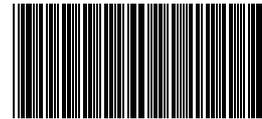




Filed: 13 September 2018 9:32 AM



D00011HQZW

Form 3A/B  
Rule 6.2

## AMENDED STATEMENT OF CLAIM

### COURT DETAILS

Court	Supreme Court of NSW
Division	Equity
List	Equity General
Registry	Supreme Court Sydney
Case number	2017/00378526

### FILING DETAILS

Filed for	Plaintiff[s]
Legal representative	Damian Scattini
Legal representative reference	
Telephone	(02)91463888
Your reference	07435-00001

### ATTACHMENT DETAILS

In accordance with Part 3 of the UCPR, this coversheet confirms that both the Amended Statement of Claim (e-Services), along with any other documents listed below, were filed by the Court.

Amended Statement of Claim (10387724\_1\_2018.09.04 - Kularathne v Honda - FASOC - Verified.pdf)

[attach.]

Form 3A (version 7)  
UCPR 6.2

**FURTHER AMENDED STATEMENT OF CLAIM**

**COURT DETAILS**

Court	Supreme Court of NSW
Division	Equity
List	General (Class Action)
Registry	Sydney
Case number	2017/0037852

**TITLE OF PROCEEDINGS**

Plaintiff	<b>Akuratiya Kularathne</b>
Defendant	<b>Honda Australia Pty Ltd</b> <b>ABN 66 004 759 611</b>

**FILING DETAILS**

Filed for	<b>Akuratiya Kularathne</b>
Legal representative	Damian Scattini, Quinn Emanuel Urquhart and Sullivan LLP
Legal representative reference	07435-00001
Contact name and telephone	Damian Scattini 02 9146 3888
Contact email	damianscattini@quinnemanuel.com

**TYPE OF CLAIM**

Other (Equity General List)

Representative proceeding under Part 10 of the *Civil Procedure Act 2005* (NSW)

**RELIEF CLAIMED**

- 1 An order for compensation pursuant to section 87 of the TPA and/or section 237 of the ACL;
- 2 Further or in the alternative, damages pursuant to section 82 of the TPA and/or section 236 of the ACL;
- 3 Further or in the alternative, compensation pursuant to section 74D(1) of the TPA;

- 4 [Not used]
- 5 Further or in the alternative, damages pursuant to sections 271 and 272 of the ACL;
- 6 Interest in accordance with section 100 of the *Civil Procedure Act 2005* (NSW);
- 7 Costs;
- 8 Any other orders the Court considers appropriate.

## **COMMON QUESTIONS, PLEADINGS AND PARTICULARS**

### **A. COMMON QUESTIONS**

The questions of law or fact common to the claims of group members, or to potential sub-group members, in this proceeding are:

1. Whether the Defendant supplied Defective Vehicles;
2. Whether the Defective Vehicles are goods of a kind which are commonly bought and commonly supplied for the purpose of:
  - (a) driving or permitting to be driven;
  - (b) driving or permitting to be driven without being exposed to unnecessary danger or harm attributable to its construction; and/or
  - (c) carrying passengers in the vehicle without exposing them to unnecessary danger or harm attributable to its construction;
3. Whether the Defective Vehicles:
  - (a) are not safe to drive; and/or
  - (b) if driven, expose the driver and any passengers to unnecessary danger and harm attributable to their construction with at least one Takata Airbag;
4. Whether the Defendant did not take any or adequate steps to:
  - (a) warn members of the public that the Defective Vehicles were not safe to drive and/or safe for passengers;
  - (b) prevent the Defective Vehicles being driven;

- (c) ensure that Defective Vehicles were not sold as second-hand vehicles;
5. [Not used]
6. [Not used]
7. [Not used]
8. Whether any Defective Vehicles acquired by Group Members before 1 January 2011 were not of merchantable quality within the meaning of section 74D of the TPA;
9. Whether the Defendant is liable pursuant to section 74D of the TPA to compensate any Group Members who acquired a Defective Vehicle before 1 January 2011;
10. [Not used]
11. [Not used];
12. Whether:
- (a) a reasonable consumer fully acquainted with the state and condition of the Defective Vehicles would not regard the Defective Vehicles as:
- (i) acceptably fit for all the purposes for which goods of that kind are commonly supplied;
- (ii) free from defects; and/or
- (iii) safe;
- (b) the Defendant breached the Acceptable Quality Guarantee (as defined at paragraph 30 of the Pleadings) provided for in section 54(1) of the ACL in respect of any Defective Vehicles supplied to Group Members on or after 1 January 2011;
13. [Not used]
14. Whether the Defendant is liable to pay damages pursuant to section 271 and section 272 of the ACL to Group Members to whom it supplied Defective Vehicles on or after 1 January 2011;
15. Whether, during the Relevant Period, the Defendant engaged in Misleading Conduct (as defined at paragraph 42 of the Pleadings), Misleading Conduct by

Silence (as defined at paragraph 42C of the Pleadings) and/or made Misleading Representations (as defined at paragraph 42A of the Pleadings);

16. Whether the Misleading Conduct, the Misleading Conduct by Silence, and/or the Misleading Representations was:
- (a) false or misleading in contravention of section 53(a) of the TPA and/or section 29(1)(a) of the ACL;
  - (b) misleading or deceptive, or likely to mislead or deceive, in contravention of section 52 of the TPA and/or section 18 of the ACL;
  - (c) misleading as to the nature, the characteristics and/or the suitability for purpose of the Defective Vehicles in contravention of section 55 of the TPA and/or section 33 of the ACL;
- 16A. Whether it can be inferred that each Group Member relied on the Misleading Conduct, the Misleading Conduct by Silence, and/or the Misleading Representations in purchasing their respective Defective Vehicle;
17. Whether the Defendant engaged in Unconscionable Conduct (as defined at paragraph 49 of the Pleadings) in contravention of section 51AB of the TPA and/or section 21 of the ACL;
18. Whether the Group Members are entitled to recover from the Defendant:
- (a) compensation pursuant to section 87 of the TPA and/or section 237 of the ACL; and/or
  - (b) loss or damage pursuant to section 82 of the TPA and/or section 236 of the ACL.

**B. PLEADINGS**

**THE PROCEEDING AND THE PARTIES**

1. The Plaintiff brings this proceeding as a representative proceeding pursuant to Part 10 of the *Civil Procedure Act 2005* (NSW):
- (a) in his own right;
  - (b) on behalf of:

- (i) consumers (within the meaning of section 4B of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* (Cth) (**TPA**) or sections 3(1)(a) or (b) of the Australian Consumer Law, being Schedule 2 of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth) (**ACL**), who did not acquire a commercial road vehicle as that term is used in section 4B of the TPA);
- (ii) who at any time during the period 1 January 2001 to 27 February 2018 inclusive (**Relevant Period**) acquired (within the meaning of section 4 of the TPA or section 2 of the ACL) in Australia a Honda motor vehicle fitted with a front driver or passenger airbag manufactured or supplied by Takata Corporation and/or its related entities or subsidiaries, including TK Holdings, Inc (Takata Airbag), and:
- (I) \_\_\_\_\_ which has been the subject of a an airbag-related product safety recall and which is listed in paragraphs 11 and 11A 9 below (Defective Vehicle); or
- (II) \_\_\_\_\_ which is the subject of:
- (a) the future recall to be issued in respect of Honda Accord (Model Year 2003) in January 2020;
- (b) the future recall to be issued in respect of Honda Accord Euro (Model Year 2014-2015) in January 2019;
- (c) the future recall to be issued in respect of Honda Accord Euro (Model Year 2003-2008) in January 2020;
- (d) the future recall to be issued in respect of Honda Accord Euro (Model Year 2009) in January 2020;

- (e) the future recall to be issued in respect of Honda CRV (Model Year 2002-2006) in January 2020;
- (f) the future recall to be issued in respect of Honda CRV (Model Year 2008-2009) in January 2020;
- (g) the future recall to be issued in respect of Honda City (Model Year 2009) in January 2020;
- (h) the future recall to be issued in respect of Honda Civic (Model Year 2001-2005) in January 2020;
- (i) the future recall to be issued in respect of Honda Civic Hybrid (Model Year 2004) in January 2020;
- (j) the future recall to be issued in respect of Honda Jazz (Model Year 2014) in January 2019;
- (k) the future recall to be issued in respect of Honda Jazz (Model Year 2003-2007) in January 2020;
- (l) the future recall to be issued in respect of Honda Jazz (Model Year 2009) in January 2020;
- (m) the future recall to be issued in respect of Honda MDX (Model Year 2003) in January 2020;

(together, Defective Vehicle), and

(iii) who:

- (I) prior to or on 27 February 2018, had not sold or otherwise disposed of the Defective Vehicle; or

- (II) after 27 February 2018, sold or otherwise disposed of the Defective Vehicle;

**(Group Members).**

**Particulars**

The Defendant advised the Plaintiff by letter dated 24 July 2018 that the future recalls pleaded in paragraph 1(b)(ii)(II) will be made.

