JO ANN B. HENDERSON ♦ 114 15TH Street, N.E. ♦ Washington, D.C. 20002 ♦

Government of the District of Columbia
Office of Zoning
441 4th Street, N.W. Suite 210
Washington, D.C. 20001

2002 NOV 25 AM 11:38
GOVT OF D.C. ZONING

Re: **APPLICATION NUMBER 17100**

Dear Mr. Kress:

I oppose the Application of Jesus Is The Way Church (JITW), pursuant to 11 DCMR § 3104.1, for a special exception for a change of nonforming use under subsection 2003.1, or in the alternative, pursuant to 11 DCMR § 3103.2. a variance from the use provisions to allow a coffee/-sandwich shop under subsection 330.5, in the R-4 District at premises 129-131 15th Street, N.E. (first floor only) (Square 1069, Lot 801).

My views are:

- A coffee/sandwich shop would only encourage more loitering and drug activity that is already taking place. They have to travel by car to get to the shop/church.
- The coffee/sandwich shop would be a store front for laundering illegal transactions during the day and late in the evening.
- The Reverend has displayed irresponsible and disturbing behavior by parking in front of my home all through the summer months working on his car and leaving trash on my property. His character is clearly unethical and very juvenile.
- The Church has employed convicts on the work release program for an illegal car wash, renovation improvements on the property, and do not have to attend the church. Increased loitering and drug related transactions. They are always begging for money to buy drugs (with swollen hands and feet) from drug use.
- Not once have I seen any church member pick up trash.
- The Reverend, church members and loiters are from other areas (non-residents) and have to travel by cars to get to the shop—blocking traffic to unload or load on a one-way street causing chaos and confusion creating hardships for neighborhood residents.
- The neighborhood residents (homeowners) should have priority of parking in front of their own homes (we pay costly prices for zone stickers) so that we can park in front of our homes, and yet I have had to park on several occasions across the street, or around the corner during the week because of JITW church members. We have no garages and everyone owns a car in neighborhood.
- The noise will increase more than it already has been all during the week and late into the night. I work for the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, which is very stressful and need all the rest that I can get.
- JITW Church members and affiliated drug users are coming into my yard trespassing on private property and using my personal equipment and trashcans without asking for my permission.
- Constant Yard sales on Saturday. There should be some law against having one every weekend.
- When I come home from work, I would like to park in front of my home and not have to pick up trash.
- One of the church members resides or is renting a room at a drug addicts house.
- The Reverend is a friend of a previous storefront owner that used to be at that location and is no longer there because of these same issues.

BZA
Case No. 17100
Exhibit No. 22

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17100
EXHIBIT NO. 22

Re: **APPLICATION NUMBER 17100**

- A Storefront church should be a meeting place for holding services of a highly emotional nature, not for stimulates such as coffee for drug users.

If the Board approves this case, I guaranty that I will be harassed more than I am now, and they will start parking in front of my house again—not doing it now because they want to be approved, the city will have more complaints, we will need more police protection because the drug and loitering activity will increase, more traffic accidents will occur and probably murders.

They are perpetrating a fraud by not giving back to the community or in any way helping towards developing the community with sandwiches and coffee. This Reverend holds no respect or admiration from me. This is clearly a selfish act, indicating self-gain and profit. We have a need for drug and teen counseling. Not encouraging drug users to be hustlers. People that have drug additions do not need to be around coffee and besides it is not helping or benefiting anyone besides themselves.

Sincerely,

Jo Ann B. Henderson