NEAR NORHTEAST CITIZENS AGANIST CRIME AND DRUGS
1134 7Th., Street, North East
Founder and President
Mrs. Loree H. Murray

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February 5, 2005

Case Number 04-22
ABDO Development LLC
Mr. Jim Abdo President /CEO
1404 14th Street, NW 2nd Floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Abdo:

As the Founder and President of the Near Northeast Citizens Against Crime and Drugs (NNCACD), a 501 (c) 3 not for profit civic organization, I am writing you to provide information that we believe you will find most useful as you undertake the re-development of the Capitol Children's Museum.

NNCACD, with official boundaries that include Florida Avenue, NE to the north, A Street, NE to the south, Bladensburg Road, N. E. to the east and North Capitol Street to the west – has been active in your development community for almost 20 years now. This April 7, 2005, we will celebrate twenty years. As our organization name indicates our primary mission is to fight back crime and drugs as we reclaim our neighborhood. This organization is among the first organized Orange Hats.

Although your project has been brought before us in meetings for support we understand that you have made commitments to monetarily support for the H Street Main Street as your development takes place.

We ask you to make a careful consideration of the results of organizations and their ability to make a difference for persons who will be purchasing the housing you are creating. We believe that as you weigh the strong force that NNCACD brings with homeowners who live in the same community your development will find that this organization is well deserves the minimally share in the proceeds of any monetary commitment you make to the community.

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District of Columbia
CASE NO.04-22
EXHIBIT NO.47

We believe that as additional residents come to the H., Street corridor they will find the strength and recognition of the fruits of our labor to be of the greatest importance. We have the respect of all aspects of the community, H Street Community Development Corporation, Students of the Gallaudet University, Federal and Local government and agencies, police force and the District US Attorney Office, other community development entities and other stakeholders in our community.

We welcome new members to our civic association with its official boundaries that include the Capitol Children's Museum and 301 L., sites. As you redevelop the Capitol Children's Museum site into Senate Square, the owners will be welcomed into NNCACD boundaries and we hope that they will help us strengthen the area and brings together the H Street corridor with the Florida Avenue corridor, that includes the newest METRO station that was named by the Near Northeast Citizens Against Crime and Drugs and whereas, the ANC Commissioner Daniel M. Pernell lobby it throughout the ANC 6C Commission and got it passed. other housing development that will immediately follow you.

The Near Northeast Citizens Against Crime and Drugs is in need of financial support to continue our work to make our neighborhoods a safer place to live and work especially with the vast expansion of homeowners who are attracted to our neighborhood. We hope you will give serious consideration to offering support to our needs.

Should you have any questions please contact Commissioner Daniel Pernell (202) 547-5175 or me. We look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Loree H Murray

Loree Murray
President and Founder

Hill Group Honors Loree Murray



NNEC Uses Anniversary to Laud its Founder

BY MARY FARRELL

On Thursday, April 1, Near Northeast Citizens Against Crime and Drugs (NNCACD), the neighborhood organization centered north and south of H Street NE, devoted its regular monthly meeting at the J. O. Wilson School to a celebration of the organization's 19th anniversary and its founder, Loree Murray. The 83-year-old matriarch underwent quadruple by-pass surgery in January, so the membership decided not to wait until their 20th anniversary to celebrate but to use the occasion to welcome Murray back to her duties as president and to thank her for her valor, steadfastness, and hard work on behalf of the community.

Murray formed the organization in 1985 to combat crime and drug dealing in her neighborhood, which was being "warehoused" by the city in anticipation of future redevelopment associated with the eastward expansion of the downtown area. Murray decided that she would no longer tolerate the criminal activity that was overwhelming the community. She founded Near Northeast Citizens and, with other women in her neighborhood, took to the streets to stand her ground against drug dealers.

In retaliation, the dealers arranged to have her house firebombed — twice, because the first attempt didn't do enough damage. One of the targets of Murray's activities was Rayful Edmonds, an enterprising, powerful and deadly drug kingpin. Through the efforts of Murray and others like her, Edmonds is today serving a life prison sentence.

Concurrent with the 19th anniversary of NNCACD, the long-anticipated office building construction has begun to jump the railroad tracks, a new subway stop is under construction on the edge of the Near Northeast/Capitol Hill North neighborhood, long-abandoned houses are being reclaimed by new neighbors, genuine redevelopment efforts are finally unfolding on the H Street commercial corridor, and crime is gradually abating. While some criminal activity persists in the neighborhood, particularly on squares being assembled for large-scale development and where owners are purposely letting buildings deteriorate, crime is certainly less prevalent than in years past.

Rather than rest on her laurels, Murray continues to work with police on crime issues and at the same time has broadened the concerns of Near Northeast Citizens to encompass other quality-of-life issues such as jobs, education, social services, historic preservation, and the arts. As a reflection of these broader concerns, the organization is referred to more frequently these days as simply Near Northeast Citizens (NNEC).

Financial support for the event was provided by the H Street Community Development Corporation, and the event was in large part organized by NNEC members Vanessa Ruffin and Commissioner Daniel Pernell (ANC6C04). Ruffin served as host for the evening and introduced the many public figures who had come to the celebration to honor Murray.

DC Congressional Representative Eleanor Holmes Norton was in legislative session the night of the celebration, but she sent staffer Aaron Ward to deliver prepared remarks about Murray's and Norton's efforts to hold the line on gun control.

At-Large Council Representative Harold Brazil came—with flowers and praise. Murray returned the favor by telling the large gathering that she has never asked anything of Mr. Brazil that he hasn't provided. She said that it was "indeed a blessing to have him in our community."

School Board Representative Tommy Wells (Wards 5 and 6) said that he had come to celebrate and honor Murray's work in the community. He commended her for making demands of the school system and urged others to follow her lead. He pointed out that the schools with the most concerned and involved communities are the ones that succeed.

Commander Thomas McGuire of the Metropolitan Police Department's First District said Murray is a wonderful person and commended her for the work she does to help the police combat crime in the Near Northeast and Capitol Hill North neighborhoods.

Cheryl B. Warley, principal of the