2. The Plaintiff:

- (a) purchased, in or about January 2017, a Defective Vehicle, being a Honda Insight model year 2011 (**Plaintiff's First Vehicle**);
- (b) bought the Plaintiff's First Vehicle second-hand from a private seller in Brisbane, Queensland;
- (c) paid \$14,000 for the Plaintiff's First Vehicle;
- (d) acquired the Plaintiff's First Vehicle for personal use;
- (e) acquired the Plaintiff's First Vehicle for the purposes of:
  - (i) driving the Plaintiff's First Vehicle or permitting the Plaintiff's First Vehicle to be driven;
  - (ii) driving the Plaintiff's First Vehicle or permitting the Plaintiff's First Vehicle to be driven without being exposed to unnecessary danger or harm attributable to its construction; and/or
  - (iii) carrying passengers in the Plaintiff's First Vehicle without exposing them to unnecessary danger or harm attributable to its construction;

which purpose or purposes was or were expressly or impliedly known to the Defendant;

- (f) purchased in or about March 2017, a Defective Vehicle, being a Honda Insight model year 2012 (**Plaintiff's Second Vehicle**);
- (g) bought the Plaintiff's Second Vehicle from a Consign-A-Car in Kedron, Queensland;

- (h) paid \$15,000 for the Plaintiff's Second Vehicle;
- (i) acquired the Plaintiff's Second Vehicle for personal use;
- (j) acquired the Plaintiff's Second Vehicle for the purposes of:
  - (i) driving the Plaintiff's Second Vehicle or permitting the Plaintiff's Second Vehicle to be driven;
  - (ii) driving the Plaintiff's Second Vehicle or permitting the Plaintiff's Second Vehicle to be driven without being exposed to unnecessary danger or harm attributable to its construction; and/or
  - (iii) carrying passengers in the Plaintiff's Second Vehicle without exposing them to unnecessary danger or harm attributable to its construction;

which purpose or purposes was or were expressly or impliedly known to the Defendant;

- (k) purchased in or about June 2017, a Defective Vehicle, being a Honda Legend model year 2007 (**Plaintiff's Third Vehicle**);
- (l) bought the Plaintiff's Third Vehicle second-hand from a private seller in Forest Lake, Queensland;
- (m) paid \$8,000 for the Plaintiff's Third Vehicle;
- (n) acquired the Plaintiff's Third Vehicle for personal use;
- (o) acquired the Plaintiff's Third Vehicle for the purposes of:
  - (i) driving the Plaintiff's Third Vehicle or permitting the Plaintiff's Third Vehicle to be driven;
  - (ii) driving the Plaintiff's Third Vehicle or permitting the Plaintiff's Third Vehicle to be driven without being exposed to unnecessary danger or harm attributable to its construction; and/or
  - (iii) carrying passengers in the Plaintiff's Third Vehicle without exposing them to unnecessary danger or harm attributable to its construction;

which purposes were expressly or impliedly known to the Defendant;

- (o1) the Plaintiff's First Vehicle, the Plaintiff's Second Vehicle and the Plaintiff's Third Vehicle together constitute the **Plaintiff's Vehicles**,
- (o2) in acquiring the Plaintiff's Vehicles, relied on the Misleading Conduct as pleaded in paragraph 42 below, the Misleading Conduct by Silence as pleaded in paragraph 42C below, and/or the Misleading Representations as pleaded in paragraph 42A below ~~reputation of the Defendant's brand (i.e. Honda) as a make of vehicle that is safe to drive~~;
- (o3) was not aware, at the time of purchase of each of the Plaintiff's Vehicles, that any of the Plaintiff's Vehicles were fitted with one or more Takata Airbags;
- (p) is included in any reference to Group Members in the remainder of this pleading.

3. Each Group Member:

- (a) acquired a Defective Vehicle by:
  - (i) purchasing a new Defective Vehicle;
  - (ii) purchasing a second-hand Defective Vehicle; or
  - (iii) taking on a lease in respect of a new Defective Vehicle on hire or on hire-purchase;
- (b) acquired a Defective Vehicle:
  - (i) for \$40,000 or less; or
  - (ii) where the Defective Vehicle was of a kind ordinarily acquired for personal, domestic or household use or consumption;
- (c) did not acquire a Defective Vehicle, or hold themselves out as acquiring a Defective Vehicle for the purpose of re-supply or for the purpose of using them up or transforming them, in trade or commerce, in the course of a process of production or manufacture or of repairing or treating other goods or fixtures on land;
- (d) acquired a Defective Vehicle for the purpose of:

- (i) driving the Defective Vehicle or permitting the Defective Vehicle to be driven;
- (ii) driving the Defective Vehicle or permitting the Defective Vehicle to be driven without being exposed to unnecessary danger or harm attributable to its construction; and/or
- (iii) carrying passengers in the Defective Vehicle without exposing them to unnecessary danger or harm attributable to its construction;

which purpose or purposes was or were expressly or impliedly known to the Defendant;

(e) by reason of the matters pleaded in:

- (i) paragraph 2(c), 2(h), 2(m) and 3(b) above; and
- (ii) paragraph 10(a) below;

acquired a Defective Vehicle as a consumer within the meaning of section 4B of the TPA or section 3(1)(a) or (b) of the ACL, which was not a commercial road vehicle as that term is used in section 4B of the TPA;

(f) acquired a Defective Vehicle from a person other than by way of sale by auction.

4. The Defendant:

- (a) is a company duly incorporated in Australia;
- (b) is a trading corporation within the meaning of section 4 of the TPA;
- (c) is and was at all material times a wholly owned subsidiary of Honda Motor Co. Ltd., which
  - (i) is a Japanese company;
  - (ii) has no place of business in Australia;
  - (iii) manufactured the Defective Vehicles;
- (d) did not manufacture the Defective Vehicles;

- (e) imported the Defective Vehicles into Australia;
- (f) by reason of the matters pleaded in (c), (e) and (d) above, manufactured the Defective Vehicles within the meaning of section 74A of the TPA or section 7 of the ACL;
- (g) supplied, other than by way of sale by auction, in the course of business, and in trade or commerce:
  - (i) Defective Vehicles to other persons who acquired the goods for re-supply; and/or
  - (ii) Defective Vehicles to consumers who, by reason of paragraphs 2(c), 2(h), 2(m) and 3(b) above and 10(a) below, were consumers within the meaning of section 4B of the TPA or section 3 of the ACL;

- 5. The Defective Vehicles were supplied to Group Members in trade or commerce.
- 6. As at the date of the commencement of this proceeding, seven or more Group Members have claims in the nature of those described in this Statement of Claim.

#### **THE DEFECTIVE VEHICLES**

- 7. Takata Airbags:
  - (a) use ammonium nitrate as the propellant with the consequence that the inflators within the Takata Airbags:
    - (i) have a propensity to explode thereby propelling metal shrapnel towards the occupants of the Defective Vehicles;
    - (ii) have a propensity to malfunction on deployment of the Takata Airbag, by deploying too rapidly and/or with excessive force ~~failing to cause the airbag to deploy, or causing the airbag to deploy prematurely or belatedly;~~

#### **Particulars**

*Particulars will be provided following evidence including expert evidence.*

(b) were the subject of a safety warning to the public published on 6 August 2017 by the Commonwealth of Australia Minister for Small Business pursuant to sections 129(1)(a) and 129(1)(b) of the ACL which:

(i) stated, amongst other things:

*“Warning*

*Pursuant to s 129(1)(b), the Minister warns of the possible risks involved in the use of motor vehicles containing Takata airbags supplied in Australia.*

*This Safety Warning has been issued because there have been serious injuries and deaths caused by faulty Takata airbags installed in motor vehicles, both in Australia and overseas.*

*The inflator components in Takata airbags may deteriorate and subsequently misdeploy in an incident, with the result that metal fragments from the inflator housing may propel out of the airbag, causing injury or death to the drivers/riders or passengers.*

*Investigation*

*The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) is investigating whether motor vehicles containing a Takata airbag will or may cause injury to any person, or a reasonably foreseeable use (or misuse) of those goods will or may cause injury to any person.”*

(ii) related to all of the motor vehicles containing a Takata Airbag which were then currently subject to a product safety recall;

(iii) related to the Defective Vehicles;-

(c) have caused approximately 100 million vehicles to be subject of product safety recalls worldwide, including at least 4 million vehicles in Australia, fitted with Takata Airbags;

(d) have caused at least 230 documented injuries as a result of Takata Airbags exploding during their deployment and propelling shrapnel and metal fragments within the vehicle in which they were contained;

