

Lynn Moluf  
130 M St NE #429  
Washington DC 20002

Board of Zoning Adjustment  
District of Columbia  
December 13, 2015

Dear Chairperson Heath and members of the Board,

I am writing in support of the variance requested by St. Thomas' Parish in Dupont Circle.

I have been a member of the parish for about five years and this is my church home. Our parish has a long history on the corner of 18<sup>th</sup> and Church Street, stretching way over 100 years. Our abiding presence on this corner, even after our church building was torched by an arsonist in 1970, is a testament to our vitality in the neighborhood.

We do not currently have the space for our own program needs, much less the space that we would like to provide for the needs of the community. We have many neighborhood groups who use our building. As examples, there is a weekly AA meeting and the School for Ethics and Global Leadership, located across the street, has used our building to hold special events. In addition to physical space we also want to continue our legacy of being on the forefront of social justice issues, such as advocating for human rights and feeding the hungry.

Our variance is necessary because of the burden of incorporating the existing parish house structure into the design. Our variance is for less lot coverage than the original church structure occupied in 1894.

I ask you to grant the St. Thomas' Parish zoning variance we have requested.

Kind regards,  
Lynn Moluf