

Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

From: soaw arturo@gmail.com on behalf of Arturo J Viscarra <arturo@soaw.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 18, 2014 2:20 AM
To: DCOZ - BZA Submissions (DCOZ)
Cc: rbergersol@gmail.com
Subject: BZA No 18790, Jefferson St LLC

Dear Members of the Board of Zoning Adjustment,

I write to oppose the applications for variances of the building owners at 2724 11th Street NW

I am a long-time neighbor of the building tenants at 2724 11th, having lived at 1114 Girard St. NW for over 7 years. During this time, I have repeatedly observed rats in the dumpsters that belong to the building. We even had a rat infestation in my back yard a few years ago, and we strongly suspect that the rats came from the dumpsters of 2724. They should be required to upgrade the apartments without pricing out the tenants.

This area has become gentrified at a startling pace, with the difference between now and 7 years ago very apparent. As a Salvadoran living in the area, it is very disappointing to hear and meet people say that they enjoy the area's diversity, but have no regard whatsoever for the types of policies that are making Black and Brown community members leave. The owners of 2724 11th are exactly the type of people that have exacerbated this problem. They cruelly have tried to force the tenants out by failing to fix problems. They are clearly slum lords looking to profit off of their purposeful disregard for housing law. Their variances should be denied and they be forced to sell the building to responsible owners that will take care of the tenants and the neighborhood.

Best,
Arturo J Viscarra, Esq
1114 Girard Street NW

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Arturo J Viscarra

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