# REQUEST FOR

# " LETTER OF SUPPORT "

# FROM ANC-5C

# AND

# RESPONSE

# TO

# BENNETT BEAUTY INSTITUTE, INC.

RECEIVED
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2008 FEB 26 PM 12: 17

BZA
Case No. 16985
Exhibit No. 37

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 16985
EXHIBIT NO. 37

BENNETT BEAUTY INSTITUTE, INC., SCHOOL OF COSMETOLOGY,BARBER-STYLING AND MANICURING
RHODE ISLAND AVENUE PLAZA, 680 RHODE ISLAND AVENUE, N.E., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002
TELEPHONE (202) 526-1400 FAX (202) 526-1405

February 19, 2003

Re: SUPPORT FROM ANC 5C

Mr. James Berry, Jr.
Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 5C
680 Rhode Island Avenue, N.E., Suite H-4
Washington, D.C. 20002

Dear Mr. Berry:

The purpose of this letter is to request a **letter of support** for Bennett Beauty Institute, Inc. (BBI) to relocate its Technical Training Institute from 680 Rhode Island Avenue, NE (Edgewood Community) to 700 Monroe Street, NE., Washington, D.C. 20002 (Brookland Community). BZA need to know that you support our Training Institute in your community. The letter of support is needed no later than February 24, 2003. We are scheduled for a hearing at the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) on March 4, 2003 and the letter must be in their possession 5 days prior to the hearing. If you would contact us at 202-232-3305 or 202-526-1400 when the letter is ready, we will pick it up and hand deliver it to BZA to make sure they receive it on time. You may also fax your letter of support to (202) 232-1950 or (202) 526-1405. As you know, we were scheduled to meet with you and your commission on February 18th, but because of inclement weather, the meeting was cancelled. However, we still need the letter for BZA.

BBI will use the facility at 700 Monroe Street, N.E. to expand its already existing Cosmetology and Barber-Styling Programs, and to add a Child Learning and Development Center, an Adult GED Program, a Cosmetology Training Program for the Hearing Impaired, a Culinary Arts Program, and a Heating, Refrigeration, and Air Conditioning Program. The addition of these new programs will greatly enhance training and job opportunities for the residents of the Edgewood and Brookland Community, and the District of Columbia. The 700 Monroe Street, N.E. facility provides the square footage necessary for BBI to operate all of the above mentioned programs.

For commission members who may not be familiar with Bennett Beauty Institute, Inc., a brief history is enclosed.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (202) 232-3305 anytime, day or night.

Sincerely,

Joyce Bennett

Joyce Bennett
President

**BENNETT BEAUTY INSTITUTE, INC. (BBI)**

## BRIEF HISTORY

- BBI is a family owned business, which was incorporated in the District of Columbia, August 29, 1996.

- BBI is a Postsecondary Education Institution whose charter is to teach General Cosmetology, Barber-Styling, Salon Management, the Instructor Course, and Manicuring.

- BBI is licensed by the District of Columbia Education Licensure Commission.

- BBI is a Non-Discriminatory Institution.

- BBI is accredited by the National Accrediting Commission of Cosmetology Arts and Sciences.

- BBI is currently located in the Rhode Island Avenue Shopping Center, on the second level, above CVS. The address is 680 Rhode Island Avenue, NE, Suites I-M, Washington, D.C. 20002.

- BBI has operated as a Postsecondary Education Institution for over six (6) years.

- BBI currently employ 15 employees. Employment at BBI will increase to 30 or more when we move into 700 Monroe Street, N.E.

- BBI's primary goal is to raise the standard of excellence in the Cosmetology and Barbering Industry by graduating highly competent and qualified cosmetologist, barbers, salon managers, instructors, and manicurists. Our philosophy is that when people pay for professional hair, skin, and nail services at a barber shop or salon, qualified barbers, cosmetologist, and manicurists should be present to perform the services.

- BBI's plan is to add a Cosmetology Training Program for the Hearing Impaired, a Culinary Arts Program, a Child Learning and Development Center, an Adult GED Training Program, and a Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Program as soon as adequate space is available.

- BBI's below salon priced hair, skin, and nail services allow people to receive services who otherwise could not afford them. Senior citizens receive even lower priced services.

- BBI has provided community services and received "Thank You" letters from the following agencies and organizations:

  Superior Court of the District of Columbia, Employment Resource and Information Center

LGR Examinations, Test Development and Examination Administration Services
Annual Ward 6 Health Fest, Capital Community Health Plan
Department of Recreation and Parks, Langdon Park Recreation Center, Government of the District of Columbia
Brookland Senior Day Care Center, Inc./ Senior Day
Sisterhood, Scholarship and Service, Washington DC Alumnae Charter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Member, The Edgewood Civic Association
YWCA of the U.S.A., Annual YWCA Race Against Racism Advisory Committee
Public Benefit Corporation, District of Columbia Health and Hospitals, 6th Annual Health Services Fair
1999 Career Fair, Rosa Parks Middle School
First Annual Family and Fun Day Festival, DC Advisory Neighborhood Commission 5C
So Others May Eat, Thea Bowman House
Waiting To Exhale event by The DC Collaborative for Women with HIV/AIDS and The Women's Collective
SOME CET, Industrial Advisory Board, Center for Employment Training
Office of the Secretary of Defense, Director, Management and Administration Division
Edgewood/Brookland Family Support Collaborative, Donation Record
Women Taking Care of Themselves, Women's Day 2000, Vermont Avenue Baptist Church
Provider Fair, District of Columbia Department of Human Services

- BBI has also received "letters of support" from the following:

  Edgewood/Brookland Family Support Collaborative
  George Basiliko dba Pizza Hut
  Greater Mount Calvary Holy Church
  Redstone Development Corporation
  Brookland Intergenerational Day Care Center
  Guildfield Baptist Church
  S Lowe School

- BBI **has not experienced** any criminal offenses on campus. Neither has the school experienced any hate crimes, liquor or drug law violations, or any illegal weapon possessions.

NOTE: Actual copies of "ThankYou" letters will be provided upon request.

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 5C
POST OFFICE BOX 77761
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20013

TELEPHONE: 832-1965/1966
www.anc5c.org

# 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

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**
**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 5C**
**POST OFFICE BOX 77761**
**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20013**

**TELEPHONE: 832-1965/1966**
**www.anc5c.org**

February 25, 2003

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