



**SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

MICHAEL J. BOUCHARD, SHERIFF  
OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN

ROBERT W. SMITH  
CAPTAIN

Robert and Sheila Smith  
348 [REDACTED]  
Troy, MI 48085  
January 10, 2007

1111 HORIZON COURT • ROCHESTER HILLS, MI 48309  
(248) 656-4771 • FAX: (248) 656-4747 • PAGER: (248) [REDACTED]  
INTERNET: smithitr@co.oakland.mi.us

Chief Kraft  
Troy Police Department  
500 West Big Beaver  
Troy, MI 48084

*OFF. Charles Villerot*

Dear Chief Kraft:

Recently we had a pleasant encounter with the Troy Police Department that we thought you should know about. In the early morning hours of December 19, 2006, I heard a loud noise but didn't think much about it. Later in the morning as I went to retrieve the newspaper, I saw that someone had gone far left of center up onto our tree lawn and clipped our mailbox. The box was torn from its pole and totally destroyed and pieces of the responsible vehicle were left on the street in front of the house as well as in our driveway. Having recently (on Devil's Night) had a college flag physically ripped from our porch, I was concerned as to whether this was malicious or a simple vehicle accident.

We called the Troy Police Department to make a police report. Officer Villerot arrived to take the report from my wife. He was pleasant and upbeat and took the report. His theory was that perhaps a young driver on the way to school without properly clearing the car windows had lost control and hit the mailbox. He followed up by going to Troy High School and locating the damaged vehicle in the parking lot. He had an interview with the responsible driver who admitted responsibility for the accident.

Having some appreciation for the fact that an "MDOP" mailbox report is a rather mundane police matter for a patrolman, we were both very pleased to be the beneficiary of Officer Villerot's efforts and follow-up. Officer Villerot made a second trip to our home to notify us that he had found the responsible party. Because he took these extra steps, we were able to file an insurance claim which saved our family budget the expense of replacing our mailbox.

As a citizen, I am pleased to have the benefit of such a fine public servant. As a peer, I thank you and your command staff for maintaining the high quality reputation that the Troy Police Department enjoys in the law enforcement community. Officer Villerot exemplifies the excellence of your department.

Professionally yours

Robert W. Smith

cc: Captain Murphy  
Officer Villerot

**RECEIVED**  
Chief of Police  
1/15/2007 CT

CC: City Mgr.  
CAPT MURPHY  
OFF. Charles Villerot / Dept File  
BB

J-3a