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November 10, 2005

Mr. Steven Darman
Social Science Associates
209 Elizabeth Street – 4th Floor
Utica, New York 13501

Dear Mr. Darman:

On behalf of my fellow Commissioners and staff, I would like to thank you for appearing before the Commission in Rochester on October 25, 2005 during our hearing on street gang crime in New York State. Your testimony concerning your analysis of gang activity in Utica provided valuable insight into an important and complex issue.

As you well know, gang activity is a growing problem in our state. All those who testified at our hearing agreed that the problem requires a multi-pronged approach of suppression, intervention and prevention.

The Commission is particularly grateful to all of the hearing participants for their assistance in this endeavor. Together we will work to identify and recommend ways that New York State can best address gang activity.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Alfred D. Lerner", written over a horizontal line.

Alfred D. Lerner
Chairman



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