



United States  
Consumer Product Safety Commission

April 4, 2025

Mr. Gilbert Kisamore  
Subcommittee Chairman for ASTM F08.10 on Bicycles  
c/o ASTM International  
100 Barr Harbor Drive  
P.O. Box C700  
West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959

Dear Mr. Kisamore:

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)<sup>1</sup> staff is aware of a death involving a 9-year-old female whose upper chest and neck were punctured by a bicycle brake lever when she fell on her bicycle. CPSC staff is attaching the in-depth investigation (IDI) of this incident for the ASTM F08.10 subcommittee for bicycles to review and possible development of brake lever requirements to prevent future injuries/deaths.

We look forward to working with you regarding this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lawrence Mella".

Lawrence Mella  
Mechanical Engineer,  
*Engineering Sciences*

Enclosure: IDI 190924CFE0004

cc:

Joe Koury, ASTM Committee F08 Staff Manager  
Jacqueline Campbell, CPSC Voluntary Standards Coordinator

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<sup>1</sup> The views expressed in this letter are those of CPSC staff, and they have not been reviewed or approved by, and may not reflect, the views of the Commission.

1. Task Number 190924CFE0004		2. Investigator's ID 9101		<b>EPIDEMIOLOGIC INVESTIGATION REPORT</b>
3. Office Code 800	4. Date of Accident YR MO DAY 2019 09 ■	5. Date Initiated YR MO DAY 2019 10 ■		
6. Synopsis of Accident or Complaint <span style="float: right;">UPC</span> On September ■, 2019 a 9-year-old girl died after crashing on her bicycle on a two lane paved road in front of her house. During her fall, the brake lever on the bicycle handlebars punctured her upper chest and neck, and she was declared dead at the scene.				
7. Location (Home, School, etc) 1 - HOME		8. City ■■■■■■■■■■		9. State ■■
10A. First Product 5040 - BICYCLES AND ACCESSORIES		10B. Trade/Brand Name ■■■■■■■■■■		10C. Model Number ■■■■■■■■■■
10D. Manufacturer Name and Address ■■■■■■■■■■				
11A. Second Product 0		11B. Trade/Brand Name NONE		11C. Model Number NONE
11D. Manufacturer Name and Address NONE				
12A. Hispanic or Latino 2 - No	12B. Race 1 - White Other:		12C. Race Source 3 - Official Document	
13. Age of Victim 9	14. Sex 2 - Female	15. Disposition 8 - Death	16. Injury Diagnosis 63 - Puncture	
17. Body Part(s) Involved 89 - NECK	18. Respondent 3 - 2nd Hand Info Only	19. Type of Investigation 2 - Telephone	20. Time Spent (Operational / Travel) 13.00 / 0.00	
21. Attachment(s) 9 - Multiple Attachments		22. Case Source ■■■■■■■■■■		23. Sample Collection Number
24. Permission to Disclose Name (Non NEISS Cases Only) <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes for Manuf. Only <input type="radio"/> Verbal <input type="radio"/> Written				
25. Review Date 11/14/2019	26. Reviewed By 9071		27. Regional Office Director ■■■■■■■■■■	
28. Distribution ■■■■■■■■■■			29. Source Document Number ■■■■■■■■■■	

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Synopsis:

On September [REDACTED] 2019 a 9-year-old girl died after crashing on her bicycle on a two lane paved road in front of her house.

Information Sources:

The information collected during this investigation was obtained from the [REDACTED] County Sheriff and Coroner's offices.

Investigation Details:

On September [REDACTED], 2019 at approximately [REDACTED] the victim (9 YOF; 53.5" Tall; 70 pounds) was riding her bicycle on a two lane paved road in front of her home. While she was travelling on a downhill grade on the road, she lost control of the bicycle and crashed. During her fall, the brake lever on the bicycle handlebars punctured her upper chest and neck.

The victim's mother heard the victim screaming and responded to the scene. She picked up the victim and carried her toward the house and a family member called 911.

EMT responded to the scene and declared the victim dead, and the coroner was notified. The victim's body was sent to the state medical examiner for an autopsy, along with the incident brake lever. The victim's manner of death was ruled accidental and her cause of death was exsanguination and lacerations of the lung and left subclavian artery. See the coroner's report at Exhibit-D.

The sheriff's investigation determined that the victim lost control of her bicycle's front wheel, which caused her to crash. The bicycle was collected as evidence by the sheriff's department.

Product Description:

Product: [REDACTED]

Model: [REDACTED]

Price: Unknown

Retailer: Unknown

Manufacturer: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Identifying information for the bicycle from the sheriff's department was limited to the photographs at Exhibit B and a report at Exhibit-C.

An internet search conducted for similar bicycles revealed that the incident bicycle appears to be a [REDACTED] model as seen in the information at Exhibit-E.

**Attachments:**

- Exhibit-A: Contact Information (1 page) [EXCLUDED]
- Exhibit-B: Photographs – Provided by the [REDACTED] County Sheriff's Dept. (18 pages, 18 photographs)
- Exhibit-C: Sheriff's report (3 pages) [EXCLUDED]
- Exhibit-D: Coroner's report (18 pages) [EXCLUDED]
- Exhibit-E: Internet search results for bicycle identification (18 pages) [EXCLUDED]







































