April 3, 2001

CONCERN COMMUNITY ACTIVIST NEIGHBOOD ASSOCIATIION [CCANA]
REFERENCE: APPLICATION NUMBER 16686

Mr. Jeffily R. Kress, FAIA
Director
Government of the District of Columbia
441 4th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20011

D.C. OFFICE OF ZONING
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Dear Mr. Kress,

We, the Concern Community Activist Neighborhood Association pride ourselves in maintaining healthy neighborhoods with emphasis on environment and maintaining our property.

Some of the projects that have been accomplished include 4-way-stop-signs added to the neighborhood, street repairs made and neighborhood watch. From the support and emphasis on neighborhood involvement, this was made possible.

The CCANA views on not supporting the granting of a rooming house application to Mr. Benjamin Medley are specified below:

- On or about December 1997, 5812 5th Street, NW, was occupied by about 12-15 people;
- A continuous incoming and outgoing of traffic took place;
- Outside and open consumption of alcohol;
- Loud music;
- Trespassing onto neighboring properties;
- Open trash of baby diapers and other offensive litter was left on the front, sides and back of adjoining properties;

BZA
Case No. 16686
Exhibit No. 20

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16686
EXHIBIT NO.20

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- Also baby sitting services was ongoing on the premises;
- Police have made visits to the above address;
- An occupant was inside of an abandon car parked in the backyard at 5812 5th Street, N.W, D.C.;
- Two (2) abandon cars are parked in the back yard;
- An occupant was seen crouched against neighbors trash can with hypodermic needle in hand;
- He was asked to leave and he replied that **"he was waiting for his family to get things from house at 5812 5th St. N.W.";**
- When these occupants left the premises at 5812 5th St., the animal rescue workers knocked on neighboring doors to inquire about a cat being left on the premises;
- The house was vacant and without utilities;
- There came a time again, on or about summer 1998, the property at 5812 5th St., N.W., D.C. came to be know as a "rooming house";
- Also during that time, occupants asked for assistance to call the police;
- The police made many visits in the presence of Mr. Medley;
- And still, at this time the premises may be occupied;
- A loud argument took place on Mr. Medley's front between him and some workmen over the workmen's refusal to perform botched up work;
- Subsequently the workmen left;
- Other confrontations have occurred between the occupants and Mr. Medley;
- Police was called to the 5812 5th St., N.W. address;
- There are reasons to believe that housing code and fire code violation records are on file for Mr. Medley's property;
- Exposed, long wiring, has been noticed on Mr. Medley's premises.

Mr. Medley has had the occasion to discuss with CCANA representatives the type of occupancies that he is allowing to live in his property.

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His response was "If recommendations" would be made for occupancy from neighbors. In responding,"fixing up his property so his reputation do not become attached to "slum landlords" and "slum tenants" will not be attracted to his property.

Our neighborhood already has two (2) "community-based residential homes". One is located at 433 Oglethorpe St. N.W., (the corner of 5800 block of 5th St. N.W.). The other one is located on 5th and Nicholson St., N.W. They are both within one block of each other. Is our community becoming plague with multi group homes and now a rooming house application?

In view of this information, the residences are long time property owners, tax payers, voters and maintains a good community standing. Our homes are semi-detached (within close proximity). Our neighborhood should not have to suffer or continue to experience the ill effects of deplorable living conditions, nuisance ordnance, crime, and rodent infestation. All the conditions as mentioned above are, surely, contributing toward this.

Also, attached is a letter mailed out in reference to Mr. Medley's rooming house intention. The letter head and contents raises disputes and the legitimacy is questionable.

The two houses on the right and left sides of Mr. Medley has recently been given some upgrades. Siding, doors and windows have been added. Mr. Medley's property is in between.

However, the property owner of 5812 5th St., N.W. has not contributed toward effecting CCANA goals and CCANA would not like to have an application granted to Mr. Medley for a rooming house.

