Date 7-16-09

IN RE: PETITION FOR SPECIAL HEARING

S side of Embleton Road, 110 feet SW of Hammershire Road 4<sup>th</sup>, Election District

2<sup>nd</sup> Councilmanic District

(104 Embleton Road)

Herbert B. and Joan A. Gampel

Petitioners

BEFORE THE

\* DEPUTY ZONING

\* COMMISSIONER

FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

Case No. 2009-0237-SPH

#### ORDER ON MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION

This matter comes before this Deputy Zoning Commissioner for consideration of a Motion for Reconsideration filed by Peter Max Zimmerman, Esquire, People's Counsel for Baltimore County. The Motion for Reconsideration was filed pursuant to Rule 4(k) of Appendix G of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) wherein the Rules of Practice and Procedure before the Zoning Commissioner/Hearing Officer for Baltimore County are provided. Rule 4(k) permits a party to file a Motion for Reconsideration of an Order issued by the Zoning Commissioner. This Motion must be filed within 30 days of the date the Order was issued, and must state with specificity the grounds and reasons for their request.

In the instant matter, Petitioners requested Special Hearing relief in accordance with Section 500.7 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to permit two commercial vehicles to be parked on the owners' residentially occupied lot and to display advertising, in lieu of one commercial vehicle with advertising limited to driver's and front seat passenger's door, respectively, pursuant to Section 431.1.B of the B.C.Z.R. In an Order dated June 2, 2009, the undersigned granted the Special Hearing request, finding that Petitioners' parking of two commercial vehicles with advertising on a driveway located in the rear yard of the subject property since 1983 constitutes a nonconforming use pursuant to the definition of that term in

Section 101 of the B.C.Z.R. and the use provision of Section 104.1 of the B.C.Z.R. Moreover, because the undersigned found the parking of the two commercial vehicles with advertising to be nonconforming, I declined to place any particular limits or restrictions on that use, believing that the nature of a nonconforming use precluded my authority to do so.

Thereafter, Mr. Zimmerman's office submitted a letter dated June 29, 2009, to be treated as a Motion for Reconsideration. In his Motion, Mr. Zimmerman requests that approval of the nonconforming use be limited specifically to the personal use by Herbert and Joan Gampel so long as they reside at 104 Embleton Road, and that the use not continue with any successors, whether they be family descendants or other successors. In support of this request, Mr. Zimmerman explains that an argument can be made that the use of the property for parking Petitioners' vehicles prior to the enactment of Bill 70-1988 may not constitute a nonconforming use, especially where there was no prior zoning regulation that specifically permitted commercial trucks in residential zones. With that said, however, Mr. Zimmerman also indicates that he recognizes the equitable considerations that may favor at least a limited continuation of the use, but with some limitations. As such, he requests that I impose a limitation that allows Petitioner to continue his business as before, but does not allow him to pass it on to successors in this manner.

Subsequently, the undersigned received an email dated June 30, 2009 and a letter dated July 1, 2009 from Petitioners' attorney, Mr. Schmidt, responding to People's Counsel's Motion. In his response, Mr. Schmidt indicates that Petitioners' storage of trucks on his property as described in testimony is nonconforming, but is not a permitted "use" in the sense referenced by Mr. Zimmerman in the *Kowalski* and *Surina* cases. He explains that the regulation for which his client sought relief was not from a "use" regulation. Rather, he views the prohibition on the storage of trucks as actually akin to an area regulation. Mr. Schmidt gives an example of a

building with deficient setbacks that can be non-conforming and therefore not illegally located on a lot because it was constructed before the setback regulation applicable was enacted; in that same vein, Petitioners' trucks are non-conforming to the regulation that was adopted by the County Council and now appears as Section 431 of the B.C.Z.R. In short, Mr. Schmidt indicates that the storage of trucks is not a "use" within those "uses" permitted by right or special exception in the particular zone. Nonetheless, after conferring with Petitioners and in the interest of bringing this particular matter to an equitable resolution, Mr. Schmidt indicates that Petitioners are willing to consent to the imposition of a restriction limiting the duration and succession of the nonconforming relief previously granted by the undersigned.

In considering the Motion for Reconsideration, the undersigned reviewed the file and the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law dated June 2, 2009, as well as the respective positions of the parties outlined in People's Counsel's Motion and Petitioners' response. After reviewing these items, I agree that the equitable considerations of the case support granting the motion for reconsideration as agreed to by the parties. In doing so, I recognize People's Counsel's position that takes issue with the undersigned's findings with regard to the storage of the vehicles as legally nonconforming; I also recognize and acknowledge Mr. Schmidt's position that his and his clients' willingness to resolve the case in this manner does not waive his position that the undersigned cannot unilaterally impose conditions or restrictions on the granting of that which is determined to be nonconforming, especially where restrictions are already in place in the applicable regulation (See, Section 104.3 of the B.C.Z.R.). With all that said, I shall grant the Motion for Reconsideration.

WHEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED by the Deputy Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County this 16th day of July, 2009 that the aforementioned Motion for Reconsideration be

and is hereby GRANTED, and the Special Hearing relief previously granted in the abovecaptioned matter shall be modified and a second condition added to the Order as follows:

2. The relief granted herein is personal to Herbert and Joan Gampel for so long as they reside at 104 Embleton Road, and the approval shall not continue/pass to any successors in title, whether they be family descendants or others.

