Lemon Law Packet

NJ · DIY draft documents

Prepared for: SAMPLE — Example Owner (fictional)

Vehicle: 2024 Example Motors Pathway

VIN: 1EXAMPLE000000000

State: NJ

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Important notices

Draft documents generated from your answers. Read every sentence and delete anything that isn't accurate for your situation before you sign, send, or file. DIY document automation — not legal advice. No attorney reviews anything.

1. New Jersey Lemon Law Claim Narrative — Draft

*Copy these facts into the Division of Consumer Affairs **Application for Dispute Resolution** — the Lemon Law Unit supplies the form on request. Send the completed application to the unit by **certified mail** with a copy of your manufacturer notice (document 4) and the **$50 filing fee**. The certified-mail notice to the manufacturer is a **prerequisite** — send it first. Superior Court is the other route; this narrative organizes your facts either way.*

Claimant

SAMPLE — Example Owner (fictional)
100 Example Street, Sampletown
555-010-1234 · example@example.com

Vehicle

2024 Example Motors Pathway — VIN 1EXAMPLE000000000
Purchased/leased in New Jersey (or registered in New Jersey) from: Example Motors on January 5, 2025
Original delivery date: January 10, 2025 · Mileage at delivery: 12 · Current mileage: 15,000

Nonconformity

The engine stalls at idle and sometimes will not restart — to my knowledge, the repairs and days out of service below occurred within the term of protection (the first 24,000 miles of operation or 2 years from original delivery, whichever is earlier), and I allege that the nonconformity substantially impairs the use, value, or safety of the vehicle and still exists.

Repair history (4 attempts)

#	Dates (days out)	Dealer	Reported	Result
1	Feb 3, 2025 to Feb 5, 2025 (2 days)	Example Motors Service	Engine stalls at idle	Cleaned throttle body — defect persists
2	Mar 10, 2025 to Mar 12, 2025 (2 days)	Example Motors Service	Engine stalls at idle	Replaced sensor — defect persists
3	Apr 14, 2025 to Apr 21, 2025 (7 days)	Example Motors Service	Engine stalls at idle	Replaced control module — defect persists
4	Jun 2, 2025 to Jun 6, 2025 (4 days)	Example Motors Service	Engine stalls at idle	Could not duplicate — defect persists

Manufacturer notice

I notified the manufacturer in writing by certified mail, return receipt requested, on **May 1, 2025**, and allowed its one repair opportunity within 10 calendar days of receipt.

Relief requested

Under the New Jersey Lemon Law (N.J.S.A. 56:12-29 et seq.), I request **a refund of the full purchase price, including any trade-in credit, options and modifications arranged within 30 days of delivery, sales tax, license and registration fees, and finance charges, plus towing and rental charges, less the statutory reasonable allowance for use — I elect a refund and decline any replacement offer**.

Timing: the Act states no separate suit-filing deadline; the term of protection above is the window that matters for the presumption. I will confirm timing with the Lemon Law Unit or a licensed attorney in New Jersey.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

SAMPLE — Example Owner (fictional)

2. Repair-History Organizer

*Attach every repair order — even visits where they found "no problem." Total out of service: **15** calendar days (date out minus date in) across 4 visits. Your state may count days differently — use your repair orders as the record. Keyed to New Jersey's tests: 3+ repairs of substantially the same nonconformity, OR 20+ cumulative calendar days out of service (45 for a motor home), OR 1 repair of a nonconformity likely to cause death or serious bodily injury — within the first 24,000 miles or 2 years from original delivery.*

#	In	Out	Days	Dealer	Reported	Result	RO #
1	Feb 3, 2025	Feb 5, 2025	2	Example Motors Service	Engine stalls at idle	Cleaned throttle body — defect persists	RO-1001
2	Mar 10, 2025	Mar 12, 2025	2	Example Motors Service	Engine stalls at idle	Replaced sensor — defect persists	RO-1002
3	Apr 14, 2025	Apr 21, 2025	7	Example Motors Service	Engine stalls at idle	Replaced control module — defect persists	RO-1003
4	Jun 2, 2025	Jun 6, 2025	4	Example Motors Service	Engine stalls at idle	Could not duplicate — defect persists	RO-1004

Key dates timeline

Your dates in order. Months are counted from delivery; odometer readings are the ones you entered.

Date	Event	Months after delivery	Odometer
January 10, 2025	Vehicle delivered to you	0	12
February 3, 2025	Repair visit 1 — in (Example Motors Service)	0	3,000
February 5, 2025	Repair visit 1 — out (2 days in the shop)	0	
March 10, 2025	Repair visit 2 — in (Example Motors Service)	2	
March 12, 2025	Repair visit 2 — out (2 days in the shop)	2	
April 14, 2025	Repair visit 3 — in (Example Motors Service)	3	
April 21, 2025	Repair visit 3 — out (7 days in the shop)	3	
May 1, 2025	Written notice to the manufacturer	3	
June 2, 2025	Repair visit 4 — in (Example Motors Service)	4	
June 6, 2025	Repair visit 4 — out (4 days in the shop)	4	

Your record beside New Jersey's tests

The numbers you entered, next to the presumption tests our New Jersey guide describes. This is a side-by-side comparison, not a finding that any test is met — dates, mileage, notice steps, and what your repair orders actually say all matter.

