
Karly Sindy

3rd March 2022

Dear NC DMV Special Plate Unit,

I appreciate you reaching out regarding my plate, FARTSM. Thank you for the chance to respond with the meaning, purpose and intent of "FARTSM." I firmly believe that upon seeing the following case, your team will understand what this plate means to me and to our community and you will decide to let me keep the plate and not recall it.

I'd like to start off by pointing out that acronyms are an excellent way to gain attention and unify around succinct causes that mean a lot to all of us. Whether that be UNC, WNC, NCSU, NCDOT, these short collections of letters have a meaning and help establish identity. F.A.R.T. - Friends of Asheville Recreational Trails - is a local grassroots organization that promotes the responsible usage and appreciation for trails between the Blue Ridge and Smoky Mountain region of North Carolina. Hence why FARTSM is so appropriate.

Our group appreciates the value that all of our local trails provide, and aim to share this with more of our population. F.A.R.T. shares information about our vast network of trails through different social media outlets, and helps connect citizens who care deeply for the continued preservation of this land to be enjoyed by all.

I understand that our acronym can be misunderstood, and for this I do apologize to any citizen who may take offense in this message, but I assure you that this acronym serves as the identity for our organization. F.A.R.T. operates with the best intentions to be stewards of the roads, wildlife, signage, and trails that connect North Carolina citizens to the countless beautiful natural areas in and around the Smokey Mountain region. As the founder of this wonderful organization, I am proud to represent F.A.R.T. with my license plate, and to use it to help spread the word about the natural wonders around us.

Attached you will find our most recent newsletter, member-shared pictures and comments of this thriving community of hikers. I believe you will see just how much this plate means to not only me but to the community as a whole. I have also enclosed our FARTSM club magnets.

For your convenience, I have printed out screenshots from our website but would encourage you to visit at your convenience: <https://FriendsofAshevilleRecreationalTrails.com> or visit us on Twitter or Instagram @fart_avl.

In conclusion, I understand that FART may be offensive to some people. But it is my belief that a word can represent so much more than one thing. After being a part of this wonderful club, FART and FARTSM represents joy, fun, nature and community. Benjamin Franklin was in full support of farts in his essay Fart Proudly. Let us not be ashamed or try to repress this word or this action. Please allow me to keep my plate, FARTSM.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Karly Sindy

F.A.R.T. Founder