



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA  
Department of Motor Vehicles  
2300 West Broad Street

D. B. Smit  
Commissioner

Post Office Box 27412  
Richmond, VA 23269-0001  
865-DMV-LINE or  
800-435-5137

September 6, 2005

Mr. Thomas D. Rose  
2714 Liberty Hall Lane  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22901

Dear Mr. Rose:

Recently, it came to our attention that the license plate "WEENME" had been issued and that it may be considered objectionable under our license plate review guidelines. Our records indicate that you were issued personalized license plates "WEENME" on July 25, 2005. It is the policy of the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to review all personalized plates at any time to ensure they meet our issuance guidelines.

In setting up our license plate review guidelines, DMV has established reasonable and objective criteria for allowing individuals to personalize their license plates. Because license plates are *owned and issued by the Commonwealth* and not a public forum, DMV has a duty and responsibility to all Virginians to ensure its license plates meet that criteria. To do anything less would be a disservice to all citizens.

Our Special Plate Review Committee is composed of culturally diverse individuals. Each has a vote on whether or not a given license plate meets our guidelines for issuance. In considering this matter, the Committee believed it was reasonable to assume that other people reading "WEENME" would conclude that this plate has a sexual connotation. Words, connotations or abbreviations that are sexually explicit or graphic in nature are in violation of our license plate review guidelines. Accordingly, DMV must cancel the "WEENME" license plates.

Please return these license plates to DMV. For your convenience, we are providing you a self-addressed envelope. We are mailing license plates XYN 7230 for your vehicle. Please note that "WEENME" will be canceled effective October 6, 2005 and may not be displayed on your vehicle after that time.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Administrative Process Act, you may appeal this decision to a DMV Hearing Officer, or you may challenge the decision in circuit court. We will set a hearing date for you upon your written request. We regret any inconvenience this may have caused you. This decision is in no way a reflection on you or your reasons for requesting the license plate.

Sincerely,

Carolyn W. Easley, Agency Management Analyst  
Special License Plates

CWE/vet