

Party Status Criteria:

- 1. Our house, located at 3514 30th St., NW, is located directly behind the house of the Applicants, across the alley from their property. We are the only property owners whose lot will be directly affected by construction of the addition which may blot out the sun from our back yard and deck, loom within a few feet (literally) of our property, and substantially impair both our ability to enjoy our own yard and deck and reduce the resale value of our property.**
- 2. We are the owners of the property located at 3514 30th St. NW, a single-family semi-attached Wardman-style townhouse.**
- 3. Based on the application, the distance from the completed project would be app. 10 – 15 feet at most. Current distance is app. 30 – 40 feet (estimate only)**
- 4. If the action requested is approved, the construction of the addition requested would blot out most daylight from our yard and deck except in the early morning hours. The addition requested in the application would loom within 10 – 15 feet from our yard and deck and substantially impair our enjoyment of our property and our deck, as well as reduce the resale value of our property. Environmentally, we are also concerned that the construction requires extensive digging and environmental destruction of the green space that we currently enjoy in the alley behind our house, which is a key feature of the Cleveland Park neighborhood. (There are plenty of places where houses are build “Hong Kong style,” and where the applicants could find a McMansion already built to the corners of their lot. Until now, this has not been the case in Cleveland Park and so this application could create a dangerous precedent in that respect as well.)**
- 5. My husband is currently serving our country in Kabul, Afghanistan, on a 1-year assignment with the Department of State. I am also concerned that initiation of a large-scale construction project at this time while he is deployed overseas could increase the stresses on my children – one of whom is already taking anxiety medications – and myself at a very difficult time. So apart from the longer-term threat to our ability to enjoy our property, there is also the short-term harm to my family as again we are immediately behind the property in question, and will face the noise, pollution, invasion of building workers, etc., associated with a project that essentially will double the size and footprint of the current property.**
- 6. Given the location of our yard and deck, no other residents on Ordway, 30th Street or other addresses would be as directly harmed by this project as my family at 3514 30th St. NW.**

Witness Information

- 1. A list of witnesses who will testify on the person's behalf;**

I will testify in my own behalf

- 2. A summary of the testimony of each witness (*Zoning Commission only*);**

Summary: Potential approval of the extreme variance sought by Paul and Emily Thornell from the prevailing zoning requirements in Cleveland Park would surely cause undue hardship for my family at 3514 30th St., NW and substantially reduce the value of our house – which immediately abuts their property across the alley running behind Ordway, 30th St., and Porter St. NW. Based on the limited materials that they have provided for initial inspection, their addition would loom over our yard, casting a permanent shadow over our deck and backyard and infringing on our privacy as well. (In fact we are applying to become a Party due to the lack of transparency, misleading information provided by the Applicants to date, and the substantial concerns we have that their project will materially harm our future ability to enjoy our property as well as to erode its fair market value.)

- 3. An indication of which witnesses will be offered as expert witnesses, the areas of expertise in which any experts will be offered, and the resumes or qualifications of the proposed experts (*Zoning Commission only*);**
N/A

- 4. The total amount of time being requested to present your case (*Zoning Commission only*).**
App. 30 – 45 min., depending on the timely availability of latest building plans.