THOMAS H. BOSTWICK

Deputy Zoning Commissioner

for Baltimore County

THB:pz



JAMES T. SMITH, JR. County Executive

THOMAS H. BOSTWICK Deputy Zoning Commissioner

July 16, 2009

Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esquire Gildea & Schmidt, LLC 600 Washington Avenue, Ste. 200 Towson, MD 21204

RE: PETITION FOR SPECIAL HEARING - Motion for Reconsideration S side of Embleton Road, 110 feet SW of Hammershire Road 4<sup>th</sup> Election District - 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilmanic District (104 Embleton Road)

Herbert B. and Joan A. Gampel – Petitioners

Case No. 2009-0237-SPH

Dear Mr. Schmidt:

Enclosed please find the decision rendered in the above-captioned case.

In the event the decision rendered is unfavorable to any party, please be advised that any party may file an appeal within thirty (30) days from the date of the Order to the Department of Permits and Development Management. If you require additional information concerning filing an appeal, please feel free to contact our appeals clerk at 410-887-3391.

Very truly yours,

THOMAS H. BOSTWICK
Deputy Zoning Commissioner

for Baltimore County

THB:dlw Enclosure

c: Herbert B. and Joan A. Gampel, 104 Embleton Road, Owings Mills MD 21117 Linda Eve Percy, President, County Club Estates Community Association of Reisterstown, Inc., Box 32, Reisterstown MD 21136 People's Counsel; File



PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN

People's Counsel

## Baltimore County, Maryland

OFFICE OF PEOPLE'S COUNSEL

Jefferson Building 105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Room 204 Towson, Maryland 21204

> 410-887-2188 Fax: 410-823-4236

> > June 29, 2009

CAROLE S. DEMILIO
Deputy People's Counsel

RECEIVED

Hand-delivered

Thomas H. Bostwick, Deputy Zoning Commissioner The Jefferson Building 105 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 103 Towson, Maryland 21204 JUN 29 2009

ZONING COMMISSIONER

Re:

PETITION FOR SPECIAL HEARING

S/S of Embleton Road, 110' SW of Hammershire Road

(104 Embleton Road)

4<sup>th</sup> Election District; 2<sup>nd</sup> Council District Herbert and Joan Gampel- Petitioners

Case No.: 09-237-SPH

Dear Mr. Bostwick:

Please accept this letter as a Motion for Reconsideration under Rule 4K of the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and Order dated June 2, 2009 in the above-referenced case.

The purpose of this motion is to request that the approval of the nonconforming use for two commercial trucks be limited to the personal use by Herbert and Joan Gampel so long as they reside at 104 Embleton Road, and that the use not continue with any successors, whether they be family descendants or other successors. Preliminarily, I have spoken with Lawrence Schmidt, Esquire, attorney for Petitioners, and I believe there is a good chance petitioners will not oppose such a condition.

Let me explain the reasons for this request.

The June 2 opinion allows the tow trucks used in the family glass business to be a nonconforming use on the basis that the use existed prior to enactment of Bill 70, 1988, which added BCZR § 431, the zoning regulation which controls commercial vehicles on residential properties. This regulation, which remains in place, allows a resident one commercial vehicle if it does not exceed 10,000 pounds gross vehicle or combination weight and if it meets other specified requirements.

At first glance, one might imagine that vehicles in use prior to that date might be nonconforming. But that is not the case. Before enactment of Bill 70, 1988, there was no zoning regulation which permitted commercial trucks in residential zones. There was nothing in the D.R. zone regulations (BCZR § 1B01) and nothing in any special regulation which allowed such uses. Unless explicitly permitted, a use was and is prohibited. BCZR §102.1. See Kowalski v. Lamar 25 Md. App. 493 (1975); People's Counsel v. Surina 400 Md. 662 (2007).

Thomas H. Bostwick, Deputy Zoning Commissioner June 29, 2009 Page 2

According to a 1987 Planning Board report, there were many complaints concerning commercial vehicles parked on residential properties. The zoning office believed these were not permitted. However, in the absence of a specific regulation on the subject, the zoning office was having a hard time prevailing in enforcement cases with district judges. It is likely that district judges accustomed to the criminal law process were not attuned to the structure of zoning law and demanded more specific provisions. (Zoning enforcement in district court was always a difficult proposition. This led to the amendments which created the current hearing officer enforcement system.)

Although we believe the Gampel glass business trucks do not qualify as a nonconforming use, we recognize equitable considerations which favor at least a limited continuation of the use. According to testimony recited in the opinion, the Gampels have had the trucks at their residential property since 1983. The neighbors are content with Mr. Gampel's business. The local community association is willing to have the Gampel use continue, but does not want a precedent. Meanwhile, Mr. Gampel says he is winding down the business. While we hesitate to place a time limit for his retirement, we do believe it is appropriate to limit the use to his current business and personal use, and that it not apply or run to this successors and assigns, if any, or to subsequent owners or residents at the site.

We are cognizant of your observation in the opinion that, as a matter of law, nonconforming uses ordinarily run with the property and do not terminate based on a change in ownership or personnel. We agree with that as a general rule. However, in our view, the only justification for the continuation of the Gampel use is based on equitable considerations, and not strictly on the law. In that context, it does not conflict with the public interest to reach an equitable result which allows Mr. Gampel to continue his business until he retires, but does not allow him to pass it on to successors. This will further reinforce the point that this case should not be viewed as a legal precedent. Occasionally, in unusual situations, there have been such equitable resolutions of nonconforming use cases. This appears to us to be such an occasion.