"A MODEL CITY ATMOSPHERE IS CCANA ACHIEVEMENTS".

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Attachments: Letter - John A. Alexander, Jr.
Pictures- rear house (adjoining property)

Cc: Honorable Mayor Anthony Williams
Council Member Adrian A. Fenty, Ward 4

SIGNATURES

Willie J. Battle — 5803 - 5th St. N.W.
Rena D Battle — The Battle Family agree with all these statements

Beverly McDonough
Joseph S. Jamerson
Gloria S Jamerson
Thelma Green
Claudia Gibson
Jane E. Cooper
Wallace Wackyte
Aaron Cook

Deloris + Valerie Ford
Daniel Williams
Wilson

St. John United Baptist Church
6343 Thirteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20011-1116
Dr. John M. Alexander, Jr., Pastor

October 24, 2000

Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs
Zoning Division
941 North Capitol Street, N.E.
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Sir/Madam:

Reference: Benjamin Medley

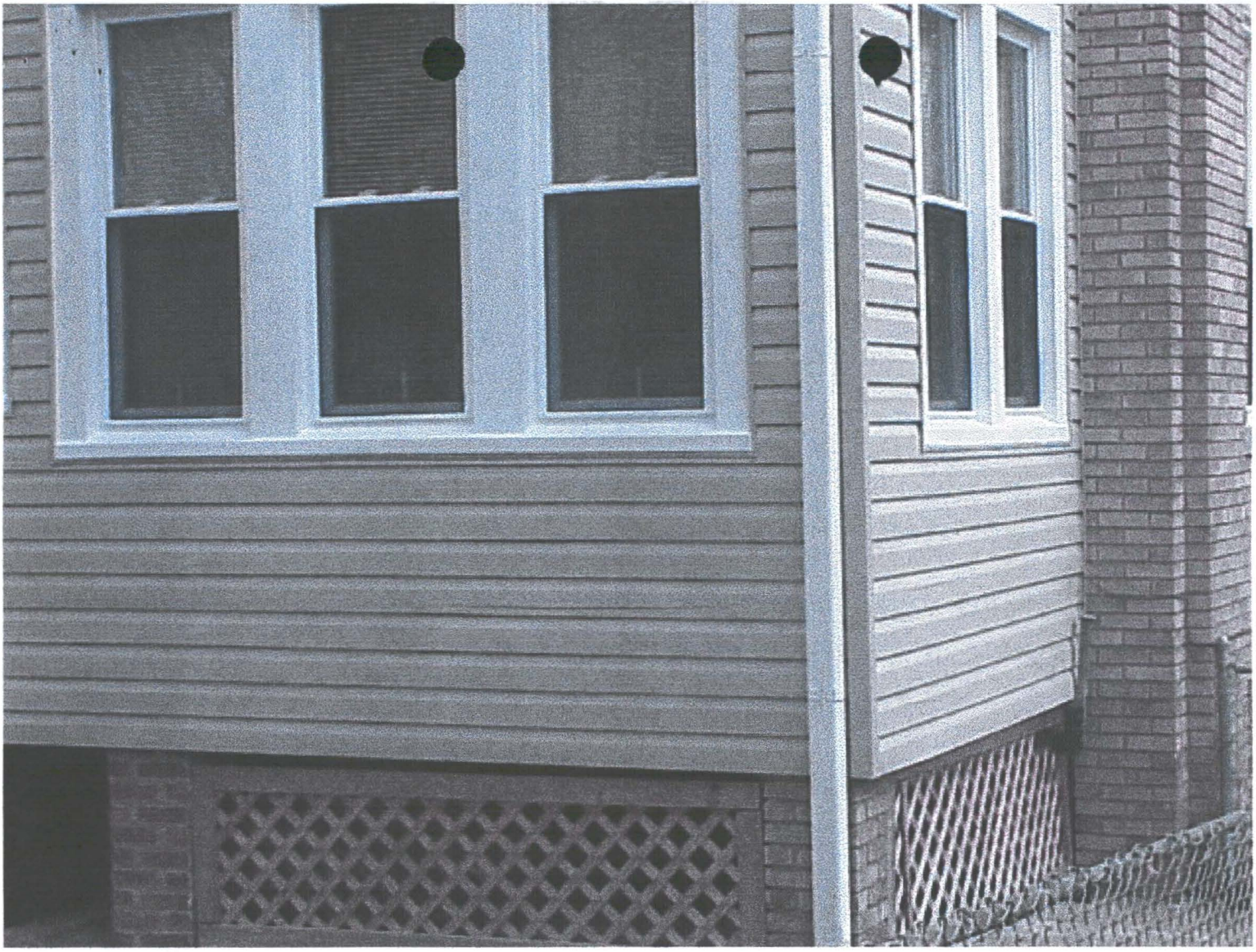
I, ***John M. Alexander, Jr.***, saw the property (inside/outside) located at ***5812 - 5th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20011*** and it is Mr. Medley's expressed intention to turn it into a rooming house which will be solely for middle age and senior citizen occupants. The kitchen, front and back yards are accessible to all roomers.

