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Mr. Robert S. Nero, Jr.
Deputy Director of Operations
Office of Zoning
441 4th Street NW, Suite 200/210-S.
Washington, DC 20001

April 29, 2013

Dear Mr. Nero,

With regard to Application 18564, the application by the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, to permit the location of an Embassy and Chancery at 3025 Whitehaven St NW (Square 2147, Lot 46), thank you for your invitation to submit written views in respect of this application.

As you may know, Whitehaven Street NW currently suffers from significant congestion due to employee parking from the Italian and Brazilian Embassies, as well as the Residence of the Polish ambassador. Indeed there are many times during the week when traffic on this small dead end street comes to a halt. While we welcome the Sri Lankan ambassador and his family as neighbors, we are deeply concerned at the prospect of embassy employees requiring additional parking, which would add to the congestion and gridlock. 3025 Whitehaven is certainly an appropriate venue for a Residence but it is not a commercial property and the street simply cannot support the parking needs of more embassy employees.

On the weekends, the Embassy of Italy building is often rented out for large-scale events. On those evenings it is impossible to leave the street or come home for four to five hours at a time. We suffer from the presence of these embassies on a daily basis and the in fact our household employees, District of Columbia taxpayers themselves, are often not able to find parking when they come to work in the morning.

According to public records, we have been paying the seventh highest residential property tax in the District of Columbia on our home these last 14 years and as such we ask our Government to act to prevent worsening gridlock and a complete blocking of access on the weekends.

Two years ago, when the Polish government purchased the house next door to ours we had to hire a lawyer and spend over \$20,000 to prevent them from building a parking lot next to our home. Clearly, there is a lack of understanding of the difference between commercial and residential space by the foreign nations.

We would ask your support in preventing this change of zoning.

Sincerely,


Wayne L. Berman

BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 18564
EXHIBIT NO. 26