Very truly yours,

Peter Max Zimmerman

People's Counsel for Baltimore County

Carole S. Demilio

Deputy People's Counsel

PMZ/CSD/rmw

cc: Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esquire George Harman Linda Percy IN RE: PETITION FOR SPECIAL HEARING

S side of Embleton Road, 110 feet SW of Hammershire Road

4<sup>th</sup> Election District

2<sup>nd</sup> Councilmanic District

(104 Embleton Road)

Herbert B. and Joan A. Gampel

Petitioners

BEFORE THE

DEPUTY ZONING

COMMISSIONER

FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

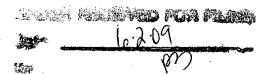
Case No. 2009-0237-SPH

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

This matter comes before this Deputy Zoning Commissioner for consideration of a Petition for Special Hearing filed by Herbert and Joan Gampel, the legal property owners. Special Hearing relief is requested in accordance with Section 500.7 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to permit two commercial vehicles to be parked on the owners' residentially occupied lot, and to display advertising and visible materials (glass)<sup>1</sup> in lieu of one commercial vehicle with adverting limited to driver's and front seat passenger's door and no visible materials, respectively, pursuant to Section 431.1.B of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.). The subject property and requested relief are more fully described on the site plan that was marked and accepted into evidence as Petitioners' Exhibit 1.

Appearing at the requisite public hearing in support of the requested special hearing relief were Petitioners Herbert and Joan Gampel, and Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esquire, attorney for Petitioners. Appearing on behalf of the Country Club Estates Community Association of Reisterstown, Inc. was Linda E. Percy of 1003 Kingsbury Road in Reisterstown. There were no other Protestants or interested persons in attendance at the hearing.

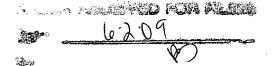
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> During the hearing, the testimony and evidence offered by Petitioners indicated that they do not desire to display visible materials such as glass on the commercial vehicles. Mr. Gampel explained that glass pieces are either stored inside the vehicles or picked up from suppliers on the way to a particular job. As such, midway through the hearing, Petitioner withdrew that aspect of the requested relief.



It should be noted that this matter is currently the subject of an active violation case (Case No. C0005443) in the Division of Code Inspections and Enforcement. A citation for code violation was issued in this matter due to Petitioners parking multiple commercial vehicles in a residential area. The fact that a code enforcement citation is issued is generally not relevant to the decision to be made in the underlying zoning case. This means that on the one hand, Petitioner cannot use the fact that a structure has been built or a use is ongoing in order to set a precedent in order to allow it to continue. Nor does the fact that a structure may be costly to remove or modify or that a discontinued use may impact Petitioner financially come into consideration of the zoning case. On the other hand, the fact that a structure may have been built or a use occurred which is contrary to the Regulations is also not held against Petitioner as some sort of additional punishment. Zoning enforcement is conducted by the Department of Permits and Development Management, which has the authority to impose fines and other penalties for violation of law. Such is not the purview of this office.

Turning now to the instant matter, the testimony and evidence offered revealed that the subject property is an irregular-shaped rectangle, in which it tapers outward to the rear, making the rear property line (~ 95 feet) substantially wider than the front property line (~ 65 feet) at Embleton Road. The property consists of approximately 13,366 square feet or 0.31 acre, more or less, zoned D.R.3.5. The property identified as Lot 25 is located on the south side of Embleton Road in the "Suburbia" subdivision in the Owings Mills area of Baltimore County, situated between Owings Mills Boulevard to the east and Reisterstown Road to the west and Gwynnbrook Avenue to the south. The property is improved with Petitioners' one-story single-family dwelling, with a 156 foot long by 18 feet wide macadam driveway running along the side of the property, almost the entire length of the eastern property line.

Petitioner has been in the glass business almost his entire life. His company is known as "Herb Gampel Glass" and specializes in furniture tops, patio doors, tub and shower doors,



mirrored closet doors, storm windows, and storefronts. The company began in approximately 1945 as a family glass business with his father and brother and operated on High Street in Baltimore City. Petitioners have lived at the subject property since 1977. In 1983, the business became more of a "one man" operation with Petitioner utilizing glass mechanics and helpers where needed, and two trucks. As a result, Petitioner moved out of the City and transferred his glass operation to his residence at the subject location. Specifically, Petitioner testified that since 1983, he has continuously parked two commercial vehicles on his driveway towards the rear of his property. The vehicles are pickup trucks that have been modified with areas for glass storage inside and on the exterior sides of the trucks. Generally, one truck would be used for the work for a particular day and the other truck would sit as a back up if necessary. Petitioner's wife handles the accounting and bookkeeping for the business from the home as well.

During a routine "sweep" of Baltimore County Code Inspectors, Petitioners were cited for the parking of commercial vehicles on their property; hence, Petitioners filed the instant special hearing relief. Petitioner explained that he is now 67 years old and is essentially "winding the business down" to some extent, dealing mostly with existing clients; however, he does wish to continue running his small operation and desires relief from Section 431.1 of the B.C.Z.R. in order to park his two commercial vehicles displaying advertising on his residentially occupied lot. After receiving the Correction Notice from the County Code Inspectors, Petitioner attended a meeting of his community association -- the Country Club Estates Community Association of Reisterstown, Inc. (the "community association"). The purpose of attending the meeting was for Petitioner to explain his business and what he had been doing over the years. Thereafter, Petitioner obtained a copy of a letter dated January 16, 2009 from Mark Hemler, President of the community association, to the County's Code Enforcement Bureau. The letter was marked and accepted into evidence as Petitioner's Exhibit 2 and indicates the association's position that the citation issued to Petitioner should not have occurred pursuant to the County

sweep. The letter ends by requesting a re-evaluation of the citation given to Petitioner and gives support to Petitioner's "situation."

