Board of Zoning Adjustment
Suite 220
441 4th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Application 16944

Dear Board of Zoning Adjustment:

As a native Washingtonian (I was born at the old GW Hospital) and a long time resident of Tenleytown, I wish to voice my vehement objection to the application by Georgetown Day School (GDS) to increase their presence and, in my opinion, disturbance to this neighborhood.

First, their admitted over ten year violations of their current agreement as well as numerous agreements that were never put into writing--just empty promises to a trusting neighborhood--should not be rewarded with an increased student & staff cap. Over the years we neighbors have voiced our complaints regarding parking, vandalism, littering, and such to successive GDS administrations to only find denials, stonewalling and disdain. Only till quite recently, actually just this semester, has GDS done barely anything to address the neighbors concerns. With this in mind, I ask for a 3 to 5 year moratorium in even considering GDS's application until they have shown some history of good faith.

Second, and perhaps most importantly, as a neighbor who is on the Board of Directors of the Northwest Youth Alliance (a volunteer outgrowth from the old NPC 2, 3 & 5), was a youth Bicentennial Board member a frequent participant of ANC meetings and the Friendship-Tenleytown Citizens Association (FTCA) and a graduate of Janney Elementary, Deal JHS and Wilson HS, I believe it would be the wrong message to send to our youth that the wholesale mockery of any agreement, especially to the BZA, should be rewarded with approval.

Third, after years of trying to get the ANC-3E to actually support the neighbors interests and not just of the interests of non-profit (e.g. non taxpaying) groups such as the American University and GDS doing business in the area I have come to believe that my time and effort have been an absolute waste. I no longer consider ANC-3E to be at all representative of my needs and many people in the neighborhood feel the same way. I will now join my neighbors in boycotting ANC meetings in the future--no matter how seemingly important they appear.

All I ask is that the Board refuse GDS's self serving application and hopefully fine them for the many years they've violated, by their own admission, their BZA agreements. And, as an old time resident, I hope such appropriate action will encourage people to stay instead of moving to the suburbs where they feel more respected and safe. Perhaps others will even be inclined to honor their agreements with the city, the Board and we neighbors. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mark Servatius
4830 43rd Street, NW
Washington, DC 20016
202-966-2333

Enclosure: My last e-mail to ANC 3E Commissioner, Tad DiBiase

BZA
Case No. 16944
Exhibit No. 39

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Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16944
EXHIBIT NO.39

From: MServa@juno.com
To: Thomas.DiBiase@USDOJ.gov
Cc: current@erols.com
Date: Fri, 22 Nov 2002 13:29:07 -0500
Subject: ANC-3E and Georgetown Day School, BZA Application 16944

ANC 3E Commissioner Tad DiBiase:

I must admit to you that I am still shocked that you could make an argument that GDS is not fully responsible for its admitted (over 10 year) violation of its BZA primarily because the Zoning Board did not enforce that agreement. And then, further, to state the city in general is poor at such matters. Isn't that one of the reasons for having ANC's in the first place--to hold the city more accountable and to give the citizens (not just non-profit corporations) some much needed representation?

I was especially surprised because of your position with the city. Simply, to this non-lawyer, your assertion seems equivalent to arguing that criminals are not responsible for their crimes because the police, the prosecutors and the courts are only able to enforce the minority of their misdeeds. I doubt your lawyer colleagues would let such an argument pass unchallenged as well.

Please be aware that neither I nor a number of my immediate neighbors now consider you and the ANC 3E at all representative of our needs and concerns. In fact, we question your motives in particular and the overall efficacy of such a non-representative commission entirely.

Disappointed in you and DC,
Mark Servatius
4830 43rd Street, NW
Washington, DC 20016
ANC 3E Resident

CC: NW Current and Board of Zoning Adjustment, Suite 220, 441 4th Street, NW Re: Application 16944