Test	What the law looks for	Your entered record
Repairs of the same problem	3+ repairs of substantially the same nonconformity, and it continues	4 visits entered for this defect
Safety path	1+ repair of a nonconformity likely to cause death or serious bodily injury	You did not mark the defect as a serious safety hazard
Days out of service	20+ cumulative calendar days out of service (45 for a motor home)	15 calendar days from the visits you entered
Time and mileage window	Within the first 24,000 miles or 2 years from original delivery, whichever comes first	First visit: February 3, 2025 at 3,000 miles (2,988 since delivery); latest visit: June 2, 2025

3. Evidence Checklist — New Jersey

Gather these before filing — organized paperwork is the backbone of any claim.

- Buyer's order / lease agreement (proof of New Jersey purchase or lease, or New Jersey registration)
- All repair orders and invoices — every visit, even "could not duplicate" visits
- Your certified-mail notice to the manufacturer + the return receipt (green card) — the notice is required before the Division application
- Proof your repairs fell within the term of protection (first 24,000 miles or 2 years from original delivery)
- If claiming the safety path: records of the examination/repair of a nonconformity likely to cause death or serious bodily injury
- Express warranty booklet / warranty terms
- Receipts for towing and for renting an equivalent vehicle while yours was out of service
- Photos and videos of the defect (with dates)
- Log of all phone calls and correspondence with dealer and manufacturer (dates, names)
- Current registration, insurance, and loan/lease statements
- Any manufacturer responses, denials, or settlement offers in writing

4. Statutory Notice to the Manufacturer — New Jersey

*New Jersey requires **written notice to the manufacturer by certified mail, return receipt requested** before the refund/replacement duty arises and before you can apply to the Division (§56:12-33(b)). You may send it after **2 repairs** of substantially the same nonconformity, after **20 cumulative days** out of service (45 for a motor home), or after **1 repair** of a nonconformity likely to cause death or serious bodily injury. The manufacturer then gets **one repair opportunity within 10 calendar days** of receiving it. Keep the green card.*

SAMPLE — Example Owner (fictional)
100 Example Street, Sampletown
555-010-1234

October 19, 2026

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

[Manufacturer Name — Customer Assistance Center]
[Manufacturer Address from warranty booklet]

Re: Notice of nonconformity under N.J.S.A. 56:12-33 — 2024 Example Motors Pathway, VIN 1EXAMPLE000000000

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am the owner of the above vehicle, purchased in New Jersey from Example Motors on January 5, 2025. Original delivery date: January 10, 2025. Odometer at first presentation for this nonconformity and current odometer: see the attached repair history. The vehicle has an alleged nonconformity — a defect that I believe is covered by your warranty and substantially impairs its use, value, or safety: The engine stalls at idle and sometimes will not restart.

The nonconformity has been presented for repair 4 times and still exists. This letter is my written notice under N.J.S.A. 56:12-33(b). Please make your one repair opportunity available within **10 calendar days** of receiving this notice. If the nonconformity is not corrected, I intend to apply to the Division of Consumer Affairs Lemon Law Unit for dispute resolution seeking a refund of the full purchase price as provided in §56:12-32.

Repair visits for this defect to date:

#	Dates	Dealer	RO #	Odometer
1	Feb 3, 2025 to Feb 5, 2025	Example Motors Service	RO-1001	3,000
2	Mar 10, 2025 to Mar 12, 2025	Example Motors Service	RO-1002	
3	Apr 14, 2025 to Apr 21, 2025	Example Motors Service	RO-1003	
4	Jun 2, 2025 to Jun 6, 2025	Example Motors Service	RO-1004	

Please send your response in writing to the address above.

Sincerely,

_____

SAMPLE — Example Owner (fictional)

Enclosures (copies — keep your originals): repair orders (RO 1001, RO 1002, RO 1003, RO 1004); purchase or lease agreement; warranty pages showing coverage.

5. Filing Instructions — New Jersey

Step 1 — Certified-mail notice first

Send document 4 to the manufacturer by **certified mail, return receipt requested**. It is a **prerequisite** to the Division process. The manufacturer gets one repair opportunity within 10 calendar days of receipt. A manufacturer's own informal dispute procedure is **never required** first in New Jersey.

