MICHAEL F. EASLEY GOVERNOR LYNDO TIPPETT SECRETARY

March 22, 2004

«FirstName» «Address» «City», NC «PostalCode»

Dear Sir:

Recently, a citizen reported someone for discarding «type» from a vehicle with license plate number «license_plate», and reported it to the North Carolina Department of Transportation's Swat-A-Litterbug program. This incident was observed at «hwy» on «date» in «location». At times people have made mistakes in recording numbers, and if that is the case, please accept our apology. If it is not a mistake, please make a conscious effort to properly dispose of your trash.

Littering is against the law. Had a law enforcement officer rather than a citizen seen this, the driver could have been fined up to \$1,000 for the first offense and up to \$2,000 for the second offense. Also, upon a finding of guilt, the driver would have received a penalty of one point on his/her driver's license.

Litter is a costly problem. Cleaning litter from North Carolina's roadsides costs taxpayers millions of dollars each year. Also, cigarette butts are considered litter and are not readily biodegradable.

There are many things you can do to combat the growing litter problem, but the easiest way to help is to set a good example for others by not littering.

Here are some ways you can make a difference:

- Teach young people not to litter.
- Cover truck beds when transporting trash or other loose items.
- Carry and use the enclosed litterbag in your vehicle.

Please help us *Keep North Carolina Clean and Green*. SWAT is supported in part by donations to the "Partners for a Litter-Free N.C." fund. To find out more about NCDOT's anti-litter programs, call 1-800-331-5864.

Sincerely,

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Colonel Richard W. Holden Commanding, NC Highway Patrol



MAILING ADDRESS: OFFICE OF BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAMS 1540 MAIL SERVICE CENTER RALEIGH NC 27699-1540 Telephone: 919-715-3188 FAX: 919-715-2554 Website: www.dot.state.nc.us/beautification LOCATION: TRANSPORTATION BUILDING 1 SOUTH WILMINGTON STREET RALEIGH NC

Keep NC Clean & Green