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The WALTERS
ART MUSEUM

600 NORTH CHARLES STREET
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21201-5185
TELEPHONE 410-547-9000
WWW.THEWALTERS.ORG

OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR

April 15, 2004

Federal Trade Commission
CAN-SPAM Act
Post Office Box 1030
Merrifield, VA 22116-1030
RE: CAN-SPAM Act Rulemaking, Project No. R411008

Dear Sir or Madam:

As director of the Walters Art Museum in Baltimore, Maryland, I am writing to request that non-profit organizations be exempted from regulations related to the CAN-SPAM Act of 2003.

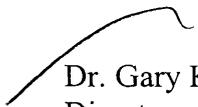
E-mail has become an increasingly significant part of our communications to our museum family, which includes board members, volunteers, members, educators, and visitors who have self-selected to be a part of our e-mail list. The fact that we can reach our audience so inexpensively through electronic communication has been a boon to us in these times of tight budgets with declining local and state government support.

The mission of our museum is to bring art and people together for enjoyment, discovery, and learning. Through our biweekly e-mail newsletter to interested recipients, we are able to inform all of our audiences of major upcoming events and exhibitions. Without this newsletter, these individuals may very possibly never become aware of the educational and cultural opportunities we provide to them personally, and to the region in general.

Our members are located in 33 states and in several foreign countries. Visitors come from every state and from around the world to see our renowned permanent collection. We need to be able to communicate effectively and affordably with all who have an interest in our museum.

Please continue to support the arts and non-profits by exempting us from regulations that apply to commercial organizations. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Dr. Gary K. Vikan
Director