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March 30, 2020

VIA EMAIL ONLY (vpsa@umd.edu)

Ms. Patty Perillo,
Vice President for Student Affairs
University of Maryland
7999 Regents Drive
2108 Clarence Mitchel Building
College Park, MD 20742

Re: COVID-19 Advisory Letter dated March 24, 2020

Dear Ms. Perillo:

I am again writing on behalf of the Prince George's Property Owners Association, Inc., now in response to your letter dated March 24, 2020 to all students of the University of Maryland. The University of Maryland should not have issued any directive to any students "to leave off-campus housing" as such a directive was contrary to Governor Hogan's Executive Orders and to the State and Federal Government's recommendations for all people, including young adults, to refrain from traveling from state to state and to stay in their homes. The Governor's Office of Legal Counsel issued Interpretive Guidance Number COVID-19-02 which specifically stated "The Order does not require colleges and universities that provide on-campus housing to displace students remaining in dormitories who have no other reasonably accessible place of residence, e.g., international students who are unable to return home due to travel restrictions, or students who are otherwise homeless." All students who have off campus homes have a "reasonably accessible place of residence" and should not have been directed by the University of Maryland to leave their residence. As noted in the Governor's Office of Legal Counsel Interpretive Guidance issued on March 23, 2020, Number COVID-19-04, the Governor clarified that at that time he was not issuing a "shelter-in-place order" but unambiguously stated "all Marylanders are urged to remain home...." Your March 24, 2020 letter did not correct the misinformation provided to students in your March 20, 2020 letter and further communicated inaccurate directives to students to leave their homes and to violate the Governor's recommendations.



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Today, Governor Hogan issued a “Stay At Home” Executive Order that goes into effect at 8:00 p.m. today. Governor Hogan stated in his press conference today that the “Stay At Home” Order was issued because people in Maryland were traveling and were not abiding by the recommendations that had been previously issued. This is now no doubt all students living in homes in the City of College Park and surrounding communities are not to leave their homes. I ask again that the University of Maryland cease providing incorrect information to its students about this COVID-19 crisis. Anyone living in residences in the City of College Park and surrounding communities are by Executive Order to stay in their homes and not to travel out of the State of Maryland. If any persons traveled out of State previously and returned, Governor Hogan reiterated that such persons were to “self-quarantine” for fourteen (14) days, which was stated prior to your March 20, 2020 and March 24, 2020 letters to the University of Maryland Student Body.

In any further communication to University of Maryland students who live in homes in the City of College Park and surrounding communities, I urge you to inform them to “Stay At Home” in those residences as ordered by Governor Hogan.

It is imperative that the University of Maryland provide accurate information to its students, faculty and staff in this time of crisis. If you would like to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,



Walter W. Green

cc: Lisa Miller, President
Prince George’s Property Owners Association

