My name is Helene Harris. I live at 1443 Juniper Street, NW. I teach a Renaisaance art class at Howard University and I am a consultant for the Miss America Pageant contestants.

For 20 of the 30 years I have lived in Shepherd Park -- 11 feet from Tifereth Israel Synagogue --the relationship was good between the synagogue and my family.

I taught many children whose families were members of the synagogue in the early 1970's at Shepherd Elementary School, our neighborhood public school, and an excellent school, by the way.

In the early 1980's I was Assistant Director of the Language and Cultural Arts Center at Shepherd Elementary School. Many of these children attended classes at the center as students in foreign languages, art, music, design and style, piano, writing, poetry, gymnastics and gourmet cuisine taught by professionals, resident in Shepherd Park, such as Mrs. Hall who is here today.

However, over the last 10 years, since Tifereth Israel applied for a three year temporary Child Development Center which has lasted over seven years, problems arose! Many, many problems with the school and other rentals.

Rentals escalated! Non-entity rentals from square dancing to late, late night dance parties, till 2 or 3 in the morning with bottles and trash thrown on the street and in the alley found the next morning! Included in these rentals is a Sunday church group who occupy parking spaces all Sunday afternoons.

The neighborhood became alarmed and disturbed. There are no parking spaces, excessive and congested traffic, health hazards such as safety, trash, noise, very large delivery trucks and vans; fumes from idling trucks and cars, 15 hours a day, 7 days a week!!!

We said, "enough is enough"!!! We asked Tifereth Israel for meetings with staff. Only one meeting has occurred since 1993 with many promises! One meeting in 7 years!!!

Because another school, Jewish Primary Day School, is applying for Zoning -- we are finally invited to a meeting almost three months after the ZA application. So this means more disturbances in the neighborhood, more traffic, more noise, more trash, more trucks, buses, automobiles and vans, more, more, more. AND no parking spaces for senior residents and neighbors to have access to our homes.

Remember, 15 hours a day, 7 days a week of disturbances! We are NOT going to take it anymore. I ask you, "where is our R-1 zoning for peace and quiet"? Therefore, I oppose this application for all these reasons and more.

Exhibits: photos and sac
March 21, 2000

BZA
CASE No. 16556
EXHIBIT No. 312

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16556
EXHIBIT NO.312



Daily Occurence !!

- Vehicle blocking one-half small alley in rear of synagogue. Few on-site parking places — difficult to pass by safely!

BZA
CASE No. 6556
EXHIBIT No. 3/2

Friday, February 4, 2000

- Too few and too short parking spaces cause vehicles to extend one-fourth to one-half out on small alley (driveway!



Side One

Side Two



Frequent Occurence

- Entire alley blocked by delivery tractor trailer trucks; catering trucks; supply trucks; postal trucks etc.
- Blocked exits at building by cars and trucks!

- A mother, resident of Shepherd Park — in van, is blocked off by Sysco Caterers on her way to collect her young children from school at 3:00pm, Thursday, March 2, 2000!!!



- Parked vans and cars in too small and too short parking spaces cause passing truck to damage residential property such as walls and fences frequently.

Side One



Dangerous!

Sunday, February 6, 2000

- Illegally parked vehicles beyond stop sign and blocking fire hydrant at 16th and Juniper Streets, N.W. intersection in front of side entrance of synagogue! Frequent occurrence!

- Saturday, March 4, 2000 Blocking entire driveway (alley) between Juniper and Jonquil Sts, by unloading passengers, supplies, materials, etc. from parked automobile.



Side Two



Very Dangerous!!

- Lacking in safe playground spaces on-site, children play on busy sidewalks where balls go onto streets and driveways.

BZA
CASE No. 16556
EXHIBIT No. 3/2

- Wednesday, March 5, 2000. Speeding automobiles on 16th and Juniper Sts. while children play ball nearby. Children play on Disable Ramp in Wheeling cars that roll onto parked cars and alley!

