

Christopher J Fresquez  
State Road 399, House #179C  
PO Box 1260  
Espanola, NM 87532

January 20, 2004

Remington Arms Company  
Ilion Firearms Plant  
Attention: BL Safety Program  
14 Hoefler Avenue  
Ilion, NY 13357

*could not duplicate. Replace  
complete TPA, check over completely,  
function test, under bolt lock safety  
program. \$20.00*

Dear Service Department,

Please find enclosed a Remington Model 700BDL in the .270 caliber, this is the first rifle I purchased, using money earned from my first job when I was in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. I am now 42 years old and I have hunted successfully with this firearm over the last 27 years but have had some situations which have caused me to question the reliability of this firearm. It all began with the misfiring (the gun fired the instant the bolt was closed without the trigger being pulled) during a hunt several years ago. This occurred a couple of other times after that, but luckily, on each occasion, the gun was pointed up and not towards any of my hunting companions nor myself. I notified your repair center and was directed to send it back for a repair and/or adjustment. I did this and was told that the trigger mechanism was replaced. I took it out to the range and all appeared to be in good operating order. It had operated flawlessly until this October when I allowed my oldest son who is 12 years old to use it. We were stalking a group of elk and loaded the firearm as we approached the herd through the timber. Well, the herd spooked and my son never got a shot off. However, at that time I directed him to unload the gun and when he switched off the safety in order to open the bolt, the gun discharged. Had he not been exercising safe gun handling, and muzzle control by pointing the muzzle in a safe direction I may not be writing this letter today. I walked away from this event with my ears ringing and he walked away with a very valuable lesson. Luckily it is a lesson that we can both live with.

Needless to say I cannot feel comfortable allowing my son or anyone else to use this gun. I had thought of selling it or giving it away but could not bear the thought of having anyone injured by it due to a similar malfunction. I would like to acquire another gun similar to this one, mostly due to the impressive accuracy I have experienced over the years.

If at all possible, I would like for you to consider keeping this gun and giving me some sort of credit towards the purchase of another Remington firearm. If this is not possible, then I ask that you keep the gun and see that it is properly disposed of in order to avoid the possibility of injury to anyone. As a last resort, I could have the gun disabled and use it as a demo unit in the hunter education programs that I participate in. I think you can

understand that even with the incorporation of additional safety features, how difficult it may be to place trust in a specific firearm that has nearly taken your life, and nearly ruined a family forever.

Thank you for taking the time to read this, please let me know what your decision is, and if you wish to contact me for any reason, please do so. I can be reached by phone at 505-665-7175 (work) 7:30am-5:00pm MST M-F, or at 505-753-2948 (home) during evenings and weekends. Again, thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,



Christopher James Fresquez

Volunteer Hunter Safety Instructor - New Mexico Department of Game and Fish  
Cub Scout Den Leader  
Assistant Boy Scout Troop Leader

*Attached:*  
*Repair Factor Instructions*