



**SINGLE MEMBER DISTRICT 5A11
SLOWE SCHOOL DEMOUNTABLE**

1322 Irving Street NE Washington, DC 20017

Phone: (202) 635-6563 • Fax: (202) 635-6565 • Email: anc5Adc@aol.com

To: Zoning Commission

From: Commissioner 5A11 - Janae Grant

Date: September 29, 2008

RE: 08-20 Text Amendment to Regulate Firearms Retail Sales Establishment

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

CASE NO. 08-20

EXHIBIT NO. 8

Dear: Chairperson Anthony Hood

Greetings to the Zoning Commission. As the Commissioner for SMD 5A11, we wanted to weigh in on the rapid yet significant changes that has erected itself from our badly mismanaged and misguided representatives that officiate in Capitol Hill. To accommodate their need for gun safety since they feel its such a must to protect themselves when they already have the Secret Service, Park Police, MPD and detailed escorts awaiting and protecting their every whim, we now have to alter our retail establishments so that they can readily purchase a firearm, although it is still a felony to walk outside with a gun. Therefore, to protect what little remaining rights and demands we have, SMD 5A11 agreed that we want to make sure that no firearms retail will operate in and or around any, inclusive and or mixed Residential Zoning that would include Commercial or any other Zoning districts that allow for Residential Uses, period. We don't take it lightly that while living in the District the choice is ours to make and that we choose to responsibly not live near such retail, nor should future residents have to be subjected to living near such unwanted retail. It is our hope that the Zoning Regulation through the Zoning Commission will uphold this request to protect neighborhoods inconspicuously from the unknown element that may arise without warning.

As much as possible we would prefer that the leniency allowed by tolerating the *within six hundred feet (600 ft.) parameter of a Residence or Special Purpose District, church, school, library or playground* be significantly extended out to 5,000 ft to prevent and reduce over concentration in small areas where any of these uses of zoning is of concern. It will also spread out these facilities that are not deemed favorable in growing communities.

Likewise, we hope that this will not be permissible in communities that have a long history of no firearms retail and that as the Office of Planning tries to adhere to the subjectivity of newer communities that this be a mandatory vote as their decision to condone such retail versus just allowing this type of retail to any type of non-contested or undeveloped zoning space.

Secondly, we are not in favor of housing multiple firearms retail stores in the district. It is bad enough that DC is tainted as being the murder capital and even though that bad statistic is overstated we don't need to add more fuel to the fire by supporting retail to keep that bad stigma going. Therefore we would hope that similar to the legislation of the limitation of establishments that permit nude dancing where there is only a set amount, we hope that only 3 firearms retail

5A11 Boundary - Rhode Island at South Dakota to Eastern Avenue, to Bludensburg Road & South Dakota (O), and up to the 22nd blocks of Lawrence, Monroe, Newton & Otis Street, NE

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stores be allowed to operate within the District. The number three is to promote fairness in knowing that if only 2 retail stores operated, price gauging would be susceptible, but with three there remains an element of consumer fairness and choice.

Furthermore similar to the language in Bill 17-0109/Act 17-0086 - One-Time Relocation of Licensees Displaced by the Ballpark and Skyland Development Project Act of 2007 that as the District continues to grow that we limit the right to transfer firearms retail licenses, in keeping with the three potential stores, if there be that many...

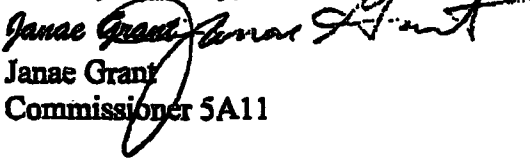
“(d) Notwithstanding any other provision, licensees relocating pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall not locate within 5,000 feet from each other.

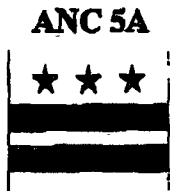
“(e) No portion of any establishment granted a license pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall be located within 5,000 feet of a church, school, library, playground, or the area under the jurisdiction of the Commission of Fine Arts pursuant to §§ 6-611.01-6-611.02.

“(f) All licensees shall consult the Advisory Neighborhood Commission in the area where the license is transferred pursuant to subsection (b) of this section regarding entering a voluntary agreement with the community.

In my SMD, we don't take this matter lightly and ask that you also hear our grave concerns and oblige our requests. In conclusion, we hope that as you permit and enforce this new firearms retail sales establishment that you will defer to the ANC, particularly the SMD Commissioner the great weight to operate and oversee the potential changes that may spark upon allowance of such firearm retail in ones neighborhood, or community at large. Please grant the SMD Commissioner the right to embark in having a voluntary agreement with the community knowing that the potential for more grievances outweighs the potential for more good in having these stores operate and sell firearms in the District.

Thank you kindly,


Janae Grant
Commissioner 5A11



ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 5A
SLOWE SCHOOL DEMOUNTABLE

1322 Irving Street NE Washington, DC 20017

Phone: (202) 635-6563 Fax: (202) 635-6565

Work: (301) 236-8473 Fax: (301) 236-8961

Email: 5A11@anc.dc.gov

Fax

To: *Sharon Schellin* **From:** Commissioner Janae Grant

Fax: *7276072* **Pages:** *3* w/cover

Phone: **Date:** *9-29-08*

Re: *Case 08-20 Regulate
Firearms Retail Sales Establishmen*

Urgent For Review Please Comment Please Reply Please Recycle

Comments:

Feel free to give me a call if you have any further questions.

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 5A

(5A-01) Sandi Washington

(5A-04) Cynthia Reid

(5A-07) Don Padou

(5A-10) Jhaz Phifer

(5A-02) Patricia Roberts

(5A-05) Necola Y. Shaw

(5A-08) Timothy Thomas

(5A-11) Janae Grant

(5A-03) Angel Alston

(5A-06) Mary M. Baird-Currie

(5A-09) Shirley Rivens Smith

(5A-12) Robert (Bob) King