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OFFICE OF ZONING
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

January 28, 2000

Ms. Jerrily R. Kress, FAIA
Director , Office of Zoning
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001
RE: Application Number 16544

Dear Ms. Kress:

We are the purchasers of one of the two townhouses being built at #14-16 7th St., NE. The application requests permission to build a roof over the existing walled parking pad in the rear of the homes. It is my understanding that both we (the purchasers of #16), as well as the purchasers of #14 desire a roof over the structure.

I am writing to ask you to grant this small variance to add a roof. It is very important to us to have both secure parking and a safe place to store various household items such as garbage cans, a grill, gardening equipment and furniture, bicycles, etc. There is no other structure on the property to hold these items, as the English basement is being developed into an apartment. I am sure you know that Capitol Hill has a high crime rate for both autos and other personal property items. Security is very important.

We have been homeowners on Capitol Hill for 27 years, and this is our third home here. We have been significantly involved in Hill community organizations, including serving on the Board of the Capitol Hill Restoration Society, and are fully committed to the integrity of this historical neighborhood as residential and to the zoning process. We would not request a zoning variance that would in any way harm this integrity. In fact, we feel granting this variance would have the opposite effect. It would enhance the security of the property and that of adjacent properties. A number of our new neighbors have voiced their support for the project, as it puts high quality brick townhouses in place of an unattractive, one story warehouse-like building. These neighbors mostly have garages in the wide alley behind the house, and support a garage on this property.

We are sorry that we will be out of the country when the zoning hearing is held, but request that you read this letter into the record. We hope you will grant this small variance that conveys the large benefit of greater security.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,
Peter & Linda Gallagher

Peter and Linda Parke Gallagher
715 East Capitol St., SE
Washington, D.C. 20003

BZA
Case No. 16544
Exhibit No. 27

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16544
EXHIBIT NO.27