

**Statement of Support for Permitting  
Howell Auctions on Indian Ridge Road,  
Stuarts Draft, Virginia.**

I am in favor of Augusta County officials permitting Howell Auctions to continue holding auction sales at 2250 Indian Ridge road because:

- 1) Howell auctions provide economic benefit to the community as well as the numerous buyers and sellers who attend. Area residents and farmers, who also are taxpayers and voters, are able to conveniently recycle their equipment and vehicles in an economically efficient way. There are no more efficient alternatives available to Augusta residents. Howell sales are necessary.
- 2) Howell auctions provide an opportunity for community gathering and the social benefits that flow from it. Also, Greenville United Methodist Church owns and operates the concession stand, and staffs it with youth group members. Howell's support of Church fund raising is another social benefit arising from the auction sales.
- 3) The need for efficient recycling of the items sold is obvious, and Howell family auctioneers have been meeting this Augusta county need for generations, and regularly at this location since 2005.
- 4) Howell sales collect substantial sales taxes, another benefit to government and the community.
- 5) The Howell sales do attract hundreds of vehicles through Stuarts Draft from a 100 mile radius, and these people eat, buy gas, etc. Sales at local establishments benefit local businesses and provide more tax revenue.
- 6) Howell activities are well supervised and managed, and do not burden the community with trash cleanup issues, noise, or any significant inconvenience.
- 7) I subscribe to this statement and oppose the persistent complaints of one man and his wife that have influenced the views of Augusta zoning officials in recent years. There are many, many more residents, buyers, and sellers who do support Howell's necessary auctions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 2013

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name

**[ ]** I am a resident of Augusta County, Virginia.