, 2008**, to consider whether to approve the settlement, and a request by Class Counsel for up to \$25,000,000, for fees, costs and expenses. As part of that request, Class Counsel will also ask for a payment ranging from \$2,500 to \$10,000 for each of the Class Representatives, who helped the lawyers on behalf of the whole Class. You or your own lawyer may ask to appear and speak at the hearing at your own cost, but you don't have to. For more information, call or go to the website shown below. **PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE CLERK OR COURT.**