- (e) have caused at least 23 reported deaths worldwide as a result of Takata Airbags exploding during their deployment and propelling shrapnel and metal fragments within the vehicle in which they were contained;
  - (f) have caused at least one death in Australia.
8. Each of the Defective Vehicles is or was fitted with at least one Takata Airbag.
9. ~~The Defective Vehicles constitute those vehicles fitted with a Takata Airbag and in respect of which at least one safety recall referred to in paragraphs 11 and 11A below (**Safety Recall**) has been issued, being:~~
- ~~(a) — Accord model year between 2001 and 2012;~~
  - ~~(b) — Accord Euro model year between 2003 and 2013;~~
  - ~~(c) — CRV model year between 2002 and 2014;~~
  - ~~(d) — City model year between 2009 and 2012;~~
  - ~~(e) — Civic model year between 2001 and 2011;~~
  - ~~(f) — Insight model year between 2010 and 2013;~~
  - ~~(g) — Jazz model year between 2002 and 2013;~~
  - ~~(h) — Legend model year between 2007 and 2012;~~
  - ~~(i) — MDX model year between 2003 and 2006;~~
  - ~~(j) — Odyssey model year between 2004 and 2008;~~
  - ~~(k) — Civic Hybrid model year 2004; and~~
  - ~~(l) — Jazz Hybrid model year between 2012 and 2013;~~
10. The Defective Vehicles:
- (a) are goods:
    - (i) acquired for an amount that did not exceed \$40,000; or
    - (ii) of a kind ordinarily acquired for personal, domestic or household use or consumption;

- (b) are goods of a kind which are commonly bought and commonly supplied for the purpose of:
  - (i) driving or permitting to be driven;
  - (ii) driving or permitting to be driven without being exposed to unnecessary danger or harm attributable to its construction; and/or
  - (iii) carrying passengers without exposing them to unnecessary danger or harm attributable to their construction;
- (c) by reason of the matters pleaded in paragraphs 7 and 8 above:
  - (i) are not safe to drive; and/or
  - (ii) if driven, expose the driver and any passengers to unnecessary danger and harm attributable to their construction with at least one Takata Airbag;
- (d) are goods within the meaning of:
  - (i) by reason of paragraph 10(a) above, section 74A(2)(a) of the TPA;
  - (ii) section 4 of the TPA;
  - (iii) section 2 of the ACL.

11. The following product safety recalls were issued to the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development by Honda pursuant to section 128 of the ACL (**Voluntarily Initiated Recalls**) in respect of certain Defective Vehicles identified therein:

- (a1) Product Recall Australia Number 2018/16523 which:
  - (i) was issued on 24 January 2018;
  - (ii) was in respect of Honda Jazz MY 2013, Honda Jazz Hybrid MY 2013, Honda Insight MY 2013, Honda Accord Euro MY 2013 models;

- (iii) was issued on the ground that the *"if an affected vehicle is involved in an accident and the airbag goes off, the airbag inflator may rupture"* such that, *"... metal fragments could possibly shoot out, straight through the airbag cushion material towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality"*;
- (iv) advised consumers that *"owners of affected vehicles will receive a notification from Honda Australia asking them to contact a Honda dealership or the Honda Recall Call Centre to arrange replacement of the airbag inflator free of charge. If they have not already done so, owners must immediately contact a Honda dealership or the call centre, to arrange the repairs urgently."*
- (v) on a date unknown to the Plaintiff, was amended to state:

(I) *"Airbag inflator: As it gets older, a combination of high temperatures and humidity can cause the airbag inflator propellant to degrade. If an affected vehicle is involved in a collision triggering the airbag, the metal inflator housing may explode/rupture under too much internal pressure. ... In the event that a defective airbag inflator ruptures, metal fragments may propel out through the airbag cushion towards the vehicles occupants causing serious injury or fatality"*;

(II) *"Owners of affected vehicles should contact their local Honda Australia dealership or Honda Australia head office directly via the website at <https://www.honda.com.au/contact-us.html> to arrange for a replacement airbag inflator free of charge. ..."*

- (a) Product Recall Australia Number 2017/15860 which:
  - (i) was issued on 23 January 2017;
  - (ii) was in respect of Honda Civic MY 2001 model;
  - (iii) was issued on the ground that the *"if an affected vehicle is involved in an accident and the airbag goes off, the airbag inflator may rupture"* such that, *"... metal fragments could possibly shoot*

out, straight through the airbag cushion material towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality”;

(iv) advised consumers that “owners of affected vehicles should have received a letter from Honda Australia asking them to contact a Honda dealership or the Honda Recall Call Centre to arrange replacement of the airbag inflator free of charge. If they have not already done so, owners must immediately contact a Honda dealership or the call centre, to arrange the repairs urgently.”

(v) on a date unknown to the Plaintiff, was amended to state:

(I) *“Passenger's airbag inflator: If an affected vehicle is involved in an accident and the airbag goes off, the airbag inflator may rupture... In the event of an airbag inflator rupture, metal fragments could possibly shoot out, straight through the airbag cushion material towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality.”;*

(vi) on a date unknown to the Plaintiff, was amended to state:

(I) *“Airbag inflator: As it gets older, a combination of high temperatures and humidity can cause the airbag inflator propellant to degrade. If an affected vehicle is involved in a collision triggering the airbag, the metal inflator housing may explode/rupture under too much internal pressure. ... In the event that a defective airbag inflator ruptures, metal fragments may propel out through the airbag cushion towards the vehicles occupants causing serious injury or fatality”;*

(II) *“Owners of affected vehicles should contact their local Honda Australia dealership or Honda Australia head office directly via the website at <https://www.honda.com.au/contact-us.html> to arrange for a replacement airbag inflator free of charge. ...”*

(b) Product Recall Australia Number 2017/15859 which:

- (i) was issued on 23 January 2017;
  - (ii) was in respect of Honda Accord MY 2012 model;
  - (iii) was issued on the ground that *"if an affected vehicle is involved in an accident and the airbag goes off, the airbag inflator may rupture" such that "...metal fragments could possibly shoot out, straight through the airbag cushion material towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality"*;
  - (iv) advised consumers that *"owners of affected vehicles should have received a letter from Honda Australia asking them to contact a Honda dealership or the Honda Recall Call Centre to arrange replacement of the airbag inflator free of charge. If they have not already done so, owners must immediately contact a Honda dealership or the call centre, to arrange the repairs urgently."*
  - (v) on a date unknown to the Plaintiff, was amended to state:
    - (I) *"Airbag inflator: As it gets older, a combination of high temperatures and humidity can cause the airbag inflator propellant to degrade. If an affected vehicle is involved in a collision triggering the airbag, the metal inflator housing may explode/rupture under too much internal pressure... In the event that a defective airbag inflator ruptures, metal fragments may propel out through the airbag cushion towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality."*
    - (II) *"Owners of affected vehicles should contact their local Honda Australia dealership or Honda Australia head office directly via the website at <https://www.honda.com.au/contact-us.html> to arrange for a replacement airbag inflator free of charge."*
- (c) Product Recall Australia Number 2017/15857 which:
- (i) was issued on 23 January 2017;
  - (ii) was in respect of Honda Legend MY 2012 model;

- (iii) was issued on the ground that *"if an affected vehicle is involved in an accident and the airbag goes off, the airbag inflator may rupture" such that, "...metal fragments could possibly shoot out, straight through the airbag cushion material towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality"*;
- (iv) advised consumers that *"owners of affected vehicles should have received a letter from Honda Australia asking them to contact a Honda dealership or the Honda Recall Call Centre to arrange replacement of the airbag inflator free of charge. If they have not already done so, owners must immediately contact a Honda dealership or the call centre, to arrange the repairs urgently."*
- (v) on a date unknown to the Plaintiff, was amended to state:

(I) "Airbag inflator: As it gets older, a combination of high temperatures and humidity can cause the airbag inflator propellant to degrade. If an affected vehicle is involved in a collision triggering the airbag, the metal inflator housing may explode/rupture under too much internal pressure. ... In the event that a defective airbag inflator ruptures, metal fragments may propel out through the airbag cushion towards the vehicles occupants causing serious injury or fatality";

(II) "Owners of affected vehicles should contact their local Honda Australia dealership or Honda Australia head office directly via the website at <https://www.honda.com.au/contact-us.html> to arrange for a replacement airbag inflator free of charge. ..."

