



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

Department of Psychiatry
School of Medicine

October 15, 2002

Ms. Carol Mitten, Chair
D.C. Zoning Commission
441 4th Street, NW
Suite 210 South
Washington, DC 20001

2002 OCT 16 PM 1:23

Dear Ms. Mitten:

I want to introduce myself. My name is Mary Ann Dutton. I am Professor in the Department of Psychiatry, Georgetown University's School of Medicine, where I lead a research team that has been studying 400 battered women in the Washington/Baltimore area. This study has begun to identify the risk factors that predict battered women's risk of revictimization by intimate partner violence and health care outcomes.

Verizon Wireless provides our research team with loaner phones and wireless service so that we can maintain contact with our participants. Cell phone service is incredibly important to victims of domestic violence. Fifty percent of 911 calls are now wireless and it is expected that by 2003, wireless 911 calls will account for 70% of total 911 calls. Domestic violence doesn't always occur in the home. Victims can be attacked in a parking lot, or while getting in their car to go to work. They need a wireless phone that's reliable, especially in a life-threatening situation with an abuser. An important aspect of empowering victims to protect themselves is the belief that, in fact, they can do something active to increase their safety. Cell phones play an important role in the safety planning for many victims.

The DC Zoning Commission, in revising its wireless zoning regulations, should seek to ensure that wireless access is available and reliable in all parts of the District, especially those areas currently with inadequate coverage.

Sincerely,


Mary Ann Dutton, Ph.D.
Professor

BZA

Case No. 01-02
Exhibit No. 70

3800 Reservoir Road NW Washington DC 20007-2197
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ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.01-02
EXHIBIT NO.70