628 Randolph Street, NW
Washington, DC 20011

April 2, 2004

Office of Zoning
441 Fourth Street, NW
Suite 210
Washington, DC 20001

RECEIVED
D.C. OFFICE OF ZONING
2004 APR -7 PM 2:

Jerrily R. Kress,

Do not grant the variance requested in application 17150.

This letter is being submitted to request that the variance in the number of stories in application 17150 by the First Baptist Church, SW, Inc. **be declined.** Please **do not** let this organization build a structure that will architecturally pollute this old residential neighborhood.

My family has owned our home in this neighborhood for more than fifty years. I have seen the churches in this neighborhood changed, form what they were build as – neighborhood churches that families walked - to commuter churches. The parishioners by and large do not live in this immediate neighborhood so they are not concerned about how a four-story structure would impact the residents of this neighborhood nor the neighborhood's architectural feel and landscape.

Nor are the parishioners concerned about the added impact of additional traffic and parking congestion and noise that will be brought in by more parents drooping off children, picking up children, and other participation in activities in the new structure. More traffic and parking problems would be unbearable for the residents that call this neighborhood home.

In this area there are three churches all with in one block of each other –and my home. Not one of these churches has off street parking. Over the years I have seen parking go from being difficult on Sunday mornings to almost impossible until after 9:30 or 10:00 PM most weeknights,
and almost all of the weekend. If you allow the addition of a four-story structure that will host more activities, it will make an already unbearable parking and traffic situation worse.

I am required to purchase a zone four sticker to allow me to park in my own neighborhood. It doesn't do a bit of good; the parishioners and other visitors to the churches just ignore the zone four signs and park as long as they want. I was once told by a police officer that they don't issue parking tickets because it is in front of the church. My home is in front of a church and I would like to be able to park in front of my own home.

And I can't forget the noise pollution. From the honking horns because someone is blocked in their space by the many double parked cars, to the loud conversations of the parishioners leaving late at night to the teenagers that after having been in church need to come out and crank up their car radios to, well you get the picture.

I live in this neighborhood. I pay real estate taxes in this neighborhood. I call this neighborhood home. I am sure that not many of the First Baptist parishioners live on this street or in the immediate neighborhood that would be impacted by this structure. Please do not let my neighborhood, my home, my lifestyle be adversely impacted by allowing them to build a four-story structure that will loom over **my neighborhood** and **my home**. If you do, who knows what will be requested next? The regulations were put there for a reason; please let them stand as they are.
Please do not grant this variance.

BZA
Case No. 17150
Exhibit No. 25

Sincerely,

Chavis A. Williams

Ms Chavis A. Williams

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17150
EXHIBIT NO. 25

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT

★ ★ ★

FEB 2 3 2004

APPLICATION NUMBER 17150
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Zoning Adjustment will hold a public hearing in Suite 220, 441 4th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20001 on Tuesday, April 27, 2004. Your attention is invited to the following application:

> **Application of First Baptist Church, SW, Inc.**, pursuant to 11 DCMR § 3103.2, for a variance from the number of stories requirements under subsection 400.6, a variance from the lot occupancy requirements under ~~section 403, and a variance from the nonconforming structure provisions~~ under subsection 2001.3, to allow the construction of a four story addition (church offices and classrooms) to an existing church building in the R-4 District at premises 710 Randolph Street, N.W. (Square 3131, Lots 41 and 833).

At the public hearing, all interested persons will be given an opportunity to express their views. However, you may submit written views about this case. All written views should be sent to ~~the address below, and must be received by the Board~~ before ~~the~~ hearing on the case is concluded. Individuals and organizations wishing party status in any case before the Board must request that status in writing not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the date set for the public hearing on the particular application. The request for party status must contain all the information required by 11 DCMR 3106.2. Section 3106 is enclosed for your information.

This case is in Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4C. This case will be heard between 9:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

If you have any questions about this application, you may call the Office of Zoning on (202) 727-6311, ~~or come to 441 4th Street, N.W., Suite 210, Washington, D.C. 20001.~~

PLEASE USE THE APPLICATION NUMBER WHEN YOU WRITE OR CALL ABOUT THIS CASE.

Sincerely,

JERRILY R. KRESS, FAIA
Director

(SEE REVERSED SIDE)