- (d) Product Recall Australia Number 2017/15856 which:
  - (i) was issued on 23 January 2017;
  - (ii) was in respect of Honda Accord Euro MY 2012, Honda City MY 2012, Honda Jazz MY 2012 and Honda Insight MY 2012 models;

- (iii) was issued on the ground that *"if an affected vehicle is involved in an accident and the airbag goes off, the airbag inflator may rupture" such that, "...metal fragments could possibly shoot out, straight through the airbag cushion material towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality"*;
- (iv) advised consumers that *"owners of affected vehicles should have received a letter from Honda Australia asking them to contact a Honda dealership or the Honda Recall Call Centre to arrange replacement of the airbag inflator free of charge. If they have not already done so, owners must immediately contact a Honda dealership or the call centre, to arrange the repairs urgently."*
- (v) on a date unknown to the Plaintiff, was amended to state:
  - (I) *"Airbag inflator: As it gets older, a combination of high temperatures and humidity can cause the airbag inflator propellant to degrade. If an affected vehicle is involved in a collision triggering the airbag, the metal inflator housing may explode/rupture under too much internal pressure. ... In the event that a defective airbag inflator ruptures, metal fragments may propel out through the airbag cushion towards the vehicles occupants causing serious injury or fatality"*;
  - (II) *"Owners of affected vehicles should contact their local Honda Australia dealership or Honda Australia head office directly via the website at <https://www.honda.com.au/contact-us.html> to arrange for a replacement airbag inflator free of charge. ..."*
- (e) Product Recall Australia Number 2016/15494 which:
  - (i) was issued on 1 July 2016;
  - (ii) was in respect of Honda Civic MY 2006-2011 and Honda Accord MY 2008-2011 models;

- (iii) was issued on the ground that *"if an affected vehicle is involved in an accident and the airbag goes off, the airbag inflator may rupture" such that, "...metal fragments could possibly shoot out, straight through the airbag cushion material towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality"*;
- (iv) advised consumers that *"owners of affected vehicles should have received a letter from Honda Australia asking them to contact a Honda dealership or the Honda Recall Call Centre to arrange replacement of the airbag inflator free of charge. If they have not already done so, owners must immediately contact a Honda dealership or the call centre, to arrange the repairs urgently."*;
- (v) on a date unknown to the Plaintiff, was amended to state:
  - (I) *"Airbag inflator: As it gets older, a combination of high temperatures and humidity can cause the airbag inflator propellant to degrade. If an affected vehicle is involved in a collision triggering the airbag, the metal inflator housing may explode/rupture under too much internal pressure. ... In the event that a defective airbag inflator ruptures, metal fragments may propel out through the airbag cushion towards the vehicles occupants causing serious injury or fatality"*;
  - (II) *"Owners of affected vehicles should contact their local Honda Australia dealership or Honda Australia head office directly via the website at <https://www.honda.com.au/contact-us.html> to arrange for a replacement airbag inflator free of charge. ..."*
- (f) Product Recall Australia Number 2016/15495 which:
  - (i) was issued on 1 July 2016;
  - (ii) was in respect of Honda Legend MY 2007-2011, Honda Odyssey MY 2004-2008; Honda Accord MY 2003-2007 and Honda MDX MY 2005-2006 models;

- (iii) was issued on the ground that *"if an affected vehicle is involved in an accident and the airbag goes off, the airbag inflator may rupture" such that, "...metal fragments could possibly shoot out, straight through the airbag cushion material towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality"*;
- (iv) advised consumers that *"owners of affected vehicles should have received a letter from Honda Australia asking them to contact a Honda dealership or the Honda Recall Call Centre to arrange replacement of the airbag inflator free of charge. If they have not already done so, owners must immediately contact a Honda dealership or the call centre, to arrange the repairs urgently."*;
- (v) on a date unknown to the Plaintiff, was amended to state:
  - (I) *"Airbag inflator: As it gets older, a combination of high temperatures and humidity can cause the airbag inflator propellant to degrade. If an affected vehicle is involved in a collision triggering the airbag, the metal inflator housing may explode/rupture under too much internal pressure. ... In the event that a defective airbag inflator ruptures, metal fragments may propel out through the airbag cushion towards the vehicles occupants causing serious injury or fatality"*;
  - (II) *"Owners of affected vehicles should contact their local Honda Australia dealership or Honda Australia head office directly via the website at <https://www.honda.com.au/contact-us.html> to arrange for a replacement airbag inflator free of charge. ..."*
- (g) Product Recall Australia Number 2016/15496 which:
  - (i) was issued on 1 July 2016;
  - (ii) was in respect of Honda Accord Euro MY 2009-2011, Honda City MY 2009-2011, Honda CR-V MY 2007, 2009-2011, Honda Jazz MY 2007, 2009-2011 and Honda Insight MY 2010-2011—and RAV4-models;

- (iii) was issued on the ground that *"if an affected vehicle is involved in an accident and the airbag goes off, the airbag inflator may rupture"* such that, *"...metal fragments could possibly shoot out, straight through the airbag cushion material towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality"*;
- (iv) advised consumers that *"owners will be contacted by mail as soon as parts become available to present their vehicle to their preferred Honda Dealer for the replacement of the drivers side airbag inflator at no charge."*
- (v) on a date unknown to the Plaintiff, was amended to state:
  - (I) *"Airbag inflator: As it gets older, a combination of high temperatures and humidity can cause the airbag inflator propellant to degrade. If an affected vehicle is involved in a collision triggering the airbag, the metal inflator housing may explode/rupture under too much internal pressure... In the event that a defective airbag inflator ruptures, metal fragments may propel out through the airbag cushion towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality."*
  - (II) *"Owners of affected vehicles should contact their local Honda Australia dealership or Honda Australia head office directly via the website at <https://www.honda.com.au/contact-us.html> to arrange for a replacement airbag inflator free of charge."*
- (h) Product Recall Australia Number 2016/15198 which:
  - (i) was issued on 24 February 2016;
  - (ii) was in respect of Honda Civic MY 2006-2011, Honda Legend MY 2007-2012 and Honda Jazz Hybrid MY 2012 models;
  - (iii) was issued on the ground that *"if an affected vehicle is involved in an accident and the airbag goes off, the airbag inflator may rupture"* such that, *"during airbag deployment, the inflator could*

*rupture resulting in metallic projectile fragments that could increase the risk of injuries”;*

(iv) *advised consumers that “owners of affected vehicles should have received a letter from Honda Australia asking them to contact a Honda dealership or the Honda Recall Call Centre to arrange replacement of the airbag inflator free of charge. If they have not already done so, owners must immediately contact a Honda dealership or the call centre, to arrange the repairs urgently.”*

(v) on a date unknown to the Plaintiff, was amended to state:

(I) *“Driver’s airbag inflator: If an affected vehicle is involved in an accident and the airbag goes off, the airbag inflator may rupture.... In the event that a defective airbag inflator ruptures, metal fragments may propel out through the airbag cushion towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality.”*

(vi) on a date unknown to the Plaintiff, was further amended to state:

(I) “Airbag inflator: As it gets older, a combination of high temperatures and humidity can cause the airbag inflator propellant to degrade. If an affected vehicle is involved in a collision triggering the airbag, the metal inflator housing may explode/rupture under too much internal pressure. ... In the event that a defective airbag inflator ruptures, metal fragments may propel out through the airbag cushion towards the vehicles occupants causing serious injury or fatality”;

(II) “Owners of affected vehicles should contact their local Honda Australia dealership or Honda Australia head office directly via the website at <https://www.honda.com.au/contact-us.html> to arrange for a replacement airbag inflator free of charge. ...”

(i) Product Recall Australia Number 2016/15197 which:

- (i) was issued on 10 February 2016;
- (ii) was in respect of Honda CR-V MY 2011, Honda City MY 2012, Honda Insight MY 2012-2013, Honda Jazz MY 2012-2014 and Honda Jazz Hybrid MY 2012-2013 models;
- (iii) was issued on the ground that *"if an affected vehicle is involved in an accident and the airbag goes off, the airbag inflator may rupture" such that, "...metal fragments could possibly shoot out, straight through the airbag cushion material towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality"*;
- (iv) advised consumers that *"owners of affected vehicles should have received a letter from Honda Australia asking them to contact a Honda dealership or the Honda Recall Call Centre to arrange replacement of the airbag inflator free of charge. If they have not already done so, owners must immediately contact a Honda dealership or the call centre, to arrange the repairs urgently."*
- (v) on a date unknown to the Plaintiff, was amended to state:
  - (I) *"Airbag inflator: As it gets older, a combination of high temperatures and humidity can cause the airbag inflator propellant to degrade. If an affected vehicle is involved in a collision triggering the airbag, the metal inflator housing may explode/rupture under too much internal pressure. ... In the event that a defective airbag inflator ruptures, metal fragments may propel out through the airbag cushion towards the vehicles occupants causing serious injury or fatality"*;
  - (II) *"Owners of affected vehicles should contact their local Honda Australia dealership or Honda Australia head office directly via the website at <https://www.honda.com.au/contact-us.html> to arrange for a replacement airbag inflator free of charge. ..."*
- (j) Product Recall Australia Number 2015/14819 which:

- (i) was issued on 15 July 2015;
- (ii) was in respect of Honda City MY 2009-2012, Honda CR-V MY, Honda Insight MY 2010-2012, Honda Jazz (petrol) MY 2006-2012 and Honda Jazz Hybrid MY 2012 models;
- (iii) was issued on the ground that *"if an affected vehicle is involved in an accident and the airbag goes off, the airbag inflator may rupture" such that, "...metal fragments could possibly shoot out, straight through the airbag cushion material towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality"*;
- (iv) advised consumers that *"owners of affected vehicles should have received a letter from Honda Australia asking them to contact a Honda dealership or the Honda Recall Call Centre to arrange replacement of the airbag inflator free of charge. If they have not already done so, owners must immediately contact a Honda dealership or the call centre, to arrange the repairs urgently."*
- (v) on a date unknown to the Plaintiff, was amended to state:
  - (I) *"Airbag inflator: As it gets older, a combination of high temperatures and humidity can cause the airbag inflator propellant to degrade. If an affected vehicle is involved in a collision triggering the airbag, the metal inflator housing may explode/rupture under too much internal pressure... In the event that a defective airbag inflator ruptures, metal fragments may propel out through the airbag cushion towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality."*
  - (II) *"Owners of affected vehicles should contact their local Honda Australia dealership or Honda Australia head office directly via the website at <https://www.honda.com.au/contact-us.html> to arrange for a replacement airbag inflator free of charge."*
- (k) Product Recall Australia Number 2015/14737 which:

- (i) was issued on 2 June 2015;
  - (ii) was in respect of Honda Accord MY 2001-2007 and Honda MDX MY 2003-2006 models;
  - (iii) was issued on the ground that *"if an affected vehicle is involved in an accident and the airbag goes off, the airbag inflator may rupture" such that, "...metal fragments could possibly shoot out, straight through the airbag cushion material towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality"*;
  - (iv) advised consumers that *"owners of affected vehicles should have received a letter from Honda Australia asking them to contact a Honda dealership or the Honda Recall Call Centre to arrange replacement of the airbag inflator free of charge. If they have not already done so, owners must immediately contact a Honda dealership or the call centre, to arrange the repairs urgently."*
  - (v) on a date unknown to the Plaintiff, was amended to state:
    - (I) *"Airbag inflator: As it gets older, a combination of high temperatures and humidity can cause the airbag inflator propellant to degrade. If an affected vehicle is involved in a collision triggering the airbag, the metal inflator housing may explode/rupture under too much internal pressure... In the event that a defective airbag inflator ruptures, metal fragments may propel out through the airbag cushion towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality."*
    - (II) *"Owners of affected vehicles should contact their local Honda Australia dealership or Honda Australia head office directly via the website at <https://www.honda.com.au/contact-us.html> to arrange for a replacement airbag inflator free of charge."*
- (l) Product Recall Australia Number 2015/14702 which:
- (i) was issued on 18 May 2015;

- (ii) was in respect of Honda Jazz MY 2005-2006 and Honda CR-V MY 2007 models;
- (iii) was issued on the ground that *"if an affected vehicle is involved in an accident and the airbag goes off, the airbag inflator may rupture" such that, "metal fragments could possibly shoot out, straight through the airbag cushion material towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality"*;
- (iv) advised consumers that *"owners of affected vehicles should have received a letter from Honda Australia asking them to contact a Honda dealership or the Honda Recall Call Centre to arrange replacement of the airbag inflator free of charge. If they have not already done so, owners must immediately contact a Honda dealership or the call centre, to arrange the repairs urgently."*
- (v) on a date unknown to the Plaintiff, was amended to state:
  - (I) *"Airbag inflator: As it gets older, a combination of high temperatures and humidity can cause the airbag inflator propellant to degrade. If an affected vehicle is involved in a collision triggering the airbag, the metal inflator housing may explode/rupture under too much internal pressure... In the event that a defective airbag inflator ruptures, metal fragments may propel out through the airbag cushion towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality."*
  - (II) *"Owners of affected vehicles should contact their local Honda Australia dealership or Honda Australia head office directly via the website at <https://www.honda.com.au/contact-us.html> to arrange for a replacement airbag inflator free of charge."*
- (m) Product Recall Australia Number 2015/14703 which:
  - (i) was issued on 18 May 2015;

- (ii) was in respect of Honda Jazz MY 2004-2009, Honda Accord Euro MY 2004-2009, Honda CR-V MY ~~2002-2009~~2004-2005, Honda Civic MY 2004-2005 and Honda City MY 2009 models;
- (iii) was issued on the ground that *"if an affected vehicle is involved in an accident and the airbag goes off, the airbag inflator may rupture" such that, "...metal fragments could possibly shoot out, straight through the airbag cushion material towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality"*;
- (iv) advised consumers that *"owners of affected vehicles should have received a letter from Honda Australia asking them to contact a Honda dealership or the Honda Recall Call Centre to arrange replacement of the airbag inflator free of charge. If they have not already done so, owners must immediately contact a Honda dealership or the call centre, to arrange the repairs urgently."*
- (v) on a date unknown to the Plaintiff, was amended to state:
  - (I) *"Airbag inflator: As it gets older, a combination of high temperatures and humidity can cause the airbag inflator propellant to degrade. If an affected vehicle is involved in a collision triggering the airbag, the metal inflator housing may explode/rupture under too much internal pressure... In the event that a defective airbag inflator ruptures, metal fragments may propel out through the airbag cushion towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality."*
  - (II) *"Owners of affected vehicles should contact their local Honda Australia dealership or Honda Australia head office directly via the website at <https://www.honda.com.au/contact-us.html> to arrange for a replacement airbag inflator free of charge."*
- (n) Product Recall Australia Number 2014/14498 which:
  - (i) was issued on 23 December 2014;

- (ii) was in respect of Honda Civic MY 2003-2004, Honda Civic Hybrid MY 2004, Honda CR-V MY 2004, Honda Jazz MY 2004 and Honda Accord Euro MY 2004 models;
- (iii) was issued on the ground that *"if an affected vehicle is involved in an accident and the airbag goes off, the airbag inflator may rupture" such that, "metal fragments could possibly shoot out, straight through the airbag cushion material towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality."*
- (iv) advised consumers that *"owners of affected vehicles should have received a letter from Honda Australia asking them to contact a Honda dealership or the Honda Recall Call Centre to arrange replacement of the airbag inflator free of charge. If they have not already done so, owners must immediately contact a Honda dealership or the call centre, to arrange the repairs urgently."*
- (v) on a date unknown to the Plaintiff, was amended to state:
  - (I) *"Airbag inflator: As it gets older, a combination of high temperatures and humidity can cause the airbag inflator propellant to degrade. If an affected vehicle is involved in a collision triggering the airbag, the metal inflator housing may explode/rupture under too much internal pressure... In the event that a defective airbag inflator ruptures, metal fragments may propel out through the airbag cushion towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality."*
  - (II) *"Owners of affected vehicles should contact their local Honda Australia dealership or Honda Australia head office directly via the website at <https://www.honda.com.au/contact-us.html> to arrange for a replacement airbag inflator free of charge."*
- (o) Product Recall Australia Number 2014/14438 which:
  - (i) was issued on 14 November 2014;

- (ii) was in respect of Honda Jazz MY 2004 model;
  - (iii) was issued on the ground that *"if an affected vehicle is involved in a collision and the airbag goes off, the airbag inflator may rupture"* such that, *"...metal fragments could possibly shoot out, straight through the airbag cushion material towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality"*;
  - (iv) advised consumers that *"owners of affected vehicles should have received a letter from Honda Australia asking them to contact a Honda dealership or Honda Recall Call Centre to arrange replacement of the airbag inflator free of charge. Customers should immediately drive their vehicle directly to a Honda dealer for urgent repair. If for any reason a customer cannot present affected vehicle to a dealership please contact the Recall Call Centre immediately for alternate arrangements."*
- (p) Product Recall Australia Number 2013/13549 which:
- (i) was issued on 26 June 2014;
  - (ii) was in respect of Honda Civic MY 2001-2003, Honda Accord Euro MY 2003, Honda Jazz MY 2002-2003; Honda CR-V MY 2002-2003, Honda MDX MY 2003 and Honda Accord MY 2003 models;
  - (iii) was issued on the ground that *"if an affected vehicle is involved in a collision and the airbag goes off, the airbag inflator may rupture"* such that, *"...metal fragments could possibly shoot out, straight through the airbag cushion material towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality"*;
  - (iv) advised consumers that *"owners of affected vehicles should have received a letter from Honda Australia asking them to contact a Honda dealership or Honda Recall Call Centre to arrange replacement of the airbag inflator free of charge. Customers should immediately drive their vehicle directly to a Honda dealer for urgent repair. If for any reason a customer cannot present affected vehicle to a dealership please contact the Recall Call Centre immediately for alternate arrangements."*

