May 18, 2005

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GOVERNMENT OF D.C.
ZONING COMMISSION

Geoffrey Griffs
Chairman, DC Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW
Suite 210
Washington, DC 20001

RE: BZA Application No. 17304

Dear Mr. Griffs:

This letter is to express my strong opposition to the WMATA application no 17304 that will allow the construction of the CSOSA building proposed to be built at 45th and Benning Road, NE.

I must first say that I live at 160 46 Street, NE and I am deeply troubled at the way the citizens who live in the 4500 and 4600 block of Benning and Central Ave have been treated with the proposed building of a program for ex-offenders. It is wrong for Metro and the District of Columbia to plan the building of this 5 story commercial building in a residential area without the input of the citizens. We have been treated in a very disrespectful manner and we have been deceived. **For any one to state that this project would benefit this community is a lie.**

How can this benefit the community when traffic will become worst, my property value will decline and former criminals will parade through the neighborhood? If Mr. Paul A. Quander, director of Court Services & Offender Supervision Agency (CSOSA) believes that this will benefit any community, then he should propose that the building be built in the Hillcrest area where he lives. Also, I am sure that Mr. Quander or Metro would have never considered placing this unwanted building in an area where non-African Americans live. For years the far northeast area of ward 7 has been put on the back burner and treated like 2nd class citizens. Remember we pay District taxes to.

I am a senior citizen in which I have lived in my home for over 34 years and the back of my house will face the building. You are well aware that crime is on the rampage, murder, assaults, home invasion, robberies etc. For a program to serve those that have been accused of committing crimes be placed almost in my backyard **is blatantly wrong**. I am sure that some of the ex-offenders the program will serve have been rehabilitated, but I am sure most have not. Why should I become a sitting duck or a prisoner in my home?

Finally, I believe that we who live on 46th street which will be directly in the path of trouble feel that we have been chosen as the sacrificial lamb. Therefore, I ask that the CSOSA building not be built in our community. If you would like to discuss any information provided I can be reached by phone on (202) 397-2340. Thank you.

Respectfully

Eunice L Summers

BZA
Case No. 17304
Exhibit No. 64

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17304
EXHIBIT NO. 64