Petitioner also submitted a letter of support for his two glass trucks parked at the rear end of his home. The letter was marked and accepted into evidence as Petitioner's Exhibit 3 and was signed in support of Petitioner's request by a number of nearby neighbors. Photographs of the vehicles were marked and accepted into evidence as Petitioner's Exhibits 4A through 4I. These photographs show the appearance of the trucks in Petitioner's driveway. In addition, Petitioner submitted a letter from Guy and Karen Pritzker of 102 Embleton Road, Petitioner's neighbors and next-door residents from which Petitioner's vehicles are most visible. This letter was marked and accepted into evidence as Petitioner's Exhibit 5 and indicates they have lived next door to Petitioners for the last 18 years. They also state that they have never been bothered by Petitioner's trucks and actually prefer the trucks to be parked there because of neighborhood security -- in that the trucks give the appearance that someone is always home at the subject location. They also point out that there have never been any complaints against Petitioner concerning his glass trucks.

Testifying in opposition to Petitioner's special hearing request was Linda Percy of 1003 Kingsbury Road in Reisterstown. Ms. Percy is the current President of the Country Club Estates Community Association of Reisterstown, Inc. The community consists of approximately 1,000 homes. Notwithstanding the letter previously authored by her predecessor Mr. Hemler, Ms. Percy generally opposed Petitioners' request and indicated that Petitioner's request to park two commercial vehicles with advertising on the subject property would set a bad precedent for others in the neighborhood to do the same and expect similar relief. Such a situation could compromise the property values and the residential appearance of the neighborhood.

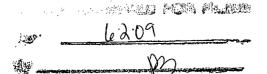
The Zoning Advisory Committee (ZAC) comments were received and are made part of the record of this case. Comments were received from the Office of Planning dated April 7, 2009 which indicates that the subject lot is one of several lots that abut on the rear yard of the Consolidated Gas and Electric Light and Power right-of-way and local open space. The property is within the boundaries of Country Club Estates Community Association and the Reisterstown Owings Mills Glyndon Community. The Office of Planning questions whether the owners are operating a glass business under the home occupation definition in Section 101.1 of the B.C.Z.R. If the business use itself is a zoning violation, then no commercial vehicles should be stored on site.

Near the conclusion of the hearing, based on the testimony adduced from Petitioner as to his continuous use of the property for parking of his two commercial vehicles since 1983, Petitioner's attorney, Mr. Schmidt reviewed his copy of Section 431.1 of the B.C.Z.R. and questioned whether his clients' use of the property for this length of time would constitute a nonconforming use as permitted by Sections 101 and 104.1 of the B.C.Z.R. This is because it appears that Section 431.1 of the B.C.Z.R. is not codified in the B.C.Z.R. until 1988. The undersigned then concluded the hearing but left the record open for Mr. Schmidt to investigate the legislative history of Section 431.1 of the B.C.Z.R.

On May 8, 2009, two days after the hearing, the undersigned received correspondence from Mr. Schmidt. While advocating that Petitioner's business constituted a "home occupation" under Section 101 of the B.C.Z.R. and also citing the abundance of neighbors that are supportive of Petitioners' request, Mr. Schmidt also pointed out that Section 431.1 of the B.C.Z.R. was enacted into law through Bill No. 70-1988 during the County Council's 1988 legislative session. A copy of the Bill accompanying Mr. Schmidt's letter indicates the regulation took effect on August 15, 1988. Mr. Schmidt also indicated that his review of the previous editions of the B.C.Z.R. indicates that there was no similar regulation in effect prior to Bill No. 70-1988. Moreover, the term "commercial vehicle" was not defined until Bill No. 70-1988. Based on the testimony introduced at the hearing and his investigation of Section 431.1 of the B.C.Z.R., Mr.

Schmidt argues that his clients' parking of two commercial vehicles with advertising is legally nonconforming and, therefore, should be permitted to continue without restrictions. Following Mr. Schmidt's letter and attachments, the undersigned received a letter dated May 14, 2009 from Ms. Percy on behalf of the community association. Ms. Percy indicated that the association has no objection to a finding that Petitioner's use of the property is nonconforming. Such a finding specific to this case would allow Mr. Gampel's use of the property to park his glass trucks to continue, without setting a precedent that would allow others in the community to do the same. The association did request, however, that a time restriction be put on the nonconforming use.

Considering of all the testimony and evidence presented, I find that Petitioners' parking of two commercial vehicles with advertising on a driveway located in the rear yard of the subject property since 1983 constitutes a nonconforming use pursuant to the definition of that term in Section 101 of the B.C.Z.R. and the use provision of Section 104.1 of the B.C.Z.R.; thus, I am persuaded to grant the special hearing relief to allow this use to continue. I am also impressed by the outpouring of support by Petitioners' neighbors, particularly their next-door neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Pritzker at 102 Embleton Road. As to the imposition of restrictions on the use, such as a time limit on such use, I do not believe I can order restrictions on the existing use that has been found to be nonconforming. While I agree with Ms. Percy on behalf of the community association that a time limit such as 5 years would give some comfort to residents that the continued parking of these vehicles would not go on in perpetuity, the Regulations do not permit me to alter or change or modify the use at this time. However, Petitioner must be mindful of Section 104.1 of the B.C.Z.R. which states that "... upon any change from such nonconforming use to any other use whatsoever, or any abandonment or discontinuance of such nonconforming use for a period of one year or more, the right to continue or resume such nonconforming use shall terminate."



