Form 140
(Revised 03/15/02)

Case No. 17022

PARTY STATUS APPLICATION

Notice: See other side of party status form for instructions. CLICK HERE.

NAME: Last	First	Middle I.
Richard (and/or) Pearl	Richardson	W.

ADDRESS: Street	Apt. # (if any)	City	State	Zip Code
2940 Upton Street NW		Washington	DC	20008

Phone No.	Fax No.	E-Mail
202-966-7007	202-686-1122	richzdc@yahoo.com

I, hereby request to appear and participate as a party. Signature: [signature] Date: 6/17/03

Will you appear as a(n) ☐ Proponent ☑ Opponent Will you appear through legal counsel ☐ Yes ☑ No

If yes, please enter the name and address of such legal counsel.

NAME: Last	First	Middle I.

ADDRESS: Street	Ste. # (if any)	City	State	Zip Code

Phone No.	Fax No.	E-Mail

Please answer all of the following questions referencing why the above person should be granted party status. (If you require additional space, please attach an additional sheet.)

1). How will the property owned or occupied by such person, or in which the person has an interest be affected by the action requested of the Board?

See attached

2). What legal interest does the person have in the property? (i.e. owner, tenant, trustee, or mortgagee)

See attached

3). What is the distance between the person's property and the property that is the subject of the appeal or application before the Board? (Preferably no farther than 200ft.)

See attached

4). What are the environmental, economic or social impacts that are likely to affect the person and/or the person's property if the action requested of the Board is approved or denied?

See attached

5). Describe any other relevant matters that demonstrate how the person will likely be affected or aggrieved if the action requested of the Board is approved or denied.

See attached

6). Explain how the person's interest will be more significantly, distinctively, or uniquely affected in character or kind by the proposed zoning action than that of other persons in the general public.

See attached

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BZA
Case No. 17022
Exhibit No. 40

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17022
EXHIBIT NO. 40

PARTY STATUS APPLICATION
for
Richard W. Richardson

1. How will the property owned or occupied by such person, or in which the person has an interest be affected by the action requested by the Board?

The action requested of the Board will undermine the residential character of the surrounding neighborhood.

2. What legal interest does the person have in the property?

None.

3. What is the distance between the person's property and the property that is the subject of the appeal or application before the Board?

160feet.

4. What are the likely environmental, economic or social effects on the person and/or the person's property if the action requested of the Board is approved or denied?

The Board's approval of the application would undermine the residential character of the neighborhood, which already is overloaded with institutions:

- The Burke School is an on-the-street, in-your-face structure, which, when linked to the proposed addition, will look like an office complex. The plan shows a building that is more or less the same height as its neighbors–which on the surface makes it appear consistent with adjacent development. In fact, it is not. The amount of glass and the scale of the openings of the proposed buildings and the enclosed bridge over the public alley at the second-story level are visually intrusive and incongruous with the surrounding neighborhood.

- The school is more obtrusive than any other institution in the neighborhood, all of which–Howard Law School, the Levine School of Music, the Hillwood Museum, Intelsat–are on large campuses, with deep setbacks from the street and acres of green space.

- The drop-off lane at the alley entrance to the school will, in effect, create the appearance of a 3-lane alley–a strange site anywhere, much less in a residential area.

- At night, the school, like most office complexes, will likely be unoccupied and unlit. That, coupled with vast expanses of glass relative to adjacent buildings, will result in a large dark, dead space (or, if lit up, a glaring institutional space) along both Connecticut Avenue and Upton Street. A basic principle of urban design is that activity promotes security. By limiting residential activity, expansion of the Burke School will have a negative effect on neighborhood security.

- Traffic congestion will increase on Tilden Street, Upton Street, Van Ness Street, 29th Street, Connecticut Avenue, and in the public alleys between Tilden and Van Ness streets. The intersection of Upton Street and Connecticut Avenue, which already is heavily congested and dangerous, will become more so. Pedestrian and traffic safety hazards will increase. The parking available for residents on Tilden, Upton, and 29th streets will decrease. The traffic management, enforcement, and compliance plans in the current application are unworkable and will not solve those problems. The feasibility of the proposed parking ~~parking~~ garage is questionable.

- Objectionable behavior will increase. The proposed site is unforgiving–as is the current site. The school does not and will not have dining facilities or outdoor athletic facilities. Because the school lacks a campus, students hang out on the streets and in the alleyways, smoking cigarettes and pot, making out, and adding to the general noise level of the neighborhood.

5. Describe any other relevant matters that demonstrate how the person will likely be affected or aggrieved if the action requested of the Board is approved or denied.

Residential property values in the immediately surrounding neighborhood will decline relative to residential property values elsewhere in Forest Hills.

6. Explain how the person's interest will be more significantly, distinctively, or uniquely affected in character or kind by the proposed zoning action than that *of other persons in the general public.*

The expansion of the Burke School will adversely affect the quality of residential life for me and my neighbors. Burke has been a poor neighbor and a nuisance in the neighborhood since the mid-1980s, when it expanded following BZA approval in 1983. Burke has not complied with previous BZA orders–in fact, it is currently out of compliance; nor has it dealt in good faith with its neighbors. Burke's earlier expansion led to increased traffic congestion, reduced residential parking, and more litter and noise on Upton Street and elsewhere in the neighborhood. Further expansion will only add to those problems.