GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES
Customer Services Administration
301 C Street, NW – Room 1010
Washington, DC 20001
202-727-5000

April 7, 2003

D.C. OFFICE OF ZONING
2003 APR -8 PM 7:45

Ms. Carol Mitten
Chair of the Zoning Commission
for the District of Columbia
441 Fourth Street, N.W.
Suite 201
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Zoning Commission Case No. 02-32

Dear Ms. Mitten and Members of the Commission:

It is my understanding that the Zoning Commission has requested the Department of Motor Vehicles to indicate the extent to which Georgetown University has "consult[ed]" DMV as to whether its students have obtained registration or reciprocity stickers. I apologize for not responding earlier, but I just recently returned to work after three weeks of medical leave.

In preparing my response, I have reviewed the University's submission on this issue dated March 10, 2003. In general, I concur with the University's description of our meeting of January 6th of this year, other than the suggestion that the meeting resulted from the intervention of a Councilmember. I agreed to the meeting as soon as I was informed that the University wished to discuss registration compliance issues. I was unaware that an earlier meeting request had been made until the topic was raised at the meeting.

My recollection is that the University representatives began the meeting by explaining that condition 14 of their current campus plan approval mandated this consultation. They indicated to me that they would not be providing any student lists to DMV because a federal privacy law prohibited such a disclosure. I offered to work with the University to inform students who reside in the District of Columbia of their obligation to register their vehicle or, if allowed, to obtain a reciprocity sticker. I was shown written materials used by the University to inform its student of their registration obligations. I indicated that the material seemed correct and similar to pamphlets used by DMV. I also expressed my willingness to participate in student information sessions and to furnish DMV informational materials for student distribution. Overall, I considered the meeting to be a productive one.

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The fact that the University did not provide a list of its students did not concern me. Such a list could not have been used by DMV to determine compliance with the District's registration laws. A vehicle may only be registered to its owner. Thus, the fact that a

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student's name is not associated with a vehicle registration number, or *vice versa*, does not signify non-compliance. The student may simply be using a properly registered vehicle owned by their parent, a friend, or a leasing company. Therefore, DMV would not find such a list useful. The Commission should also note that DMV is prohibited by federal law from disclosing the names, addresses, and tags numbers of its customers to private entities, except under very limited circumstances. None of the permitted exceptions appear to apply in this case.

I applaud the Commission's concern with registration compliance and continue to encourage the University to work with the Department of Public Works and the Metropolitan Police Department in their efforts to ensure compliance through curbside enforcement activities.

I hope that I have fully addressed your request. Please let me know if further information is needed.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Stanley
Administrator
Customer Services Administration