504 East Capitol Street
Washington, D.C. 20003
March 9, 2004

Mr. Geoffrey Griffis
Chairperson
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW, Room 210
Washington, D.C. 20001

RE: BZA Application No. 17143 of Marquette University
502 East Capitol Street, NE

Dear Mr. Griffis:

We are writing in support of the application of our neighbor, the Marquette University, The Les Aspin Center for Government (the "Center"), for a special exception to continue the operation of a private school at 502 East Capitol Street, NE.

We have lived in our home for nine years and, during this time, have come to know Father Timothy O'Brien, the Director of the Center. We are aware that the Center has been operating under a special exception for the last four (4) years and is now before the Board of Zoning Adjustment to renew that special exception.

During the Center's operation, there has been no disruption to the surrounding community. The Center operates on a limited basis, with students coming for classes only two (2) days a week, with the occasional additional meetings. Because classes are out before 5:00 PM and limited to the basement of the property, the Center's operations do not cause any objectionable noises. Furthermore, the limitation of the Center's classes to the basement allows the property, which is also used as Father O'Brien's residence, to maintain its residential appeal and quality.

With regard to traffic and parking, there is no negative impact on the neighborhood, as the students are not allowed to have cars and Father O'Brien has private parking for himself and his staff person.

Given the past record of Marquette University in the operation of the Center without disruption to the community, we support the application and strongly urge the Board to approve the special exception without limiting the time as to its approval.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this application.

Sincerely,

Christopher J. Vizas II

Rebecca A. Miller

BZA
Case No. 17143
Exhibit No. 28

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17143
EXHIBIT NO. 28