- (q) Product Recall Australia Number 2011/12633 which:
- (i) was issued on 7 June 2011;
  - (ii) was in respect of Honda Accord MY 2001-2002 model;
  - (iii) was issued on the ground that "*if an affected vehicle is involved in a collision and the airbag goes off, the airbag inflator may rupture*" such that, "*...metal fragments could possibly shoot out, straight through the airbag cushion material towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality*";
  - (iv) advised consumers that "*owners of affected vehicles should have received a letter from Honda Australia asking them to contact a Honda dealership or Honda Recall Call Centre to arrange replacement of the airbag inflator free of charge. Customers should immediately drive their vehicle directly to a Honda dealer for urgent repair. If for any reason a customer cannot present affected vehicle to a dealership please contact the Recall Call Centre immediately for alternate arrangements.*"
- (r) Product Recall Australia Number 2010/11785 which:
- (i) was issued on 6 July 2010;
  - (ii) was in respect of Honda Civic MY 2001 model;
  - (iii) was issued on the ground that, "*if an affected vehicle is involved in a collision and the airbag goes off, the airbag inflator may rupture*" such that, "*metal fragments could possibly shoot out, straight through the airbag cushion material towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality*";
  - (iv) advised consumers that "*owners of affected vehicles should have received a letter from Honda Australia asking them to contact a Honda dealership or Honda Recall Call Centre to arrange replacement of the airbag inflator free of charge. Customers should immediately drive their vehicle directly to a Honda dealer for urgent repair. If for any reason a customer cannot present affected vehicle to a dealership please contact the Recall Call Centre immediately for alternate arrangements.*"

- (s) Product Recall Australia Number 2009/10969 which:
- (i) was issued on 7 August 2009;
  - (ii) was in respect of Honda Accord MY 2001-2002 and Honda CR-V MY 2002 models;
  - (iii) was issued on the ground that *"if an affected vehicle is involved in an accident and the airbag goes off, the airbag inflator may rupture" such that, "metal fragments could possibly shoot out, straight through the airbag cushion material towards the vehicle occupants causing serious injury or fatality"*;
  - (iv) advised consumers that *"owners of affected vehicles should have received a letter from Honda Australia asking them to contact a Honda dealership or Honda Recall Call Centre to arrange replacement of the airbag inflator free of charge. Customers should immediately drive their vehicle directly to a Honda dealer for urgent repair. If for any reason a customer cannot present affected vehicle to a dealership please contact the Recall Call Centre immediately for alternate arrangements."*

11A. A compulsory safety recall to the public (**Compulsory Recall**), was issued by Michael Sukkar, Assistant Minister to the Treasurer pursuant to section 122 of the ACL, dated 27 February 2018, in respect of certain of the Defective Vehicles identified therein.

12. The Defendant:

- (a) marketed, distributed and promoted Defective Vehicles within Australia at various times during the Relevant Period;

**Particulars**

*The Defendant marketed its vehicles using print and electronic media, sponsorship and other forms of advertising targeted at consumers.*

*By way of example:*

- (l) *In or about May 2012, the Defendant promoted the safety of its Honda Insight on its website as including the following:*



*The Honda Insight has been rated one of Australia's safest cars, having achieved the maximum 5-star rating in independent crash testing from ANCAP. The Insight is a shining example of Honda's commitment to overall vehicle safety, complementing Honda's longstanding in-house safety testing which seeks to improve real world safety.*

***Front, side and curtain airbags***

*The Insight is equipped with a comprehensive set of 6 airbags as standard. Upfront airbags protect the driver and passenger in more ways than one. Not only do they provide cushioning in the event of a collision, they're also designed to minimise any injury that could be caused by the airbags themselves. Full-length curtain airbags round off the Insight's impressive airbag package.*



*[see:<https://web.archive.org/web/20120507035114/http://insight.honda.com.au/>]*

*(II) The following appeared on the Defendant's website in July 2008:*

*With so much power in your hands, it's comforting to know the Legend has safety to match. An array of advanced technologies...combined with multiple airbags, deliver optimum occupant protection in the event of a collision:*

[see:[https://web.archive.org/web/20080723231138/http://www.honda.com.au/wps/wcm/connect/7b15a1004600d38b9c999e823e4d2e7c/Legend\\_Brochure\\_Jan08.pdf?MOD=AJPER](https://web.archive.org/web/20080723231138/http://www.honda.com.au/wps/wcm/connect/7b15a1004600d38b9c999e823e4d2e7c/Legend_Brochure_Jan08.pdf?MOD=AJPER)]

(III) Further particulars will be provided following discovery.

(b) held the Defective Vehicles out as being:

(i) safe to drive; and

(ii) safe for passengers;

#### **Particulars**

(A) *The particulars to paragraph 12(a) above are repeated.*

(B) *The Defendant held out the Defective Vehicles as being safe to drive and safe for passengers by importing, promoting, offering for sale, or providing in whatever way to a wholesaler or supplier, the Defective Vehicles, and each time the Defendant failed to take the actions required as pleaded in paragraph 12(c) below.*

(C) *The Defendant's actions described above constituted a holding out as pleaded in paragraph 12(b), by reference to all the circumstances of the case, including:*

(i) *the reputation of the Defendant's brand (i.e. Honda) as a make of vehicle that is safe to drive and safe for passengers;*

(ii) *that consumers who purchase cars vehicles have the reasonable expectation that such vehicles may be used for the purposes listed in paragraph 3(d) above;*

(iii) *that consumers who purchase cars vehicles with airbags have the reasonable expectation that the airbag will deploy properly and will not malfunction during deployment as pleaded in paragraph 7(a)(ii) above;*

- (iv) *further or in the alternative, that if a vehicle could not be used for the purpose described in (ii) above, or that if the airbag did not have the characteristics described in (iii) above, a reasonable person in the position of any Group Member would expect that matter to be notified to them or otherwise publicised;*
  - (v) *the matters set out in paragraph 3(b) above.*
  - (D) *Further particulars will be provided following evidence and discovery.*
- (c) did not take any or adequate steps to:
- (i) warn members of the public that the Defective Vehicles were not safe to drive;
  - (ii) prevent the Defective Vehicles being driven; and/or
  - (iii) ensure that Defective Vehicles were not sold as second-hand vehicles;
  - (iv) warn members of the public that the Defective Vehicles were not safe for passengers.

#### **Particulars**

*Adequate steps include, but are not limited to, taking one or more of the following steps:*

- (A) *notifying registered owners of Defective Vehicles that the Defective Vehicles were fitted with at least one Takata Airbag;*
- (B) *notifying the general public and registered owners of Defective Vehicles as to the nature and risks associated with Takata Airbags, including advertising in print and other media the dangers associated with Takata Airbags;*
- (C) *withdrawing from importing, manufacturing, marketing and offering for sale vehicles fitted with at least one Takata Airbag;*
- (D) *immediately recalling Defective Vehicles;*

- (E) *replacing Takata Airbags with non-Takata Airbags;*
- (F) *withdrawing from sale any Defective Vehicle that had not been repaired as described in (E) above;*
- (G) *directing dealerships and other car suppliers with which the Defendant had contact or influence to cease selling or offering for sale the Defective Vehicles, or to warn customers of the risks associated with Takata Airbags identified in paragraph 7 above;*
- (H) *reporting to the ACCC and other consumer interest organisations the information set out in (A), (B) and (D) above, with a view to the information being disseminated to owners and potential owners or users of the Defective Vehicles; and*
- (I) *cease the activities referred to in paragraphs 12(a) and (b) above.*

13. [Not used]

14. [Not used]

15. [Not used]

16. [Not used]

17. [Not used]

18. [Not used]

19. [Not used]

20. [Not used]

21. [Not used]

22. [Not used]

#### **FAILURE TO SUPPLY GOODS OF MERCHANTABLE QUALITY – TPA s74D**

23. By reason of the matters pleaded in paragraphs 7, 8, 10(b), and 10(c) above, the Defective Vehicles were not of merchantable quality within the meaning of section 74D(3) of the TPA.

24. Any Group Member who acquired a Defective Vehicle before 1 January 2011 suffered loss or damage by reason that the Defective Vehicles they acquired was not of merchantable quality.

**Particulars of loss and damage**

- (A) *The difference between the amount which each Group Member paid or is liable to pay for that Group Member's Defective Vehicle, and the true value of the Defective Vehicle as at the date of purchase, insofar as that difference is attributable to the matter pleaded in paragraph 23 above (which is a matter for evidence, including expert evidence);*
- (B) *Loss of use of the Defective Vehicle; and/or*
- (C) *Any expenditure for which a Group Member has, or is likely to, become liable as a result of:*
- (i) *the reasonable unwillingness of a Group Member to drive their Defective Vehicles where that reasonable unwillingness was connected with the fact that the Defective Vehicle was fitted with at least one Takata Airbag; and/or*
- (ii) *the time, cost and inconvenience of attending at a service centre or other place to have a replacement airbag fitted, including any:*
- (I) *transportation costs (such as taxi, private hire car and/or public transport fares) incurred due to the inability to use the Defective Vehicle during or in connection with its repair;*
- (II) *fuel costs incurred in driving, or towing costs incurred in towing, the Defective Vehicle to the location nominated by the Defendant for the replacement of the Takata Airbag;*
- (III) *compensation for missed work while attending to the fitting of the replacement airbag.*

25. By reason of the matters pleaded in paragraphs 3(e), 4(g), 5, 10(d), 23 and 24 above, the Defendant is liable, pursuant to section 74D(1) of the TPA, to compensate any Group Members who acquired a Defective Vehicle before 1 January 2011 for the loss and damage referred to in paragraph 24 above.
26. [Not used]
27. [Not used]
28. [Not used]
29. [Not used]

#### **FAILURE TO SUPPLY GOODS OF ACCEPTABLE QUALITY – ACL s54**

30. By reason of the matters pleaded in paragraphs 3(e), 4(g) and 5 above, there is a guarantee that the Defective Vehicles supplied to Group Members on or after 1 January 2011 are of acceptable quality pursuant to section 54(1) of the ACL (**Acceptable Quality Guarantee**).
31. By reason of the matters pleaded in paragraphs 7, 8, 10(b), 10(c), 11 and 11A above, a reasonable consumer fully acquainted with the state and condition of the Defective Vehicles would not regard the Defective Vehicles as:
- (a) acceptably fit for all the purposes for which goods of that kind are commonly supplied;
  - (b) free from defects; and/or
  - (c) safe.
32. By reason of the matters pleaded in paragraph 31 above, the Defective Vehicles did not comply with the Acceptable Quality Guarantee.
33. By reason of the matters pleaded in paragraph 4(f), 30 and 32 above, Group Members who acquired a Defective Vehicle on or after 1 January 2011 are entitled under sections 271 and 272 of the ACL to recover damages from the Defendant.

