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Cambridge City Council
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139
September 3, 2002

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OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

To the Councilors of the City of Cambridge:

I am writing with respect to Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic (RFB&D), an organization that publishes digitally recorded textbooks to help the blind and dyslexic obtain an education. RFB&D is supported in part by government funds and in part by charitable contributions. It is manned by a small professional staff, but the recordings themselves are made by many unpaid volunteers, of which I am one. The books recorded are selected in response to requests by users who pay an entrance fee and small yearly membership dues.

The reason I write is to address the parking situation in the vicinity of 58 Charles Street, where RFB&D is located. There seem to be plenty of parking meters available; at least I have never had a problem finding a metered spot. But the problem is that we volunteers offer our services in blocks of two hours, and the parking meters in the neighborhood allow just two hours of parking for a dollar. Since most two-hour periods stretch at least an extra 15 minutes, we often find our cars ticketed when we get back to them. I wonder whether it would not be possible for the City of Cambridge to make some kind of concession to this useful and charitable institution by arranging for some kind of identification for the cars of volunteers. This does not seem like too much to ask, as there are seldom as many as 15 cars involved at any one time.

I am not a staff member of the organization, but only one of the volunteers, yet I have taken it upon myself to make this request to the City Council. I am sending a copy of this letter to Christina Raimo, the executive director of the Boston Unit.

Sincerely yours,

Eugene J. Saletan

Cc: Christina Raimo

N-109

Consent Communication #1

A communication was received from Eugene J. Saletan, Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic (RFB&D), regarding the parking meters in the vicinity of 58 Charles Street.

In City Council September 23, 2002

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