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Committee on
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Board of Directors, Washington
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November 5, 2007

Board of Zoning Adjustment
One Judiciary Square, Suite 210-South
441 Fourth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Re: BZA Appeal No. 17675 of the Reed-Cooke Neighborhood Association
BZA Appeal No. 17677 of L. Napoleon Cooper

Dear Members of Board:

I write this letter in support of the Harris-Teeter grocery store chain, to open its *first* full-service grocery store in the District of Columbia in early 2008. The store, to be located in the Reed-Cooke area of Adams Morgan, would include the sale of beer and wine. The cited appeals are untimely and lack merit. I recommend they be dismissed or, if heard, be denied. On February 18, 2005, I was pleased to join the President of Harris-Teeter, Fred Morganthal, the owner of The Citadel, Douglas Jemal, and community representatives to celebrate Harris-Teeter's plans.

I believe that it is fair to conclude that both the Reed-Cooke Neighborhood Association ("RCNA") and others in the area had full knowledge of the plans and the nature of the use a long time ago. They could have reasonably objected on a timely basis when the issues could have been sorted out well before the plans were completed, the space was renovated and contracts for equipment were finalized. The RCNA and Mr. Cooper did nothing until May, 2007, when they filed appeals of a letter opinion of the Zoning Administrator confirming the accessory nature of wine and beer sales and indicating that accessory sales were not restricted by the applicable zoning provisions. Waiting as they did resulted in substantial outlays and obligations on the parts of both the owner and tenant.

As a community, we must find ways to welcome those businesses that provide services to our residents and offer them some assurance that approvals they receive from our government may be relied upon. Accordingly, I urge the Board, as noted above, to dismiss these appeals, or if heard, deny them.

Sincerely,

JG/jd

cc Fred Morganthal

BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT
District of Columbia

CASE NO. 17675

EXHIBIT NO. 22
Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17675
EXHIBIT NO. 22