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D.C. OFFICE OF ZONING

2400 Virginia Avenue, NW, C501
Washington, DC 20037
September 23, 2006

2006 SEP 25 AM 10: 09

Zoning Administrator
441 4th Street, NW
Suite 211
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Sir/Ms:

RE: Docket 0-611 and 0-612

I am submitting my statement about noise in Columbia Plaza for your consideration in connection with the GWU Campus Plan docket 0-611 and 0-612. (Attachment 1, 2, 3, and 4). Buildings have been designed with no consideration to noise abatement in our area with buildings that are grown increasingly taller.

The noise from these buildings have an adverse impact on Foggy Bottom area and is in conflict with the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations, title 20, section 2701.1 entitled Noise Control "every person is entitled to ambient noise levels that are not detrimental to life, health and enjoyment of his or her property." It also states "noise resulting from the use or operation of any air-conditioning, heat pump, fan, or other mechanical equipment, regardless of location, shall be prohibited in excess of sixty (60) dB(A) during the day and 55 (55) dB (A) at nighttime. Peter Comey, the Executive Director, Facilities has documented the noise to be above the legally permissible levels at 62 dB(A)-72 dB(A). (Attachment 2)

Columbia Plaza residents have asked on September 23, 2005, October 5, 2005, November 5, 2005 and April 24, 2006 that the severe noise be eliminated from:

Ivy Tower, 616 23rd Street, NW
Townhouse Row, 807 23rd Street, NW
Smith's Center, 200 22nd Street (Attachment 1)

Also the following organizations have asked that the severe noise be eliminated.

Federation of Citizens Associations of the District of Columbia 6/23/06
Foggy Bottom Association 6/22/06
Foggy Bottom and West End Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC-2A) 6/22/06
(Attachment 2, 3, and 4)

To date the severe noise has not been eliminated.

Other buildings which have severe noise are:

The GWU Hospital 900 23rd Street, NW
The GWU Ambulatory Care Center 22nd and Eye Street, NW
Radiation Oncology Center (Warwick Building) 2300 K Street, NW
GWU School of Medicine and Health Sciences 23rd and Eye Street, NW

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

Sincerely,



Marija Hughes

CASE NO. 06-11
ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
EXHIBIT NO. 104
CASE NO. 06-11
EXHIBIT NO. 104

2400 Virginia Avenue, NW, C501
Washington, D.C. 20037
April 24, 2006

Mr. Dennis H. Blumer
General Counsel
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20052

Dear Mr, Blumer:

We the residents of Columbia Plaza East Wing are writing to complain about the excessive noise generated by the colling towers. They are located at:

Ivy Tower, 616 23rd Street, NW
Townhouse Row, 607 23rd Street, NW
Smith's Center, 200 22nd Street, NW

On Saturday, April 8, 2006 at 6:30 am the severe noise started.

We asked you to eliminate the severe noise we suffer from on September 23, 2005, October 6, 2005 and November 5, 2005.

We asked for an outside expert who would examine:

- a) belts
- b) vibration
- c) bearing
- d) noise

We are asking for a written report indicating problem areas and possible solutions.

The noise has been particularly severe this weekend.

Please take our noise complaints seriously and see that something is done to solve the problem. The severe noise is causing serious health problems. Please see that the severe noise problem is eliminated.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marija Hughes
member Columbia Plaza Tenants Association and
Foggy Bottom Association

cc: Jim Graham, Councilmember

Attachment 1

OFFICERS

President
George R. Clark
4525 28th St., N.W.
Washington, DC 20008

First Vice President
Anne Renshaw

Second Vice President
James J. Jones

Secretary
Sally MacDonald

Treasurer
Allen E. Beach

**Federation of Citizens Associations
of the District of Columbia**

ORGANIZED MARCH 5, 1910 • INCORPORATED JUNE 3, 1940

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June 23, 2006

Rent Administrator
Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs
941 North Capitol St., N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002

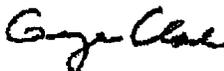
RE: Noise at Columbia Plaza; Complaint of Marija Hughes

Dear Sirs:

On behalf of the Federation of Citizens Associations of the District of Columbia, we urge you to require the George Washington University to observe the noise level limitations in DCMR §20-2701.1 of 60db during the daytime and 55 db at night. At its Executive Board meeting on June 15, 2006, the Executive Board voted unanimously to send this letter.

Noise limitations are very important in residential neighborhoods. Vigorous enforcement is necessary to protect our residents from sources that are in violation of the rules. The measurements taken here by GWU itself support a finding of a violation.⁸ We trust that appropriate measure will be taken.

Sincerely yours,



George R. Clark
President
Federation of Citizens Associations of DC
GRClark@GeorgeRClark.com
202-331-3200

Attachment 2



► Joy Howell, MBA, MPA
Managing Partner

Joy@cambridgestrategicpartners.org

June 22, 2006

Mr. Carl Carter, Esq.
1050 17th St. NW
10th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20036

RE: Columbia Tenants Association Noise Problem

Dear Mr. Carter:

I understand you are representing the Columbia Tenants Association on their problem with George Washington University's alleged noise violation.

On behalf of the Foggy Bottom Association, I'd like to express our support for this group. No one should have to live with noise at illegal decibel levels. This noise from the cooling towers at Ivy Tower, Townhouse Row and Smith's Center has been documented to be above the legally permissible levels. It is highly disruptive to the quality of life of these Foggy Bottom residents, and yet it continues unabated.

Time and again, George Washington University maintains that it would like to be a good neighbor to Foggy Bottom residents. This is a good opportunity for the University to demonstrate that, and for the city to enforce the law and bring the University into compliance.

Please call on me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,


Joy Howell
President
Foggy Bottom Association

Attachment 3



Foggy Bottom and West End
Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC-2A)

c/o St. Mary's Court 725 24th Street, NW Washington, DC 20037 (202) 736-1775

June 22, 2006

Mr. Lou Katz
Executive Vice President
The George Washington University
c/o Sherry Rutherford

RE: Mechanical and Cooling Noise from Ivory Tower and Town House Row

Dear Mr. Katz:

At its regularly scheduled meeting on June 14, 2006, the Foggy Bottom and West End Advisory Neighborhood Commission (Commission or ANC 2A) considered testimony from residents of the Columbia Plaza regarding mechanical and cooling noise from the Ivory Tower Residence Hall and Town House Row. With six of six commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly called public meeting, the following motion was unanimously approved:

ANC 2A requests that George Washington University officials investigate and rectify noise in excess of District regulations emanating from the mechanical and cooling systems of the Ivory Tower and Town House Row facilities.

Residents of the Columbia Plaza have reported that their measurement of noise emanating from the cooling systems at these facilities is in excess of District regulations and is impacting the peace, order, and quiet of the area and the full use and enjoyment of their residences. Please note that the neighbor's concerns are not student-related, but are facilities-related. Your assistance in rectifying this situation is appreciated.

Please feel free to contact me on (202) 607-8429 or by email at anc2a@earthlink.net for additional information or assistance. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION:

Sincerely,

Vince Micone
Chairperson

Attachment 4

cc: Patrick Canavan, Director, DCRA