Daniel Meijer
929 Gist Avenue
Silver Spring Maryland 20910

July 6, 2002

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

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D.C. OFFICE OF ZONING
2002 JUL -8 AM 9:04

RE: BZA Application No. 16878

Dear Chairman Griffis & Board Members,

For the record, please note that Ms Karen M. Wood, the applicant's architect, whose testimony and exhibits the Board relied upon to decide in favor of the applicant in the referenced case, is currently listed in the District of Columbia architect licensing office as on "Paid Inactive Status," expiring 4/30/05 (see attached statement from DCRA). Assuming Ms. Woods began her inactive status on April 30th, she appears to have been on inactive status when she testified on June 11th before the Board, when she re-measured the house, and when she prepared her Affidavit dated June 12, 2002. She represented, in that Affidavit, that she is a "duly licensed architect in the District of Columbia" (BZA exhibit 36).

District of Columbia law prohibits an architect from practicing her profession while she is on inactive status. Specifically, it provides: "[w]hile on inactive status, the person shall not… practice, attempt to practice, or offer to practice the occupation or profession in the District." (Section 47-2853.14 (b)).[1]

As you know, I questioned the conclusions Ms. Wood reached in her Affidavit. By ruling in the applicant's favor and claiming there was no opposition, the Board clearly failed to acknowledge the obvious problems I pointed out. However, the Board's conclusion is even more problematic with this new information. Since evidence by someone not currently authorized to practice architecture in the District of Columbia cannot be relied upon as expert testimony, the Board must recognize its legal obligation to consider my testimony and evidence as to the square footage of the property.

Sincerely,

Daniel Meijer

BZA
Case No. 16878
Exhibit No. 47

[1] Section 47-2853.61 defines the scope of practice for architects as: "rendering or offering to render services in connection with the design ... of a structure ...." "Services" include "planning and providing studies, designs, drawings, specifications, and other technical submissions …"

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16878
EXHIBIT NO.47

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

COPY

Business and Professional
Licensing Administration

June 27, 2002

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

A search of the authentic license records of the License & Certification Division Office in the District of Columbia revealed that :
KAREN M. WOOD is currently licensed as a an ARCHITECT in the District of Columbia. Issued license number 5211 on 12/17/1991

********S T A T U S ******N O T E *************
this license is currently on a PAID INACTIVE STATUS....
And will expire April 30 2005

THIS OFFICE SHOWS NO DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS TAKEN AGAINST THE LICENEE IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

George Beatty

Authorized Staff
Application Clerk