



MONROE ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED CITIZENS, INC.

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February 10, 2009

Monroe County School District
241 Trumbo Rd.
Key West, FL 33040

Att: Randy Acevedo
Superintendent

Re: XM Satellite Radio

Dear Mr. Acevedo:

Transportation is a big issue for the MARC Organization and its clients. A fleet of 15 vehicles are maintained to complete these transportation needs, driving routes that include Big Pine, Marathon and Tavernier. Daily transportation from the Group Home to the Workshop and to Supported Employment and Community Inclusion sites is also provided. The unique geographical setting of the Florida Keys adds to the time and frustration of transporting 68 disabled adults.

In 2005, a satellite radio service was purchased for use during daily transportation runs. Our program supports individuals in daily valued routines, self-help, and adaptive social skills. In theory, the radio service was to be a tool for adaptive social skills and self-help, making a long drive both learning and entertaining experience. After multiple outbursts, the service was found to be a benefit to only a few clients in our transportation pool. The vast majority were more productive and easier to transport without the distraction of the radio. The service was discontinued.

