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January 10, 2005

Mr. Geoffrey Griffis
Chair, D.C. Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 Fourth Street, NW, Suite 225 South
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Board of Zoning Adjustment Appeal Number 17249

Dear Mr. Griffis,

As a resident of the Foggy Bottom neighborhood I am writing regarding your consideration of Appeal 17249, which, if it succeeds, would affect a variety of basic community services that I need. I understand that the specific purpose of Appeal 17249 is to restrict access to one restaurant but that the appeal has implications for restricting our access to other local services that are part of George Washington University facilities.

Unlike many other areas of Washington the Foggy Bottom area is not blessed with an abundance of service outlets of any kind. Many area residents, including my wife and I, do not have cars but rely on public transportation to take us farther afield for various activities and services. Although we are very pleased with our public transportation services there are practical difficulties at times and at those times we need access to the George Washington University facilities.

For our community the presence of a major institution like the University brings many benefits but only so long as the institution is an integral part of the community. At this time the University, and its service facilities, is an integral and highly valued part of our community. I do not believe that restricting access to those facilities or introducing other barriers between residents and the University is consistent with any social policy that supports the quality of life in our community.

I ask you to deny Appeal 17249.

Thank you for your consideration.

Christopher H. Bateman

BZA
Case No. 17249
Exhibit No. 27

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17249
EXHIBIT NO. 27