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June 9, 2003

Mr. Geoffrey H. Griffis
Chairperson
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, N.W., Suite 210
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: BZA Appeal No. 16679

Dear Chairperson Griffis:

I am president of the Spring Valley-Wesley Heights Citizen's Association (SV-WHCA). SV-WHCA has a strong, long-standing interest in this case, as well as its predecessors, BZA Appeal No. 16405 and BZA Application No. 16521. Given the importance of this matter, SV-WHCA has once again gratefully accepted the *pro bono* counsel of Mr. Patrick Brown and his law firm.

Unfortunately, my schedule does not permit me to attend the hearing in this matter, but I would respectfully request the Board to enter this letter into the record. As a general matter, it is of paramount importance to SV-WHCA and its 1,500 members that the District of Columbia strictly enforce the Wesley Heights Overlay District (WHOD) and other applicable zoning restrictions. More specifically, SV-WHCA was greatly troubled by the five (5) separate building permits which were issued to Mr. Sisson (based on piecemeal, incomplete and misleading information and his propensity for performing without permits or beyond the scope of permits issued) and revoked by BZA Appeal No. 16405. In order to avoid responsibility and enforcement by the District, Mr. Sisson has unsuccessfully sought to obtain an after-the-fact remedial variance in BZA Application No. 16521 and simultaneously obtained an after-the-fact remedial building permit ("Remedial Permit") which is the subject of this Appeal.

SV-WHCA, in the strongest terms, respectfully requests the Board to enforce its Order in BZA Appeal No. 16405 and BZA Application No. 16521 and strictly to enforce the applicable WHOD/R-1-A Zoning Regulations to grant this appeal and revoke the after-the-fact Remedial Permit.

As will be more fully demonstrated by Mr. Brown at the hearing, the Remedial Permit was issued in error for at least the following reasons:

BZA
Case No. 16679
Exhibit No. 37

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 16679
EXHIBIT NO. 37

1. The Remedial Permit was specifically contingent upon Mr. Sisson removing the roof over the front porch, which violated the front yard and lot occupancy restrictions of the WHOD. Two and half years later, Mr. Sisson has stubbornly refused to remove the illegal roof over the front porch. Further, Mr. Sisson's request to the Board for a variance to allow the covered front porch to remain was unanimously denied in Application No. 16521 by Order dated December 13, 2001.
2. The Remedial Permit Application is unsigned by Mr. Sisson or an authorized agent and therefore is invalid on its face.
3. The Remedial Permit is inconsistent with the Board's Order in Appeal No. 16405.
4. The Remedial Permit is inconsistent with the Board's Order in Application No. 16521.
5. The Remedial Permit violates the non-conforming structure provisions of 11 DCMR § 2001 and therefore requires a variance, which was not obtained.
6. The Remedial Permit violates the front yard requirements of the WHOD.
7. The Remedial Permit violates the lot occupancy requirements of the WHOD.
8. The Remedial Permit violates the applicable R-1-A side yard requirements.
9. The Remedial Permit violates the applicable R-1-A off-street parking requirements and the garage is not permitted.
10. The Remedial Permit violates the applicable R-1-A private driveway access requirements and the garage is not permitted.

On behalf of the members of SV-WHCA, I am grateful for the Board's cooperation and patience in its long-standing effort to ensure the strict application of the WHOD/R-1-A zoning restrictions.

Sincerely,

/s/

William C. Harrop
President

cc: Mrs. Mildred R. Crary
Mr. Robert J. Stein
Mr. George Watson, Wesley Heights Historical Society