#### **Particulars of loss and damage**

- (A) *The difference between the price which each Group Member paid or is liable to pay for that Group Member's Defective Vehicle, and the true value of the Defective Vehicle as at the*

*date of purchase, insofar as that difference is attributable to the matter pleaded in paragraph 32 above (which is a matter for evidence, including expert evidence);*

*(B) In the alternative, the difference between the lower of the price which each Group Member paid or is liable to pay for that Group Member's Defective Vehicle, or the average retail price of vehicles of the same make, model, and year of manufacture as the Defective Vehicle at the time of supply, and the actual value of the Defective Vehicle insofar as that difference is attributable to the matters pleaded in paragraph 32 above;*

*(C) Further or in the alternative to (A) or (B) above, the Plaintiff repeats particulars (B) and (C) to paragraph 24 above.*

34. [Not used]

35. [Not used]

36. [Not used]

37. [Not used]

38. [Not used]

39. [Not used]

40. [Not used]

41. [Not used]

#### **MISLEADING OR DECEPTIVE CONDUCT**

42. By the conduct pleaded in paragraphs 4(f), 4(g) and 12 above the Defendant engaged in conduct which was:

(a) false or misleading in contravention of section 53(a) of the TPA and/or section 29(1)(a) of the ACL;

(b) misleading or deceptive, or likely to mislead or deceive, in contravention of section 52 of the TPA and/or section 18 of the ACL;

**(Misleading Conduct)**

by reason of the matters pleaded in paragraphs 7, 8, 10(b), 10(c), 11 and 11A above.

42A. Further, or in the alternative to paragraph 42 above, by the conduct pleaded in paragraph 42 above, the Defendant represented that:

- (a) the Defective Vehicle was safe to drive;
- (b) it was safe to transport passengers in the Defective Vehicle;
- (c) the airbag in the Defective Vehicle did not contain any defect that made the airbag(s) or the vehicle unsafe;
- (d) the construction of the Defective Vehicle would not expose the driver or passengers to unnecessary harm;
- (e) the Defective Vehicle's airbag(s) would deploy properly in the event of an accident or collision; and/or
- (f) the Defendant would notify any purchaser (past or prospective) of any issue with the Defective Vehicle's construction that had the potential to affect the vehicle's safety at the time of purchase, or as soon as the Defendant became aware of it,

**(Misleading Representations).**

42B. Each of the Misleading Representations was:

- (a) false or misleading in contravention of section 53(a) of the TPA and/or section 29(1)(a) of the ACL;
- (b) misleading or deceptive, or likely to mislead or deceive, in contravention of section 52 of the TPA and/or section 18 of the ACL,

by reason of the matters pleaded in paragraphs 7, 8, 10(b), 10(c), 11 and 11A above.

42C. Further, or in the alternative to paragraph 42 and 42A:

- (a) by the conduct pleaded in paragraph 42, the Plaintiff and Group Members had a reasonable expectation that if any of the matters pleaded in

paragraph 42A(a) to (f) did not exist, or were not so, that fact would be disclosed;

(b) the Defendant's failure to disclose that any of the matters pleaded in paragraph 42A(a) to (f) did not exist, or were not so, was misleading or deceptive, or likely to mislead or deceive, in contravention of section 52 of the TPA and/or section 18 of the ACL,

**(Misleading Conduct by Silence).**

43. The Misleading Conduct and Misleading Conduct by Silence was conduct engaged in, and the Misleading Representations were made, by the Defendant in trade or commerce, within the meaning of:

(a) section 52 of the TPA; and/or

(b) section 53 of the TPA;

(bc) section 18 of the ACL; and/or

(d) section 29 of the ACL.

44. Further or in the alternative to the matters pleaded in paragraphs 42 and 43 above, the Misleading Conduct was conduct which was, by reason of the matters pleaded in paragraphs 7, 8, 10(b), 10(c), 11 and 11A above, misleading as to:

(a) the nature;

(b) the characteristics;

(c) the suitability for purpose

of the Defective Vehicles in contravention of section 55 of the TPA and/or section 33 of the ACL.

45. Each Group Member relied on the Misleading Conduct, the Misleading Conduct by Silence, and/or the Misleading Representations in purchasing their respective Defective Vehicles.

**Particulars**

*It can be inferred from all the surrounding circumstances that each Group Member relied upon the Misleading Conduct, the Misleading Conduct by*

Silence, and/or the Misleading Representations. Those surrounding circumstances include:

- (A) *the matters set out in paragraphs 3(b) and 3(d) above;*
  - (B) *the reputation of the Defendant's brand (i.e. Honda) as a make of vehicle that is safe to drive and safe for passengers;*
  - (C) *that consumers who purchase vehicles have the reasonable expectation that such vehicles may be used for the purposes listed in paragraph 3(d) above;*
  - (D) *that consumers who purchase vehicles with airbags have the reasonable expectation that the airbag will deploy properly and will not malfunction during deployment as pleaded in paragraph 7(a)(ii) above;*
  - (E) *further or in the alternative, that if the vehicle could not be used for the purpose described in (C) above, or that if the airbag did not have the characteristics described in (D) above, a reasonable person in the position of any Group Member would expect that matter to be notified to them or otherwise publicised.*
46. By reason of the matters pleaded in paragraphs 2, 3, 42 to 45 above, each of the Group Members suffered loss and damage.

**Particulars of loss and damage**

- (A) *The difference between the price which each Group Member paid or is liable to pay for that Group Member's Defective Vehicle, and the true value of the Defective Vehicle as at the date of purchase, insofar as that difference is attributable to the matters pleaded in paragraphs 42 to 45 above (which is a matter for evidence, including expert evidence);*
  - (B) *Further or in the alternative to (A) above, the Plaintiff repeats particulars (B) and (C) to paragraph 24 above.*
47. By reason of the matters pleaded in paragraphs 42 to 46 above, each Group Member is entitled to:

- (a) an order pursuant to section 87 of the TPA and/or section 237 of the ACL that the Defendant is obliged to compensate any Group Member for the loss and damage referred to in the particulars to paragraph 46 above;
- (b) further or in the alternative, an award in the amount of loss or damage suffered by each Group Member referred to in paragraph 46 above pursuant to section 82 of the TPA and/or section 236 of the ACL.

#### **UNCONSCIONABLE CONDUCT**

48. From in or around:

- (a) November 2008;
- (b) August 2009; or
- (c) July 2010; or
- (d) June 2011; or
- (e) June 2014; or
- (f) November 2014; or
- (g) December 2014; or
- (h) May 2015; or
- (i) June 2015; or
- (j) July 2015; or
- (k) February 2016; or
- (l) July 2016; or
- (m) January 2017; or
- (n) January 2018,

the Defendant knew or ought to have known of the matters referred to in paragraphs 7(a)(i), 8 and 10(c) above.

