7D Advisory Neighborhood Commission
Government of the District of Columbia

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September 25, 2000

Jerrily R. Kress, FAIA
Director, Board of Zoning and Adjustments
441 4th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

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DeLano A. Foster

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Rita Jackson, Elect, SMD06
Delano A. Foster, SMD07

Dear Ms. Kress:

This letter refers to the Board of Zoning Adjustment's (BZA) notice of hearing in the matter of Trina Verone and Joan Sutton, (Ashley House, Inc.) - BZA Application No. 16609.

The location of the premise for which the zoning variance has been requested is located within Advisory Neighborhood Commission 7D; however, it is directly adjacent to many residents who live in ANC 7C. Therefore, a joint meeting of ANC 7D and 7C residents was held on September 13, 2000, at 4611 Nannie Helen Burroughs Avenue, NE to hear the community's concerns about the proposed use of the premises at 4645 Nannie Helen Burroughs Avenue, NE to establish an adult rehabilitation home for 60 residents for adult rehabilitation of substance abuse.

There were five ANC 7D commissioners present at the September 13, 2000 meeting. Four constitute a quorum.

Concerns expressed by the community include:

- The community is already overburdened with residential substance abuse treatment facilities, other types of residential facilities and halfway houses, and drug treatment centers.
  - Forty-two percent of the residential facilities are located in the NE section of Ward 7. Additionally, 64 percent of these facilities are located within a 4-block radius of the proposed facility.
  - Fifty percent of the residential substance abuse treatment facilities in Ward 7 are located within ANC 7D boundaries.
  - A 500-client drug treatment center operates 7 days a week four blocks from the proposed location of this newly proposed residential substance abuse facility.
- These types of facilities contribute to the decline in property value and make it impossible to obtain a fair market price. Homes of similar style and age located in adjacent communities sell for 20 to 30 percent more than the same home in this community.

BZA
Case No. 16609
Exhibit No. 25

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16609
EXHIBIT NO.25

- Facilities such as these do not foster economic development. In fact they have the opposite impact by undermining community revitalization and stabilization due to the transient nature of the clientele.

Having heard the concerns of the community regarding the use variance required by Ashley House, Inc. to establish an adult rehabilitation home for 60 residence at 4645 Nannie Helen Burroughs Avenue, NE. ANC 7D declared that the community had been duly notified about this matter and that the Commission would vote on the matter at its executive meeting to be held on September 16, 2000 - 10:30 AM , at 4640 Nannie Helen Burrughs Avenue, NE.

Four commissioners were present for the ANC 7D executive meeting held on September 16, 2000. Four commissioners constitute a quorum. Additionally, several members of the community also attended this meeting.

During the executive meeting of ANC 7D, all of the commissioners present, voted not to support the application to the BZA by Ashley House Inc. to establish a halfway house for any number of individuals at 4645 Nannie Helen Burroughs Avenue, NE.

The Chairperson, DeLano A. Foster, Secretary Michael Creasey, or Commissioner Diane McCain may represent this report on behalf of the Commission at the October 10, 2000 hearing on this matter.

Chairman: DeLano A. Foster, MSW Date: 09-25-00

DeLano A. Foster, MSW