GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 5C
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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20013

TELEPHONE: 832-1965/1966
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16985

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FACSIMILE

TO: Sherri Pruitt, Secretary
Board of Zoning Adjustment

Chairperson Geoffrey Griffis
Board of Zoning Adjustment

DATE: 2/25/2003

FAX #: 202-727-6072

FROM: James D. Berry, Jr., Chairperson

NO. of PAGES: 3

FAX #: 202-387-8520

SUBJECT: Application of Bennett Beauty Institute, pursuant to 11 DCMR 3103.2, for a variance from the use provisions to establish a trade school having 250 students and 24 teachers/staff under subsection 330.5, and a variance to allow 50 children in a child development center under subsection 330.5(d), and a variance from the off-street parking requirements under section 2102, in the R-4 District at premises 700 Monroe Street, N.E. (Square 3657, Lot 827).

This matter is to be considered by the BZA on the morning of March 4, 2003. Therefore, please hand-deliver to Chairman Griffis and/or Secretary Pruitt, upon arrival. Thanks!

JDB

BZA
Case No. 16985
Exhibit No. 32

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 16985
EXHIBIT NO. 32

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February 25, 2003

RECEIVED
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2003 FEB 25 PM 1:43

Chairperson Geoffrey Griffis
Government of the District of Columbia
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, N.W., Suite 220
Washington, D.C. 20001

Attention: Sherri Pruitt, Secretary

RE: **Application of Bennett Beauty Institute**, pursuant to 11 DCMR 3103.2, for a variance from the use provisions to establish a trade school having 250 students and 24 teachers/staff under subsection 330.5, and a variance to allow 50 children in a child development center under subsection 330.5(d), and a variance from the off-street parking requirements under section 2102, in the R-4 District at premises 700 Monroe Street, N.E. (Square 3657, Lot 827).

Dear Chairperson Griffis:

I write to let you know that Advisory Neighborhood Commission 5C (ANC 5C) was unable to consider the presentation of Bennett Beauty Institute (Institute), when the applicant was scheduled to appear at its regular monthly meeting on the evening of Tuesday, February 18, 2003. As you know, 2/18/2003 was the third day of the "Blizzard of 2003" that inundated the Washington Metropolitan Area. As a consequence, a decision was made to close the District of Columbia Government on that date due to severely inclement weather and we were forced to cancel the public meeting that we had scheduled for that early evening. Perhaps needless to say, the administrators of the Institute were ready and willing to make a presentation to the ANC 5C on this occasion; however and through no fault of their own, weather conditions on that night precluded this from happening.

Importantly, the next available opportunity for ANC 5C to consider the Institute's application is March 4, 2003 – the date of our next Monthly Forum. As you are aware, this is also the date of the applicant's return to the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) in connection with the above-reference matters; hence, this situation puts both the Institute and ANC 5C in a bit of a dilemma, as the Institute is interested in receiving a letter of support for their project from our Commission and it is ANC 5C's policy to offer comments on all BZA applications that are submitted for our consideration.

So that we will not bog down the wheels of progress with regard to the BZA's consideration of this application, we recommend and respectfully request that you hear the matter on Tuesday, March 4, 2003. Further, we recommend that you forego making an immediate decision on the issues in this case and that you leave the record open for a period of time in order to receive comments from ANC 5C. It is our plan to consider the Institute's application at our next Monthly Forum, on the evening of March 4, 2003. Indeed, I will include the matter on the agenda of items to be heard and resolved on that night. Assuming we don't have another natural disaster which causes us to cancel the meeting, I should be in a position to communicate our views on the application to you, within seven days of the meeting.

I hope that you find the above-proposal a reasonable and a fair alternative in this case. Indeed, it is a means by which the BZA can proceed with its hearing of the applicant's case on March 4, 2003, and also ANC 5C will have an opportunity to offer comments on the application that will receive the "great weight" to which they are entitled.

Thanking you in advance for your serious consideration of our proposal, I am,

Yours truly,

James D. Berry, Jr.

James D. Berry, Jr.
Chairperson

JDB