Step 2 — Apply to the Lemon Law Unit

Ask the **Division of Consumer Affairs Lemon Law Unit** (P.O. Box 45026, Newark, NJ 07101; (973) 504-6226) for the **Application for Dispute Resolution** and send the completed application by certified mail with a copy of your manufacturer notice and the **$50 filing fee** (nonrefundable, but recoverable if you prevail).

Step 3 — The hearing

A summary hearing is held **within 20 days after your application is accepted**, before an administrative law judge (hearings sit in Newark, Trenton, and Atlantic City). The judge's decision follows within 20 days of the hearing and the Director's decision within 15 days after that.

Step 4 — Effect of the decision

The Division's decision is **binding on both sides** and **precludes a Superior Court action** under the Lemon Law; it is appealable to the Appellate Division. Because filing with the Division closes the court route, talk to a lemon law attorney before choosing if you are unsure. Superior Court is the alternative route.

Remedies

The manufacturer accepts return of the vehicle and refunds the **full purchase price** — including trade-in credit, options and modifications arranged within 30 days of delivery, sales tax, license and registration fees, and finance charges, plus towing and rental charges — less the **reasonable allowance for use** in the worksheet in this packet. **You may reject a replacement offer and demand the refund.** Leases terminate with no early-termination penalty. A prevailing consumer is awarded reasonable attorney's fees, expert fees, and costs (§56:12-42).

What happens next — your dated checklist

Built from the dates and steps in this packet and our state guide. It organizes the process; it is not a prediction of how your case will go.

- Mail document 4 (your notice / demand letter) by certified mail, return receipt requested. You entered May 1, 2025 as your notice date — if it has not gone out yet, send it now.
- After the manufacturer receives your certified notice, it gets one repair opportunity within 10 calendar

days. On the Division track: the summary hearing is held no later than 20 days after your application is accepted, the administrative law judge's written decision follows within 20 days of the hearing's conclusion, and the Director acts no later than 15 days after receiving it.

- Your filing window: check the deadline for your state with the free deadline calculator and the state guide, and write it here: _____. Verify it against your own records before relying on it.
- If your case reaches a hearing or meeting, bring: this packet, every repair order (including "could not duplicate" visits), your mailing proofs, dated photos or videos of the defect, and your call log. Keep the vehicle available for inspection if the forum asks to see it.

Mailing kit

Send document 4 by certified mail, return receipt requested. Use the cover sheet below as the first page of the envelope's contents.

COVER SHEET — keep a copy with your proofs	
From	SAMPLE — Example Owner (fictional)100 Example Street, Sampletown555-010-1234 · example@example.com
To	[Manufacturer Name]the manufacturer's address in your warranty booklet
Date	October 19, 2026
Re	Written notice of nonconformity — 2024 Example Motors Pathway, VIN 1EXAMPLE000000000
Sent by	certified mail, return receipt requested
Enclosed	Demand / notice letter (document 4) · Repair-history organizer (document 2) · Copies of repair orders

Keep these proofs:

- The stamped mailing receipt (certified / registered / overnight) and the tracking number
- The signed return receipt (green card) when it comes back — it proves the delivery date several deadlines count from
- A complete copy or scan of everything you mailed, exactly as mailed
- A log line for the mailing: date, post office or carrier, tracking number, and what was enclosed
- Mail copies, never your only originals of repair orders or contracts

Usage-offset worksheet — an illustration, not your award

This applies the usage rule described in our New Jersey guide to the numbers you entered. It is bookkeeping, not a prediction of any refund, award, or eligibility. Taxes, fees, finance charges, incidental costs, and other adjustments are not included.

New Jersey: purchase price × (odometer reading when the vehicle was first presented for this nonconformity) ÷ 100,000. The Division's booklet works the same example: $19,500 × 9,500 ÷ 100,000 = $1,853.

Line	Figure
A. Purchase price	$35,000.00
B. Odometer at first presentation for this nonconformity	3,000
C. Illustrated usage deduction (A × B ÷ 100,000)	$1,050.00
Price after the illustrated deduction (bookkeeping only — not what you would receive)	$33,950.00

Important notices

Some statements in these documents are generated from your answers — read every sentence and delete anything that isn't accurate for your situation. Fill in the bracketed parts. You sign, send, and file everything yourself. Deadlines shown are estimates from the dates you entered — confirm them.

Talk to a lemon law attorney first: Filing with New Jersey's Division of Consumer Affairs makes its decision binding and closes the Superior Court route under the Lemon Law. Talk to a lemon law attorney before choosing if you are unsure.

Not legal advice. This is not legal advice. Lemon law is fact-specific — for advice about your own situation, talk to a licensed attorney in your state. LemonLawPath is not a substitute for the advice of an attorney. It provides document automation and general legal information only — no eligibility determinations and no outcome promises. No attorney reviews anything on this site — LemonLawPath is DIY document-automation software, not a law firm.