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**ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON**  
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March 27, 2009

The Honorable Steven J. Tucker  
Spokane County Prosecuting Attorney  
1100 West Malloon Avenue  
Spokane, WA 99260

Re: *Death of Jo Ellen Savage & River Park Square Parking Garage*  
Case Review

Dear Honorable Steven Tucker:

On February 19, 2009, the Attorney General's Office (AGO) received the above-referenced referral with a request to review the investigative materials provided by your office and to provide you with an opinion about whether criminal charges are warranted. The referral involved the April 8, 2006 death of Jo Ellen Savage and the River Park Square parking garage. Ms. Savage died as a result of injuries she sustained when the vehicle she was driving fell from the fifth floor of the parking garage. Eyewitness accounts and physical evidence reveal that Ms. Savage's vehicle made minimal contact with a spandrel – a divider utilized in the River Park Square parking garage. The spandrel collapsed, failing to keep her car from falling from the garage. The question the Attorney General's Office has been asked to consider is whether either the owners or operators of the River Park Square parking garage could be charged with crimes related to the death of Ms. Savage – specifically the crime of manslaughter.

You did not confer on our office concurrent jurisdictional authority over the investigation and potential prosecution pursuant to RCW 43.10.232, and your office specifically retained ultimate charging authority in this matter. Therefore, we did not conduct a separate investigation, and our review was generally limited to the materials provided by your office.

Our office received multiple inquiries, offers of assistance and additional materials from concerned citizens purported to relate to this inquiry. We are including courtesy copies of the documents we have received with the materials we are returning to you. From our conversations with you, it appears that you have already received copies of those materials from the various sources.

The materials provided and reviewed included information gathered during an investigation conducted by the United State Attorney for the Western District of Washington as well as witness statements, and various engineering reports issued over the years related to the physical



