

# TOWNSHIP OF MARLBORO

1979 TOWNSHIP DRIVE  
MARLBORO, NJ 07746-2299

[www.marlboro-nj.gov](http://www.marlboro-nj.gov)

**Mayor**

Jonathan L. Hornik

**Tel:** (732) 536-0200

September 30, 2013

Dear Marlboro Resident:

Over the last few days, many Marlboro residents have been understandably upset by conversations they reported to have had with Hobby Lobby employees at both the local and corporate level.

Today, I spoke with both the owner of Marlboro Plaza and senior executives at Hobby Lobby. I made them all very aware of the concerns that were being raised by our residents. The Company assured me that they will revisit their holiday item buying in our area and would address any employees who gave the impression that somehow Hobby Lobby would not be welcoming to any segment of our population. Below you will find the email I received from Hobby Lobby in response to our conversation.

We in Marlboro are proud of the great diversity of our population, and at every opportunity, we make an effort to celebrate it. It has been my experience that our corporate citizens share in this sense of community and cultural pride, and, as such, I am hopeful that the Company's stated intent will be fully realized.

Mayor Jon Hornik

*"Dear Mayor Hornik,*

*Hobby Lobby Stores, Inc. is currently working with our buyers over our merchandise selection. Our customers have brought this to our attention and we are currently evaluating our Holiday items and what we will carry in the future.*

*Alleged comments made by employees are currently being investigated and will be addressed accordingly. These comments are in no way indicative of Hobby Lobby culture, the owners and the operators.*

*Marlboro is a great city and has wonderful people and we are blessed to be a part the community.*

*Vince Parker*

*Hobby Lobby Stores, Inc."*