Pursuant to the advertisement, posting of the property, and public hearing on this petition held, and after considering the testimony and evidence offered, I find that Petitioners' request for special hearing should be granted.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED by the Deputy Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County, this And day of June, 2009 that Petitioners' request for Special Hearing relief filed in accordance with Section 500.7 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to permit two commercial vehicles to be parked on the owners' residentially occupied lot, and to display advertising, in lieu of one commercial vehicle with adverting limited to driver's and front seat passenger's door and no visible materials, respectively, pursuant to Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) Section 431.1.B be and is hereby GRANTED as a nonconforming use, subject to the following:

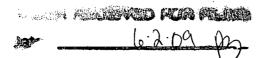
1. Petitioners may apply for permits and be granted same upon receipt of this Order; however, Petitioners are hereby made aware that proceeding at this time is at its own risk until such time as the 30-day appellate process from this Order has expired. If, for whatever reason, this Order is reversed, Petitioners would be required to return, and be responsible for returning, said property to its original condition.

Any appeal of this decision must be made within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order.

THOMAS H. BOSTWICK
Deputy Zoning Commissioner

for Baltimore County

THB:pz





JAMES T. SMITH, JR. County Executive

THOMAS H. BOSTWICK Deputy Zoning Commissioner

June 2, 2009

LAWRENCE E. SCHMIDT, ESQUIRE GILDEA & SCHMIDT, LLC 600 WASHINGTON AVENUE, SUITE 200 TOWSON, MD 21204

> Re: Petition for Special Hearing Case No. 2009-0237-SPH Property: 104 Embleton Road

Dear Mr. Schmidt:

Enclosed please find the decision rendered in the above-captioned case.

In the event the decision rendered is unfavorable to any party, please be advised that any party may file an appeal within thirty (30) days from the date of the Order to the Department of Permits and Development Management. If you require additional information concerning filing an appeal, please feel free to contact our appeals clerk at 410-887-3391.

Very truly yours,

THOMAS H. BOSTWICK Deputy Zoning Commissioner

for Baltimore County

THB:pz

Enclosure

c: Herbert B. and Joan A. Gampel, 104 Embleton Road, Owings Mills MD 21117 Linda Eve Percy, President, County Club Estates Community Association of Reisterstown, Inc., Box 32, Reisterstown MD 21136



REV 9/15/98

## **Petition for Special Hearing**

to the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County

for the property located at	104 Embleton Road		
which i	s presently zoned	D.R. 3.5	

OROP OFF

This Petition shall be filed with the Department of Permits and Development Management. The undersigned, legal owner(s) of the property situate in Baltimore County and which is described in the description and plat attached hereto and made a part hereof, hereby petition for a Special Hearing under Section 500.7 of the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County, to determine whether or not the Zoning Commissioner should approve

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED

Property is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by the zoning regulations.

STATE AND HOME PLANT

I, or we, agree to pay expenses of above Special Hearing, advertising, posting, etc. and further agree to and are to be bounded by the zoning regulations and restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the zoning law for Baltimore County. I/We do solemnly declare and affirm, under the penalties of perjury, that I/we are the legal owner(s) of the property which is the subject of this Petition. Contract Purchaser/Lessee: Legal Owner(s): Herb B Name - Type or Print Name - Type of P Signature Sigrįature Gampel Joan A Address Type or Print Telephone No. City State Zip Code 104 Embleton Road 410-356-6359 Attorney For Petitioner: Address Telephone No. Lawrence E. Schmidt Owings Mills MD 21117 Zip Code Name - Type or Print City State Representative to be Contacted: Signature Lawrence E. Schmidt, Gildea & Schmidt, LLC Gildea & Schmidt, LLC Name Company (410) 821-0070 600 Washington Avenue, Suite 200 (410) 821-0070 600 Washington Avenue, Suite 200 Telephone No. Address Telephone No. Address Towson MD 21204 Towson MD 21204 City State Zip Code State Zip Code OFFICE USE ONLY ESTIMATED LENGTH OF HEARING Case No. 2009 0237 SPH UNAVAILABLE FOR HEARING

### ATTACHMENT TO PETITION FOR SPECIAL HEARING

104 Embleton Road
4th Election District
2nd Councilmanic District

To permit two commercial vehicles to be parked on the owners residentially occupied lot and to display advertising and visible materials (glass) in lieu of one commercial vehicle with adverting limited to driver's and front-seat-passenger's door and no visible materials (respectively) pursuant to BCZR Section 431.1.B.

DROP OFF

### PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

104 Embleton Road 4th Election District 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilmanic District

Beginning at a point on the South side of Embleton Road, which is 35 feet in width at the distance of approximately 110 feet south west of the centerline of the nearest improved intersecting Hammershire Road.

Beginning for the same and being known and designated as Lot 25, Block F, as shown on a Plat entitled Section 5, Plat 2, Sheet 2, Suburbia, which Plat is recorded in the Land Records of Baltimore County in Plat Book O.T.G. 32 folio 10. The improvements thereon now known as 104 Embleton Road.

O237 DROP OFF

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#### NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING.

