GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS

Building and Land Regulation Administration
Office of the Zoning Administrator

June 19, 2003

Sandra Douglas
55 Longfellow Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20011

Re: 129-131 15th Street, N.E.
Square: 1069 Lot(s): 801
(First Floor)
Zoned: R-4 Error! Reference source not found.

Dear Ms. Douglas:

Your certificate of occupancy application #55622 filed to use the subject premises as a "Coffee Shop" is disapproved due to the need for Board of Zoning Adjustment approval. The property for purposes of zoning is classified as R-4 which does not allow your proposed use. You may, however, request a variance from the use provisions (DCMR Title 11, Section 2003.1) of the R-4 Zone. The variance must be obtained through a public hearing before the Board of Zoning Adjustment.

The Board has authority to grant variances under provisions of DCMR Title 11, Section 3103.2 which reads as follows:

> "As set forth in D.C. Code, Section 5-424(g)(3), 'Where by reason of exceptional narrowness, shallowness or shape of a specific piece of property at the time of the original adoption of the regulations or by reason of exceptional topographical conditions or other extraordinary or exceptional situation or condition of a specific piece of property, the strict application of any regulation adopted under D.C. Code, Sections 5-413 to 5-432 would result in peculiar and exceptional practical difficulties to or exceptional and undue hardship upon the owner of the property, to authorize, upon an appeal relating to the property, a variance from the strict application so as to relieve the difficulties or hardship; Provided, that the relief can be granted without substantial detriment to the public good and without substantially impairing the intent, purpose and integrity of the zone plan as embodied in the Zoning Regulations and Map.'"

BZA
Case No. 17100
Exhibit No. 7

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17100
EXHIBIT NO. 7

This letter must be presented to the Office of the Board of Zoning Adjustment, Room 210, 441 4th Street, N.W., when requesting special approval. If your request is granted, a new certificate of occupancy application must be filed.

Sincerely,

Faye O.

Faye Ogunneye, Chief
Zoning Review Branch

fo/xm/ee