

Lt Col Edgar F. Russell, III, USAF (Ret)
3705 Reservoir Road, N.W
Washington, D.C. 20007

2011 MAY 15 PM 2:12

May 10, 2011

Mr. Anthony Hood
Chairman
D.C. Zoning Commission
441 4th Street, N.W., Suite 210
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Georgetown University Campus Plan 2010-2020 — Case No. 10-32

Dear Chairman Hood:

I live at 3705 Reservoir Road, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20007, located in the community of Burleith.

I am the owner and resident of 3705 Reservoir Road, located directly across from the Georgetown University Campus. The 2010 Campus Plan will adversely affect me in several ways. As a U.S. Air Force officer (now retired), I have lived in various places in the U.S. and overseas but Burleith was the area where my younger brother Frazier and I grew up. I lived there from 1954 to 1977 and from 1993 to the present. In the interim period, I returned to visit my parents many times over the years and observed personally what I write about. I may add that both my father and I were graduated from Georgetown University.

Up until the late 1970s and early 1980s Burleith was primarily a family neighborhood of owner-occupied homes. Since then most of Reservoir Road and adjacent R Street have become Georgetown student rentals. I am surrounded by students living across the alley and as abutters where the rental houses are rundown and trash overflows. Growing up, I rarely saw a rat in the neighborhood. Now I see rats running across the alley and between houses frequently.

Many absentee landlords have demolished each house's one-car garage to make room for student cars-- often as many as six which fill their backyards and spill over into the alley. This makes it difficult to pass or to park. Countless times thoughtless students have also parked in front of my garage, making it impossible to get my car out. I must bang on many different back doors to find the student responsible. Sometimes the student isn't even at home and only returns hours later. Reporting for military recall or taking family to the hospital resulted in delay or using expensive alternative transportation.

The behavior of the students surrounding me over the last two decades has, in the main, been completely unacceptable. Perhaps the most frightening moment occurred when my father was dying of cancer. My brother was staying with him. At about two in the morning, a loud and powerful pounding began on the front door. After a few moments the individual began trying to break the door down by hurtling his whole body into it! Both my father and brother were convinced they were being subjected to a home invasion! My father called the police and when they responded a few minutes later, they stopped the individual and then determined that he was a highly

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intoxicated Georgetown University student who thought that it was his own rental house. When my father and brother asked if the police were going to arrest this student for attempting to break and enter, the police said: "No! We know where he lives and we'll take him back there." My father, a resident of Burleith since 1928, who served proudly during World War II and the Korean War didn't deserve to have his final months on earth subjected to such indignity!

Both my late parents and I have also been verbally threatened by Georgetown University students. Once, when my mother opened her front door to complain to students about the noise from a large, late night party (where alcohol was being consumed), she was told by one of the students to "shut up old lady! We know where you live!" Like me, my brother and our parents were kept awake many times by loud, drunken Georgetown student parties which lasted many times until 5:00 a.m. Calls to the Georgetown University Party Hotline rarely solved the problem.

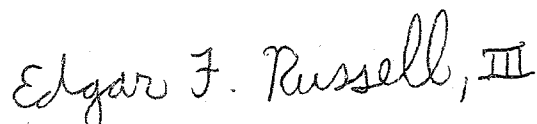
On another occasion, at about 4:00 a.m., I was awakened by the sound of breaking glass. When I opened the front door, I saw a Georgetown University student standing in the middle of Reservoir Road knocking over wooden road hazard barriers which had been placed around a large excavation hole in the road. He was stomping on the attached flashing lights and smashing them to pieces. His actions resulted in making it very dangerous for cars driving at night. When I called out to him to stop doing that and to "act like a grown up man", he became belligerent and challenged me to come out into the street and make him stop doing it!

Like other long-time residents of Burleith, I have often found beer cans, bottles, and other trash thrown into my backyard. A number of years ago, Georgetown University students living next door tore through my metal fence so they could steal my backyard table and chairs to use for a late night party on their side. Subsequently, they broke the table and some of the chairs. They initially attempted to deny they had taken the furniture, but I had already seen it in their backyard, before they tried to sneak it back to my side later the next morning. When I confronted them, the students neither apologized nor offered to pay for the damages to furniture and fence!

Finally, I have frequently observed intoxicated Georgetown University students attempting to cross against the traffic light on Reservoir Road and almost getting hit by oncoming cars. I believe Georgetown University has a responsibility to keep its students from harming themselves or from injuring others by their thoughtless, destructive actions! The place to do that is on its campus and not in community neighborhoods like Burleith.

I should be entitled to the quiet enjoyment of my residence and therefore should not have to tolerate this pattern of behavior by Georgetown University students. I urge you to reject this Campus Plan of Georgetown University!

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edgar F. Russell, III". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Edgar F. Russell, III
Lt Col, USAF (Ret)