DERRICK A. HUMPHRIES
1428 Juniper Street, NW
Washington, DC 20012

February 29, 2000

'00 FEB 29 P5:12
OFFICE OF ZONING
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

District of Columbia
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street N. W.
Suite 220
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: BZA Application No. 16556
Application of Jewish Primary Day School for a special exception to establish a private school

Dear Members of the Board of Zoning Adjustment:

An application has been filed by Jewish Primary Day School of the Nation's Capital ("JPDS") for a special exception to establish a private school for 215 students and 32 teachers and staff in a residential neighborhood. JPDS proposes to locate its school at two synagogues on 16th Street, N.W. – Ohev Sholom at 7712 16th Street (zoned R-1-A) and Tifereth Israel at 7701 16th Street (zoned R-1-B). I, Derrick A. Humphries and my spouse, Jonca Humphries, are the owners of property located at 1428 Juniper Street, NW, in the District of Columbia, which is within 200 feet of the property (7701 16th Street, NW) involved in the application of JPDS. For the reasons set forth below, we strongly oppose the application of JPDS.

The proposed operation of a private school for 215 students and 32 teachers and staff at these locations will increase objectionable traffic and safety conditions in our residential neighborhood.

- Increased traffic and congestion can reasonably be expected from 215 students and 32 teachers and staff and others regularly traveling to and from the synagogues, which are both located at uncontrolled intersections on 16th Street.

- The traffic management plan proposed by JPDS would obstruct access to 16th Street from Jonquil and Juniper Streets and cause traffic congestion on Jonquil and Juniper Streets. Similarly, access to Jonquil and Juniper Streets from 16th Street would be obstructed.

- The plan for student loading and unloading operations would require vehicles to use the public alleys behind the synagogues and between Jonquil and Juniper Streets as one-way thoroughfares and drop-off/pickup sites, thereby blocking access of adjoining and nearby neighbors and property owners to the alleys and private garages

In addition, the proposed operation of a private school for 215 students and 32 teachers and staff at the two locations will increase parking problems for the adjoining and nearby neighbors and property owners.

- On-site parking space is extremely limited at both synagogues. Currently, there are lined spaces for 7 cars at Tifereth Israel [7701 16th Street, NW] (and currently cars utilizing these spaces partially block the alley) and 18 cars at Ohev Sholom [7712 16th Street, NW]. We have serious reservations about the plan to reconfigure the existing spaces so that JPDS would have the number of on-site parking spaces

BZA
Case No. 16556
Exhibit No. 75

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16556
EXHIBIT NO.75

required under 11 D.M.C.R Section 2101.1 - two spaces for each three teachers and other employees or 22 spaces.

- There is no space to create on-site parking spaces for parents, grandparents, guardians and others who will regularly visit the school. Parents and visitors can be expected to park on Jonquil and Juniper Streets, thereby adversely impacting adjoining and nearby property owners and neighbors.

Further, the operation of a private school for 215 students and 32 teachers immediately adjacent to residential property is certain to cause other objectionable conditions, including increased noise and litter.

The queues that are likely to result in the alleys adjoining streets would interfere with trash collection as well.

The planned reconfiguration of the parking spaces at both synagogues will impact their ability to dispose of and have collected the trash and garbage generated by 247 additional people each day, thereby increasing the risk of rodent infestation.

I respectfully request the right to appear and participate as a party at the hearing of this matter, which is scheduled for March 15, 2000. Please contact me at the following telephone numbers: (202) 347-7000 (daytime); (202) 347-2424 (evening).

Sincerely,

Derrick A. Humphries
Property Owner
1428 Juniper Street, NW
Washington, DC 20012