



BOZZUTO'S  
INCORPORATED

*Michael A. Bozzuto*  
Chairman, President and CEO

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To all our sponsors, participants, athletes, volunteers, Special Olympic supporters, law enforcement and emergency personnel;

I thank you all for your continued support and dedication to Dream Ride, Dream Cruise and Special Olympics. Unfortunately, with the forecast of Hurricane Irene hitting Connecticut Saturday into Sunday, I have made the decision to cancel the event for this first time ever.

We have had rides in the past with plenty of sunshine, unbearable heat and humidity, thunderstorms and rain that didn't let up all day. Regardless of those conditions, you have all come out in droves to support the cause. I also know that there are some diehard participants that would not let a hurricane deter their attendance and will be undoubtedly disappointed by the fact that Dream Ride will not go on this year. However, in ten years of sponsoring Dream Ride we have *always* put safety first and with the strong possibility of hurricane force wind and rain it simply will be unsafe for all involved. I also recognize how important it is that the hundreds of law enforcement and emergency personnel from all over the northeast who volunteer their time at the event be home and available in their own states and neighborhoods for any emergencies that may occur.

I know many of you will be disappointed just as we are. However, we must remember that Dream Ride is really a culmination and celebration of a year's worth of events and hard work for the athletes and volunteers. We are fortunate to have friends like you that value all of that hard work and have agreed to still make their donation. Our sponsors have all agreed to contribute to this year's mission and pledged their continued support for next year. In addition, it's heartwarming to know many of you have already said you will donate the additional funds you would have spent at the event so we will accept all donations up to September 1<sup>st</sup> at which time we will provide Special Olympics' with this year's donation. It is our hope that as you all stay home to be with your loved ones during this extreme weather event, you will still think of the Special Olympics' athletes by continuing to donate up to September 1st at which time we will provide Special Olympics' with this year's donation.

We understand how much the athlete's look forward to this celebration and we are in the very early planning stages of another event we can have this year for everyone to celebrate their achievements. I am truly sorry for the inconvenience and hope that you will join us next year for Dream Ride 2012 the weekend of August 17, 18 and 19, 2012!

With thanks,