JOHN L. STEELE
3100 NEWARK STREET N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20008

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OFFICE OF ZONING
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

April 15, 1999

Ms. Sheri M. Pruitt-Williams
Interim Director, Board of Zoning Adjustment
Suite 210
441 4th St., NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Ms. Pruitt-Williams:

It is with considerable regret that we must oppose application number 16443 for a variance to extend and enlarge an existing handicapped person's vehicle parking area filed by Mr. Rainer K. Kraus, and located on the front lawn of his home at 2964 Newark St., NW.

Mr. Kraus, a severely handicapped person, some years ago received clearence to construct the parking area and did so with a brick standing on sand parking pad. Over a period of years we understand that he received two additonal variances to expand the original area. It now covers virtually the entirety of his front lawn.

The parking area now accomodates two, and sometimes three, vehicles, usually of the van and pickup truck types on most days of the week. Any extension of the parking area eastward would require the removal of a very large, most beautiful tulip-poplar tree and would abut the property of his easterly neighbor. Extension westward would block the normal entry to his own home and abut the property of the home owner immediately to the west.

Finally, we understand that Mr. Kraus has received assurance from the appropriate D.C. office that a "reserved, handicapped person" parking space will be created on the Newark Street curb facing his dwelling. Surely, with his present lawn parking area, this would meet his needs for vehicle parking.

As with all his neighbors, we have great compassion for Mr. Kraus. However, we strongly believe that his vehicle parking needs can be met without seriously impairing the historic and valued residential area which we share with him.

We urgently request that the application for an additional parking variance be denied.

Sincerely,

John L. and Louise S. Steele

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Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16443
EXHIBIT NO.36