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County will hold a public hearing in Towson, Maryland on the property identified herein as follows:

#### Case: # 2009-0237-SPH

104 Embleton Road

S/s of Embleton Road, 110 feet s/w of Hammershire Road 4th Election District - 2nd Councilmanic District

Legal Owner(s): Herb & Joan Gambel

Special Hearing: to permit two commercial vehicles to be parked on the owners residentially occupied lot and to display advertising and visible materials (glass) in lieu of one commercial vehicle with advertising limited to driver's and front seat passengers door and no visible materials (respec-

Hearing: Wednesday, May 6, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 104, Jefferson Building, 105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Towson 21204.

WILLIAM J. WISEMAN, III

Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County

NOTES: (1) Hearings are Handicapped Accessible; for special accommodations Please Contact the Zoning Commissioner's Office at (410) 887-4386.

(2) For information concerning the File and/or Hearing, Contact the Zoning Review Office at (410) 887-3391.

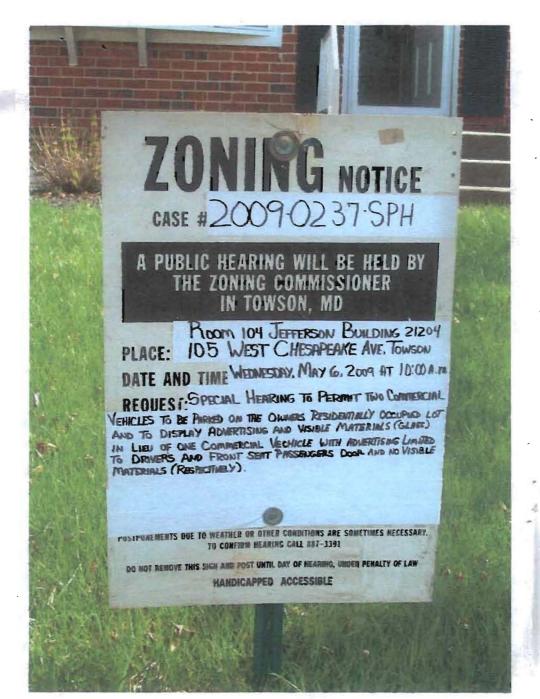
### **CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION**

4/23/,2009
THIS IS TO CERTIFY, that the annexed advertisement was published
in the following weekly newspaper published in Baltimore County, Md.,
once in each ofsuccessive weeks, the first publication appearing
on 421,20 <u>09</u> .
☐ The Jeffersonian ☐ Arbutus Times ☐ Catonsville Times ☐ Towson Times ☐ Owings Mills Times ☐ NE Booster/Reporter ☐ North County News

LEGAL ADVERTISING

## **CERTIFICATE OF POSTING**

	RE: 2009-025/-5FH
•	Petitioner/Developer:
	Herb & Joan Gampel
•	Date of Hearing/closing May 6, 2009
altimore County Department of	Date of Hearing closing May of 2007
ermits and Development Managemen	t
ounty Office Building, Room 111 11 West Chesapeake Avenue	
owson, Maryland 21204	
ttu . Walnin Mattheway	
ttn: Kristin Matthews:	
adies and Gentlemen:	
	ties of perjury that the necessary sign(s) required by law were
osted conspicuously on the property l	
04 Embelton Road, 110 feet s/w of Ha	mmersmre Roau
he sign(s) were posted on	April 21 2009
	(Month, Day, Year)
	Sincerely,
	De la Dana . non ann
	(Signature of Sign Poster) (Date)
,	(organization organization) (Date)
•	SSG Robert Black
	(Print Name)
	1500 Yanka Daad
	1508 Leslie Road
	(Address)
	Dundalk, Maryland 21222
	(City, State, Zip Code)
	(410) 282-7940
	(Telephone Number)





JAMES T. SMITH, JR. County Executive

April 8, 2009
TIMOTHY M. KOTROCO, Director
Department of Permits and

### NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING

Development Management

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a public hearing in Towson, Maryland on the property identified herein as follows:

CASE NUMBER: 2009-0237-SPH

104 Embleton Road

S/s of Embleton Road, 110 feet s/w of Hammershire Road

4<sup>th</sup> Election District – 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilmanic District

Legal Owners: Herb & Joan Gampel

<u>Special Hearing</u> to permit two commercial vehicles to be parked on the owners residentially occupied lot and to display advertising and visible materials (glass) in lieu of one commercial vehicle with adverting limited to driver's and front seat passengers door and no visible materials (respectively).

Hearing: Wednesday, May 6, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 104, Jefferson Building, 105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Towson 21204

Timothy Kotroco

Director

TK:klm

C: Lawrence Schmidt, 600 Washington Avenue, Ste. 200, Towson 21204 Mr. & Mrs. Gampel, 104 Embleton Road, Owings Mills 21117

- NOTES: (1) THE PETITIONER MUST HAVE THE ZONING NOTICE SIGN POSTED BY AN APPROVED POSTER ON THE PROPERTY BY TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2009.
  - (2) HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE; FOR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS PLEASE CALL THE ZONING COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 410-887-4386.
  - (3) FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FILE AND/OR HEARING, CONTACT THE ZONING REVIEW OFFICE AT 410-887-3391.

