



## WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND

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### WICOMICO COUNTY COUNCIL

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Jeff Merritt, Vice-President/District #2  
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Shanie Shields, District #1  
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Laura Hurley, Council Administrator

April 23, 2024

Julie Giordano  
County Executive  
125 N. Division Street  
P.O. Box 870  
Salisbury, MD 21801

Dear County Executive Giordano:

We write to you to express our concern over the Safari at the Quarry event scheduled to take place on May 4 and May 5. This matter has repeatedly been brought to the attention of the County Council during public comments, as well as by repeated written communications received over the last several weeks. During Council comments individual members of the Council have expressed concern about the nature of the event as well as the fact that the event was not publicly discussed prior to the County Executive entering into the Memorandum of Understanding (herein "MOU") with the event organizer.

The Council is now aware that the event organizer is in breach of the MOU in numerous ways and accordingly, the majority of the Council request that you immediately notify Live Wire Media, Inc. that the event is terminated as permitted under the Termination provision contained in the MOU. The breach of the MOU includes, but may not be limited to, failing to obtain all licenses, permits and governmental approvals needed, placing the event course outside the property identified in the MOU, and failing to properly inform neighboring property owners of the scheduled event.

The County Council is now aware that the City of Salisbury has sent a letter to you stating the event violates City zoning. While the Council has been aware that the property is zoned residential under City zoning and under certain circumstances county owned property may be exempt from City zoning, that exemption requires that the intended use be for a public purpose. Under the terms of the MOU, the event organizer had the sole responsibility to obtain necessary City approval to hold this event, and it is clear that the event organizer failed to act in accordance with the MOU and obtain the necessary approval from the City of Salisbury.

Pursuant to the terms of the MOU, the event organizer and the County agreed that the event would be held on 111.58 acres of the Connelly Mill Road property. Parcels 169 and 167 total exactly 111.58 acres; however, the event organizer has posted a map of the event course which shows that a

substantial portion of the event is scheduled to take place on Parcel 167. As such Live Wire Media, LLC has breached the MOU.

It has been apparent for some weeks that Live Wire Media, LLC did not properly “inform neighboring property owners of the May 4 and 5 event as required by the MOU. This breach has created serious problems for Wicomico County and resulted in the neighboring property owners repeatedly contacting the County Executive and the County Council to determine the plans for the event and to express concerns about the impact on their properties. This breach compounds the problem created by your office when you did not inform the Council about the MOU and intentionally made the term of the MOU 364 days to avoid the legal requirement for Council approval of any agreement with a term of more than one year.

In light of the clear and repeated breaches of the MOU by Live Wire Media, LLC, the County Council believes it is imperative that the County Executive terminate this MOU immediately. We would point out that the termination provision permits the County to terminate the MOU by written ten (10) notice to Live Wire Media, LLC. Accordingly, the written termination must be sent out by close of business today.

Sincerely,

WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND



John T. Cannon, Council President

cc: Wicomico County Council  
Paul Wilber, Esq.  
Live Wire Media, LLC