FOGGY BOTTOM
ASSOCIATION

c/o West End Library
24th and L Streets, NW
Washington, DC 20037



May 29, 2003

Mr. Geoffrey Griffis
Chair
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, N.W. – Suite 210-S
Washington, D.C. 20001

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Re: Application Number 17021

Dear Chairperson Griffis and Board Members:

The Foggy Bottom Association strongly opposes Estelle Goldman's request to expand the hours of operation of her retail grocery/deli (7-11) located at 912 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W. from 7 AM to 11 PM to 24 hours a day. The 7-11 in question is a nonconforming business located in a residential neighborhood. It abuts residential housing and exists in that location only because it was granted a special exception by the BZA to do so.

Our opposition to the application is based on the obvious negative effects that the expanded hours will have on our residential neighborhood. It is certainly most unlikely that the 7-11 will be frequented in the wee hours of the morning by residents of the community who must rest in order to go to work in the morning. However, it will be a destination for many George Washington University students as they wrap up an evening's activities. It also will be a destination for people who live outside of the community and drive to the 7-11 as is the case during the current hours of operation. This will create additional vehicular noise as cars come and go and stop and start all night long. We also believe that delivery trucks will come during the night for one reason or another even if there are instructions prohibiting deliveries at those hours.

The owner of the 7-11 wants to expand the hours so that she will get additional business and, therefore, additional profit. This means that numerous people will have to frequent the store to make it profitable and, whether they walk to the store or arrive by car, it is only common sense to realize that it is inevitable they will create noise and disturb the residents of the neighborhood.

The expanded hours requested will not be an amenity for the community; to the contrary, it will be a highly unacceptable imposition on the community. Therefore, we are asking that you reject the request for expanded hours under this application.

Sincerely,

Ronald Cocome
President

BZA
Case No. 17021
Exhibit No. 31

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17021
EXHIBIT NO. 31