TO: PATUXENT PUBLISHING COMPANY Tuesday, April 21, 2009 Issue - Jeffersonian

Please forward billing to:
Lawrence Schmidt
600 Washington Avenue, Ste. 200
Towson, MD 21204

410-821-0070

#### NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a public hearing in Towson, Maryland on the property identified herein as follows:

**CASE NUMBER: 2009-0237-SPH** 

104 Embleton Road S/s of Embleton Road, 110 feet s/w of Hammershire Road 4<sup>th</sup> Election District – 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilmanic District Legal Owners: Herb & Joan Gampel

<u>Special Hearing</u> to permit two commercial vehicles to be parked on the owners residentially occupied lot and to display advertising and visible materials (glass) in lieu of one commercial vehicle with adverting limited to driver's and front seat passengers door and no visible materials (respectively).

Hearing: Wednesday, May 6, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 104, Jefferson Building,

95 West Chesapeake Avenue, Towson 21204

WILLIAM J. WISEMAN III
ZONING COMMISSIONER FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

NOTES: (1) HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE; FOR SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE ZONING COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 410-887-4386.

(2) FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FILE AND/OR HEARING, CONTACT THE ZONING REVIEW OFFICE AT 410-887-3391.

No LTR Fram pormy

# DEPARTMENT OF PERMITS AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT VIDE ? Code ZONING REVIEW

#### ADVERTISING REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR ZONING HEARINGS

The <u>Baltimore County Zoning Regulations</u> (BCZR) require that notice be given to the general public/neighboring property owners relative to property which is the subject of an upcoming zoning hearing. For those petitions which require a public hearing, this notice is accomplished by posting a sign on the property (responsibility of the petitioner) and placement of a notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the County, both at least fifteen (15) days before the hearing.

Zoning Review will ensure that the legal requirements for advertising are satisfied. However, the petitioner is responsible for the costs associated with these requirements. The newspaper will bill the person listed below for the advertising. This advertising is due upon receipt and should be remitted directly to the newspaper.

OPINIONS MAY NOT BE ISSUED UNTIL ALL ADVERTISING COSTS ARE PAID.

For Newspaper Advertising:
tem Number or Case Number: 2009 0237 5PH
Petitioner: Herb B. Gample + Joan H. Gample
Address or Location: 104 Embleton Road Owings Mills, MT
21117
PLEASE FORWARD ADVERTISING BILL TO:
Name: Gildea + Schmidt, LIC do Lawrence E. Schmitol
Address: 600 Washington Ave. Suite 200
TOWSON, MB 2120A
Telephone Number: 410821-0070

Revised 7/11/05 - SCJ

DROP OFF



JAMES T. SMITH, JR. County Executive

TIMOTHY M. KOTROCO, Director

Department of Permits and

Development Management

April 30, 2009

Lawrence Schmidt 600 Washington Ave. Ste. 200 Towson, MD 21204

Dear: Lawrence Schmidt

RE: Case Number 2009-0237-SPH, 104 Embleton Rd.

The above referenced petition was accepted for processing **ONLY** by the Bureau of Zoning Review, Department of Permits and Development Management (PDM) on March 13, 2009. This letter is not an approval, but only a **NOTIFICATION**.

The Zoning Advisory Committee (ZAC), which consists of representatives from several approval agencies, has reviewed the plans that were submitted with your petition. All comments submitted thus far from the members of the ZAC are attached. These comments are not intended to indicate the appropriateness of the zoning action requested, but to ensure that all parties (zoning commissioner, attorney, petitioner, etc.) are made aware of plans or problems with regard to the proposed improvements that may have a bearing on this case. All comments will be placed in the permanent case file.

If you need further information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the commenting agency.

Very truly yours,

u. Cal Ribal D

W. Carl Richards, Jr. Supervisor, Zoning Review

WCR:lnw

Enclosures

c: People's Counsel

Mr. & Mrs. Gampel; 104 Embleton Rd.; Owings Mills, MD 21117

#### **BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND**

#### INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO:

Timothy M. Kotroco, Director

Department of Permits & Development Management

**DATE:** March 25, 2009

FROM:

Dennis A. Kennedy, Supervisor

Bureau of Development Plans

Review

SUBJECT:

Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting

For March 30, 2009

Item Nos. 2009-0232, 0233, 0234, 0237, 0240, 0241, 0242, 0243, 0245, and 0246

The Bureau of Development Plans Review has reviewed the subjectzoning items, and we have no comments.

DAK:CEN:lrk

cc: File

ZAC-03302009 -NO COMMENTS



JAMES T. SMITH, JR. County Executive

JOHN J. HOHMAN, Chief Fire Department

County Office Building, Room 111 Mail Stop #1105 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204 March 26, 2009

ATTENTION: Zoning Review Planners

Distribution Meeting Of: March 23, 2009

Item Numbers 0234,0237,0240,0241,0242,0243,0245 and 0246

Pursuant to your request, the referenced plan(s) have been reviewed by this Bureau and the comments below are applicable and required to be corrected or incorporated into the final plans for the property.

1. The Fire Marshal's Office has no comments at this time.

Lieutenant Roland P Bosley Jr. Fire Marshal's Office 410-887-4881 (C)443-829-2946 MS-1102F

cc: File

#### BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

#### INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

**DATE:** April 7, 2009

RECEIVED

APR 1 3 2009

ZONING COMMISSIONER

TO:

Timothy M. Kotroco, Director

Department of Permits and

Development Management

FROM:

Arnold F. 'Pat' Keller, III

Director, Office of Planning

**SUBJECT:** 

104 Embleton Road

INFORMATION:

Item Number:

9-237

Petitioner:

Herb and Joan Gampel

Zoning:

**DR 3.5** 

**Requested Action:** 

Special. Hearing

The property in question is an average size lot, (lot 25 in Section 5 Plat 2 of Suburbia). The subject lot is one of several lots that abuts on the rear yard, the Consolidated Gas and Electric, Light and Power right of way and local open space. The property is within the boundaries of Country Club Estates Community Association and the Reisterstown Owings Mills Glyndon Community.