**Particulars**

- (I) *In November 2008, Honda issued the first recall for Takata driver side inflators with improperly manufactured propellant wafers. Due to manufacturing errors, these inflators could rupture when activated.*
- (II) *On 7 August 2009, the Defendant issued its first product safety recall to the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development by Honda pursuant to section 128 of the ACL, namely Product Recall Australia Number 2009/10969.*
- (III) *In April 2013, Takata filed a defect report in the USA stating that certain passenger side airbag modules may rupture as a result of manufacturing errors that are aggravated by exposure to hot and humid environments. This was public knowledge, or was information which was reasonably available to the Defendant.*
- (IV) *[not used]*
- (V) *In June 2014, the USA National Highway Traffic Safety Administration began investigating vehicle manufacturers, including American Honda Motor Co. Inc., after reports of ruptures of Takata airbags in hot and humid regions. As of 18 November 2014, the investigation had expanded to include ten automakers.*
- (Va) *The fact of each of the Voluntarily Initiated Recalls and the Compulsory Recall.*
- (Vb) *The Defendant's knowledge referred to in this paragraph is a reasonable inference from the matters set out in (I) – (Va) above, those matters being concerned with the safety of vehicles of which the Defendant was the manufacturer or*

*importer, and which the Defendant marketed, distributed and promoted.*

*(VI) Further particulars will be provided following discovery.*

49. By reason of the matters pleaded in paragraphs 7(a)(i), 7(b)-(f), 8, 10(b), 10(c), 11, 11A and 48 above, on and from:

- (i) November 2008; or alternatively,
- (ii) August 2009; or alternatively,
- (iii) July 2010; or alternatively,
- (iv) June 2011; or alternatively,
- (v) June 2014; or alternatively,
- (vi) November 2014; or alternatively,
- (vii) December 2014; or alternatively,
- (viii) May 2015; or alternatively,
- (ix) June 2015; or alternatively,
- (x) July 2015; or alternatively,
- (xi) February 2016; or alternatively,
- (xii) July 2016; or alternatively,
- (xiii) January 2017; or alternatively,
- (xiv) January 2018,

the conduct described in paragraphs 4(f), 4(g) and 12 above constituted:

- (a) unconscionable conduct in connection with the supply or possible supply of goods to a person in contravention of section 51AB of the TPA; and/or
- (b) unconscionable conduct in connection with the supply or possibly supply of goods to a person in contravention of section 21 of the ACL<sub>17</sub>

**(Unconscionable Conduct).**

49A. Had the Defendant not engaged in the Unconscionable Conduct, it can be inferred that:

- (a) no Group Member would have purchased a Defective Vehicle;
- (b) in the alternative, no Group Member would have paid the price which each Group Member paid or is liable to pay for that Group Member's Defective Vehicle.

**Particulars**

*The inference can be drawn from all the surrounding circumstances, which include:*

- (A) *the matters set out in paragraph 3(b), 3(d), 12(b) and 12(c) above;*
- (B) *that consumers would not knowingly purchase a vehicle that was unsafe to drive and/or unsafe for passengers, or that contained an airbag that would not deploy properly or would malfunction during deployment as pleaded in paragraph 7(a)(ii) above.*

50. By reason of the matters pleaded in paragraphs 2, 3, 48, 49 and 49A above, each of the Group Members who, in or after:

- (a) November 2008; or alternatively,
- (b) August 2009; or alternatively,
- (c) July 2010; or alternatively,
- (d) June 2011; or alternatively,
- (e) June 2014; or alternatively,
- (f) November 2014; or alternatively,
- (g) December 2014; or alternatively,

- (h) May 2015; or alternatively,
- (i) June 2015; or alternatively,
- (j) July 2015; or alternatively,
- (k) February 2016; or alternatively,
- (l) July 2016; or alternatively,
- (m) January 2017; or alternatively,
- (n) January 2018,

acquired a Defective Vehicle suffered loss and damage by reason of the Unconscionable Conduct.

**Particulars of loss and damage**

- (A) *The difference between the price which each Group Member paid or is liable to pay for that Group Member's Defective Vehicle, and the true value of the Defective Vehicle as at the date of purchase, insofar as that difference is attributable to the matters pleaded in paragraph 49 above (which is a matter for evidence, including expert evidence);*
- (B) *Further or in the alternative to (A) above, the Plaintiff repeats particulars (B) and (C) to paragraph 24 above.*

51. By reason of the matters pleaded in paragraphs 49, 49A and 50 above, Group Members who, in or after:

- (i) November 2008; or alternatively,
- (ii) August 2009; or alternatively,
- (iii) July 2010; or alternatively,
- (iv) June 2011; or alternatively,
- (v) June 2014; or alternatively,

- (vi) November 2014; or alternatively,
- (vii) December 2014; or alternatively,
- (viii) May 2015; or alternatively,
- (ix) June 2015; or alternatively,
- (x) July 2015; or alternatively,
- (xi) February 2016; or alternatively,
- (xii) July 2016; or alternatively,
- (xiii) January 2017; or alternatively,
- (xiv) January 2018,

acquired a Defective Vehicle are entitled to:

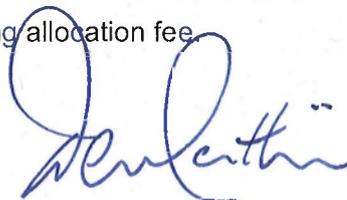
- (a) an order pursuant to section 87 of the TPA and/or section 237 of the ACL that the Defendant is obliged to compensate any Group Member for the loss and damage referred to in the particulars to paragraph 50 above;
- (b) further or in the alternative, an award in the amount of the loss or damage sustained by each Group Member referred to in paragraph 50 above pursuant to section 82 of the TPA and/or section 236 of the ACL.

#### **SIGNATURE OF LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE**

I certify under clause 4 of Schedule 2 to the Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Act 2014 that there are reasonable grounds for believing on the basis of provable facts and a reasonably arguable view of the law that the claim for damages in these proceedings has reasonable prospects of success.

I have advised the plaintiff that court fees may be payable during these proceedings. These fees may include a hearing allocation fee.

Signature



Capacity

Solicitor on the record

Date of signature

~~7 May 2018~~ 4 September 2018

### NOTICE TO DEFENDANT

If you do not file a defence within 28 days of being served with this statement of claim:

- You will be in default in these proceedings.
- The court may enter judgment against you without any further notice to you.

The judgment may be for the relief claimed in the statement of claim and for the plaintiff's costs of bringing these proceedings. The court may provide third parties with details of any default judgment entered against you.

### HOW TO RESPOND

Please read this statement of claim very carefully. If you have any trouble understanding it or require assistance on how to respond to the claim you should get legal advice as soon as possible.

You can get further information about what you need to do to respond to the claim from:

- A legal practitioner.
- LawAccess NSW on 1300 888 529 or at [www.lawaccess.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lawaccess.nsw.gov.au).
- The court registry for limited procedural information.

You can respond in one of the following ways:

- 1 If you intend to dispute the claim or part of the claim,** by filing a defence and/or making a cross-claim.
- 2 If money is claimed, and you believe you owe the money claimed,** by:
  - Paying the plaintiff all of the money and interest claimed. If you file a notice of payment under UCPR 6.17 further proceedings against you will be stayed unless the court otherwise orders.
  - Filing an acknowledgement of the claim.
  - Applying to the court for further time to pay the claim.
- 3 If money is claimed, and you believe you owe part of the money claimed,** by:
  - Paying the plaintiff that part of the money that is claimed.
  - Filing a defence in relation to the part that you do not believe is owed.

Court forms are available on the UCPR website at [www.ucprforms.justice.nsw.gov.au](http://www.ucprforms.justice.nsw.gov.au) or at any NSW court registry.

#### **REGISTRY ADDRESS**

Street address	Supreme Court of NSW Law Courts Building 184 Phillip Street SYDNEY NSW 2000
Postal address	GPO Box 3 SYDNEY NSW 2001
Telephone	(02) 9146 3548

**AFFIDAVIT VERIFYING**

Name **Akuratiya Kularathne**  
Address 77 Mirbelia St, Kenmore QLD 4069  
Occupation Cricket Coach  
Date 3 September 2019.

I say on oath:

- 1 I am the plaintiff.
- 2 I believe that the allegations of fact in the statement of claim are true.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Akuratiya Kularathne', written in a cursive style.

SWORN at **KENMORE HILLS**  
Signature of deponent



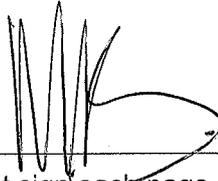
Name of witness **Meagan Bertolatti**  
Address of witness **LV 15, 111 Elizabeth Street, SYDNEY NSW 2000**  
Capacity of witness **SOLICITOR**

And as a witness, I certify the following matters concerning the person who made this affidavit (the **deponent**):

- 1 I saw the face of the deponent.
- 2 I have confirmed the deponent's identity using the following identification document:

**DL No: 097 687 766**

Signature of witness



Note: The deponent and witness must sign each page of the affidavit. See UCPR 35.7B

#### FURTHER DETAILS ABOUT PLAINTIFF

##### Plaintiff

Name **Akuratiya Kularathne**  
Address **77 Mirbelia Street, Kenmore QLD 4069**

##### Legal representative for plaintiff

Name **Damian Scattini**  
Practising certificate number **83237**  
Firm **Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan**  
Address **Level 15, 111 Elizabeth Street,  
Sydney NSW 2000**

Telephone **02 9146 3500**  
Fax **02 9146 3600**  
Email **damianscattini@quinnemanuel.com**  
Electronic service address **damianscattini@quinnemanuel.com**

**DETAILS ABOUT DEFENDANT**

**Defendant**

Name	<b>Honda Australia Pty Ltd</b> <b>ABN 66 004 759 611</b>
Address	19/4 Ave of the Americas Newington NSW 2127