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September 10 2013

To
Advocate Yadin Elam

Dear Sir,

Re: **Your letter regarding removal of movement limitations imposed on Palestinian residents in the DCO Checkpoint**

Yours: April 8, 2013, August 22, 2013

Ours: (1) 570521-910/01 dated April 24, 2013

(2) 752627-910/01 dated June 9, 2013

1. In your above referenced letter you requested that the movement limitation in the "DCO Checkpoint" on the part of the road being the subject matter of your letter (hereinafter: the "**checkpoint**") be lifted by the IDF so as to facilitate free movement of the residents of the area on said road. Following an inquiry conducted by us, our response is as follows.
2. The part of the road referred to in your above letter was built on land seized for military needs during 1995, in the framework of IDF's redeployment outside the Palestinian cities following the interim agreements between the state of Israel and the PLO. Its purpose was to enable the security forces stationed alongside the road and the Beit El residents to travel to route 60 and the other parts of the Judea and Samaria area, and to remove the security risk involved in the travelling of Israelis in Al Bireh and Ramallah. In recent years, in view of the security condition evaluation, a decision was made to enable the holders of special permits and representatives of international organization to pass through the checkpoint.
3. Our inquiry indicates that in the current situation the checkpoint cannot be opened for all inhabitants of the area. This position is based on two reasons. Firstly, according to the evaluation of security agencies, the opening of the checkpoint will pose significant security threat to passengers travelling on the road which connects between route 60 and Al Bireh north, *inter alia*, in view of the heavy traffic loads expected therein and the security condition in the area.

