North Smithfield Fire & Rescue Services, Inc.

1470 Providence Pike
North Smithfield, RI 02896

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BY:_____

Joel D. Jillson
Fire Chief

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January 18, 2011

Ms. Paulette Hamilton
Town Administrator
Town of North Smithfield
1 Main Street
Slatersville, RI 02876

Administrator Hamilton:

As you may be aware, we have been asked by the North Smithfield School Building Committee to restate the Rhode Island Fire Code as it pertains to the ongoing "lighting issue" at the North Smithfield Middle School. Specifically, the town/department Fire Marshal has been asked for his remembrance of previous discussions as to the efficacy of exceeding the minimum threshold standard on egress lighting.

The Marshal states that in his ample conversations, both with the architects and the building committee members, the rationale behind why the threshold should be "slightly" exceeded was based in part on the fact that the facility in question was unusually large, multi-storied, indoor and outdoor security, and visibility for responding police and fire/rescue personnel.

Though our Fire Prevention Bureau's primary responsibility is to insure all fire codes meet minimum standards, we are certainly not adverse to augmented code compliance when doing so only enhances the health and safety of the occupants **and** our response personnel.

Sincerely,

Joel D. Jillson, Chief
North Smithfield Fire & Rescue Service, Inc.

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