STATEMENT TO BZA ON GEORGETOWN CAMPUS PLAN

My name is Ed Levy. My wife Mary and I have lived on the 3500 block of T Street in Burleith for about 30 years. Our two children grew up there and attended and graduated from DC public schools before going off to college. One of them now teaches in the DC public schools. We've served in the PTAs at all of the schools our children attended, and my wife was president of the Wilson High PTA. I was on the board of the Jelleff Boys and Girls Club for about 10 years, served as its President for several years, and also was on the board of the Burleith Citizens Association for several years. Although others have done far more, I think that we've been active members of the community.

Since we bought our house 30 years ago, our block has changed from one where virtually all of the houses were owner-occupied to one that has a substantial number, maybe a majority, of rental properties. And the parts of Burleith closer to Georgetown University have far larger concentrations of rental properties.

I do think that for years Burleith as a whole has had many rental properties. And that will probably continue no matter what you decide on Georgetown University's Campus Plan.

But the decision you have to make is whether Burleith and other areas adjacent to the University will continue to have significant numbers of owner

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occupied households, who would probably continue to be the dominant influence in those communities, or whether these areas will become primarily occupied by renters and probably over time become in essence extensions of the University campus. Approval of the University's campus plan–with its small decrease in the number of undergraduates living off campus and very substantial increase in graduate enrollment-- is going to produce this result. Rejection of the campus plan, however, would result in continuation, and to some extent restoration, of Burleith as a community that has a mix of homeowners, renters, and, yes, student residents as well. It would continue to be a neighborhood that has a significant number of long-term residents who contribute not only to the stability of the community but to the entire city.

Personally, I urge you to reject the Campus Plan that the University has proposed. I like living in Burleith, I like the mix of people who are my neighbors, and the block I live on is very pleasant. I'd like that to continue. And I'd like the rest of the community to be able to experience the same pleasure that I do in living in Burleith.

Thank you for listening.