

OUTLINES OF WITNESS TESTIMONY

**Z.C. CASE NO. 24-16
1401-1405 15th Street, NW (Square 210, Lot 827)**

**Representative of the Applicant
MR 1401 15th Street Retail LLC**

1. Introduction
2. Subject property and existing improvements
3. Surrounding area
4. Community engagement and support for application

**Brandice Elliott
Holland & Knight LLP
Expert Witness in Land Use Planning and Zoning**

1. Introduction to property and surrounding area
2. Existing and proposed zoning
3. Zoning Map amendment evaluation standards
4. Not inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan and other adopted plans and policies
5. Application of racial equity lens and Zoning Commission's racial equity tool
6. Conclusions and request for approval

Holland & Knight



Brandice N. Elliott

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING SERVICES

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PRACTICES

Land Use: Mid-Atlantic | Land Use and Government |
Real Estate Development

Brandice N. Elliott is the director of planning services in Holland & Knight's Washington, D.C., office and a member of the firm's Land Use and Government Team. Ms. Elliott works with the firm's nationally recognized development, land use and zoning attorneys to support clients as they acquire, plan and develop real estate projects.

Ms. Elliott has more than 15 years of experience providing detailed zoning, planning and design analysis to land use projects. She also has vast knowledge of land use, zoning, urban design and environmental regulatory compliance.

Prior to joining Holland & Knight, Ms. Elliott worked in the District of Columbia Office of Planning for 10 years, where she played a key role in the management of several development projects of varying size and complexity citywide. She worked with a broad coalition of development stakeholders and district agencies to negotiate planned unit developments (PUDs), map amendments, design review projects, text amendments, variances and special exceptions in order to provide recommendations aligned with district regulations, policies and priorities, and presented the analyses to the D.C. Zoning Commission and Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA). Ms. Elliott also assisted in long-range planning efforts, including the Comprehensive Plan update and other small-area plan initiatives.

Ms. Elliott's experience also includes serving as a planner and deputy zoning administrator for the Town of Herndon, Virginia, where she oversaw the development of several projects, contributed to comprehensive plan area studies and coordinated advisory committees. Prior to that, Ms. Elliott spent several years in Mesa, Arizona, where she served as a zoning plans examiner, planner and code compliance officer.

Credentials

Education

- Arizona State University, MUEP, Master of Urban and Environmental Planning
- Arizona State University, B.A., Psychology, *magna cum laude*

Memberships

- American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP)

BRANDICE N. ELLIOTT

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Brandice has extensive expertise in urban planning, land use, and zoning gained through over fifteen years of experience working in both public and private sectors. She is currently the Director of Planning Services at Holland & Knight LLP, Washington, DC office. Prior to that, Brandice was a Development Review Specialist with the D.C. Office of Planning (DCOP) for ten years. Her prior experience also includes serving as a Deputy Zoning Administrator, Zoning Plans Examiner, and Code Compliance Officer.

EXPERIENCE

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING SERVICES, HOLLAND & KNIGHT LLP

August 2022 - Present

- Prepares and manages developer applications for a variety of projects, including Planned Unit Developments (PUDs), zoning map amendments, zoning variances, and special exceptions.
- Assists clients with zoning entitlements and acquisition of building permits.
- Prepares testimony for zoning and land use planning to be provided to the D.C. Zoning Commission and Board of Zoning Adjustment.
- Advises clients on interpretation and application of development regulations and approval processes.
- Prepares detailed comprehensive plan, zoning, and land use analysis to advise client during property acquisition and entitlements.

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW SPECIALIST, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA OFFICE OF PLANNING

September 2012 - August 2022

- Prepared analyses of complex project proposals to determine conformance with the Comprehensive Plan, Small Area Plans, Zoning Regulations, and other District policies.
- Provided subject matter expertise of District policies, development goals, processes, procedures, and standards as they related to the Agency.
- Regularly provided testimony to the D.C. Zoning Commission and Board of Adjustment regarding Office of Planning recommendations.
- Collaborated with Applicants and District Agencies to refine projects and reduce conflicts in the proposed design.

Projects: Managed several PUDs of varying complexity in the Florida Avenue Market Development with the goal of securing significant benefits and amenities, particularly affordable housing; Managed development proposals in Southeast Federal Center, which generally consisted of design review and text amendments that brought the Zoning Regulations in conformance with the Master Plan; and Served as subject matter expert in development of the Chevy Chase Small Area Plan.

PLANNER AND DEPUTY ZONING ADMINISTRATOR, TOWN OF HERNDON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

November 2010 - September 2012

- Served as Planner and Deputy Zoning Administrator managing the Site Plan Review Process, ensuring that all requests complied with the Comprehensive Plan, Town Code, and Town policies.
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BRANDICE N. ELLIOTT

- Coordinated the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee, which provided input for the first Countywide Bicycle Transportation Plan, and presented regular updates at public information sessions and to the Town Council.
- Was the point of contact for matters concerning the Town Code and its consistency with federal Chesapeake Bay regulations.

Projects: Contributed to the first Fairfax County Bicycle Transportation Plan; Assisted with Comprehensive Plan Area Studies, including the Herndon Metrorail Study Area Plan and Downtown Herndon Area Plan.

PLANNER, TELERGY CONSULTING

September 2009 - November 2010

- Served as Planner obtaining entitlements for the development of telecommunication infrastructure.
- Coordinated public engagement, site research, city review processes, and city public hearing processes for approvals for the development of infrastructure.

CITY OF MESA, PLANNING DIVISION

PLANNER II AND CODE COMPLIANCE OFFICER (March 2010 - September 2010)

PLANNER I (December 2007 - January 2009)

ZONING PLANS EXAMINER (August 2005 - December 2007)

- Documented cases of zoning violation, provided notification to property owners, and provided assistance to correct the violation within a timely manner.
- Served as the Planner and primary contact for all requests requiring relief from the Zoning Regulations.
- Prepared analyses of project proposals to determine conformance with the Comprehensive Plan, Small Area Plans, Zoning Regulations, and other City policies.
- Provided subject matter expertise of City policies, development goals, processes, procedures, and standards as they related to the Agency.
- Regularly provided testimony to the Zoning Adjustment Hearing Officer and Board of Adjustment regarding Office of Planning recommendations.
- Collaborated with Applicants and City Agencies to refine projects and reduce conflicts in the proposal design.
- Coordinated permit reviews requiring zoning approvals and provided technical reviews of residential, commercial, and sign plans, verifying compliance with City Codes, Zoning Commission approvals, and Board of Zoning Adjustment approvals.

EDUCATION

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

MUEP, Master of Urban and Environmental Planning

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

B.A., Psychology

CERTIFICATION

American Institute of Certified Planners