Case #: 03-15

BENNETT BEAUTY INSTITUTE, INC.
RHODE ISLAND AVENUE PLAZA
680 RHODE ISLAND AVENUE, N.E.
SECOND FLOOR
WASHINGTON, D.C. 2001

TELEPHONE (202) 526-1400
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June 17, 2003

Government of the District of Columbia
Board of Zoning
Attention: Carol J. Mitten, Chairperson
441 -4th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

D.C. OFFICE OF ZONING
2003 JUN 25 PM 2:55

Re: Bennett Beauty Institute, Inc., Case Number 03-15.

Dear Chairperson Mitten:

The purpose of this letter is to respectfully request a **"BENCH DECISION"** at the conclusion of our hearing on June 26, 2003.

Our reason for making this request is because of our hardship, which is centered around the lack of proper zoning to operate our vocational school at 700 Monroe Street, N.E., Washington, D.C 20017. As you probably will recall, we initially applied for a "Use Variance" on November 17, 2002 through the District of Columbia, Board of Zoning Adjustment (Application Number 16985). We initially applied through BZA because we were told that the BZA process was much shorter than the Board of Zoning process. However, we had to withdraw that application from BZA and file for a Map Amendment instead.

Our contract date for making acquisition of the 700 Monroe Street property was March 2003. However, based on the requirement for the Map Amendment from R-4 to C-1, the bank will not allow us to close. This has not sat well with the owner and we are at risk of losing the building if closure does not occur within the next few days. Further, our landlord is expecting us to vacate his property no later than August 30, 2003. Our schedule is further complicated because our general contractor has informed us that he need three (3) months to perform the necessary renovation.

As you can see from the above, we are in desperate need of your decision. Therefore, we respectfully request a Bench Decision at the conclusion of our June 26, 2003 hearing.

Sincerely,

Joyce A. Bennett
President

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
Case 03-15
Exhibit 23

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.03-15
EXHIBIT NO.23