Sincerely,

John M. Alexander, Jr.



Rear of 5810 5th St. N.W. D.C.



Side of 5810 5th St. N.W. D.C.

April 2, 2001

TO: District of Columbia
Board of Zoning Adjustment

RE: Variance Request for APPLICATION NUMBER 16686
5812 5th Street, NW

Dear Board Members:

Please allow this to serve as our input, recommendation, and request for a DENIAL of the above referenced variance petition.

Statement of Facts:

Our address is 5809 5th Street, NW, only yards away from the above referenced property

We are interested parties by virtue of the fact that we are homeowners across the street and in the same block as the above property.

Our interest is significant by virtue of our having lived here for almost 30 years.

We have personally witnessed activity going on in and around the property in question, that is not in line with the customary, community standard that we and our neighbors have created for ourselves over the past decades, specifically:

- occasions of violent arguments causing the police to be called to intervene, audible from across the street
- loud, boustrous activity into the early morning hours, audible from across the street
- abandoned vehicles that present a crime heaven and danger to others
- neglected animal(s) inside the dwelling requiring the City's attention
- open windows and doors over long periods -- conditions that presented an obvious hazard for crime and danger to others

The above statements are *personally* known by us and are not hearsay. Although we do not know Mr. Medley personally, we know what exists as a problem to out block because of his negligence. We know that if he took time to notice, his property has not been in keeping with those that surround his. We know that if this variance is granted that he would unfairly gain from the hard work and upkeep of those of us who choose to maintain the good that we found here when we came -- and MOREOVER, improve on it as best we can.

We believe that everyone deserves decent, safe, sanitary, and affordable housing. Likewise, we believe that responsible homeowners maintain their surroundings. If several tenants were to occupy this single-family dwelling ownership standards and customs would decline even further. The kinds of things that went one with previous tenants, *without* a variance, make me shutter to think what would happen if one were granted! We respectfully request that you deny this request

for variance so that we can continue to work together as a community of homeowners and maintain the lifestyle for which we work.

Based on the above Statement of Facts (which we understand are but a few!), Mr. Medley has not demonstrated that he is interested in the standard of community living (*that the District's tax assessors agree*) of decent, single-family homes. There is not only no good reason to believe he will conduct his affairs any differently than he has in the past. In fact, he has conducted his affairs in such a way that make it quite clear why the variance should be denied. Please don't grant this request and let Mr. Medley come along and profit from what we work to maintain while he simultaneously destroys it.

Therefore, we again respectfully recommend that a DENIAL of Mr. Medley's request be issued and we fully support and agree with the Concern Community Activist Neighborhood Association.

Respectfully,

Calvin Ash Kadijat T. Ash

Mr. & Mrs. Calvin Ash

Cc: A. Fenty,
Ward 4 Councilman