The petitioner requests a special hearing to permit two commercial vehicles to be parked on the owner's residentially occupied lot and to display advertising and visible materials (glass) in lieu of one commercial vehicle with advertising limited to driver's and front seat passenger's door and no visible materials (respectively) as per Section 431.1B of the BCZR.

On 12/15/08, during a zoning "sweep" of the neighborhood, the property was cited with a zoning violation for commercial vehicle storage. Vehicles parked on the street display HG Glass and the owner's home phone number.

#### **SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Office of Planning questions whether the owner is operating his glass business under the home occupation definition in Section 101.1 of the BCZR.

If the business use itself is a zoning violation, then no commercial vehicles should be stored on site.

For further information concerning the matters stated here in, please contact Diana Itter at 410-887-3480.

Prepared by:

**Division Chief:** 

AFK/LL: CM



Martin O'Malley, Governor Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor

John D. Porcari, Secretary Neil J. Pedersen, Administrator

Maryland Department of Transportation

Date: 3/23/2009

Ms. Kristen Matthews
Baltimore County Office of
Permits and Development Management
County Office Building, Room 109
Towson, Maryland 21204

RE: Baltimore County

Item No 2009 - 0237-5741

104 EMBLETON RD

HERBE JOAN GAMPEL PEOPERTY

SPECIAL HEARING

Dear Ms. Matthews:

Thank you for the opportunity to review your referral request on the subject of the above captioned. We have determined that the subject property does not access a State roadway and is not affected by any State Highway Administration projects. Therefore, based upon available information this office has no objection to Baltimore County Zoning Advisory Committee approval of Item No. 2005-0237-SPH.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Michael Bailey at 410-545-2803 or 1-800-876-4742 extension 5593. Also, you may E-mail him at (mbailey@sha.state.md.us).

Very truly yours,

FOR S

Steven D. Foster, Chiefl Engineering Access Permits

Division

SDF/MB



RE: PETITION FOR SPECIAL HEARING
104 Embleton Road; S/S Embleton Road,
110' SW of Hammershire Road
4th Election & 2nd Councilmanic Districts
Legal Owner(s): Herb & Joan Gampel
Petitioner(s)

- BEFORE THE
  - ZONING COMMISSIONER
- \* FOR
- \* BALTIMORE COUNTY
- \* 09-237-SPH

#### ENTRY OF APPEARANCE

Please enter the appearance of People's Counsel in the above-captioned matter. Notice should be sent of any hearing dates or other proceedings in this matter and the passage of any preliminary or final Order. All parties should copy People's Counsel on all correspondence sent and all documentation filed in the case.

Peter Max Zumerman

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN
People's Counsel for Baltimore County

Comb S Dembio

CAROLE S. DEMILIO

APR 0 6 2009

RECEIVED

Deputy People's Counsel Jefferson Building, Room 204 105 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-2188

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 6<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2009, a copy of the foregoing Entry of Appearance was mailed to Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esquire, Gildea & Schmidt LLC, 600 Washington Avenue, Suite 200, Towson, MD 21204, Attorney for Petitioner(s).

Peter Max Zummerman

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN
People's Counsel for Baltimore County

TB 5-6-09

#### **BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND**

#### **Inter-Office Correspondence**



RECEIVED

MAY 0 4 2009

ZONING COMMISSIONER

TO:

Timothy M. Kotroco

FROM:

Dave Lykens, DEPRM - Development Coordination

DATE:

May 4, 2009

SUBJECT:

Zoning Item

Item # 09-237-SPH

Address

104 Embelton Road

(Gampel Property)

Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting of March 23, 2009

X The Department of Environmental Protection and Resource Management has no comments on the above-referenced zoning item.

Reviewer:

**JWL** 

Date: 5/4/09

TO FILE CASE#

# POLICY PROCEDURES

2009 0237 SPH

The following zoning policy is related to the filing of zoning petitions and is aimed at expediting the petition filing process with this office:

- 1. The Director of the Office of Permits and Development Management (PDM) allows zoning attorneys who frequently file for zoning hearings and who are capable of filing petitions that comply with <u>all</u> technical aspects of the zoning regulations and petitions filing requirements can file their petitions with this office without the necessity of an appointment for review by zoning personnel.
- 2. Any attorney using this system should be fully aware that they are responsible for the accuracy and completeness of any such petition. In the event that the petition has not been filed correctly, there is the possibility that another hearing will be required or the zoning commissioner may deny the petition due to errors or incompleteness. All petitions filed in this manner will receive a cursory review and if necessary they will be commented on by zoning personnel prior to the hearing. A corrective memo by zoning review may be placed in the hearing file to be considered by the Hearing Officer.
- 3. When a petition has been dropped off by the attorney, it will only be reviewed for very basic necessary input, logging, and distribution information.

NO ATTORNEY LITE PROVIDED WITH PACK

TB



Baltimore County, Maryland

OFFICE OF PEOPLE'S COUNSEL

Jefferson Building 105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Room 204 Towson, Maryland 21204

> 410-887-2188 Fax: 410-823-4236

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN People's Counsel

CAROLE S. DEMILIO
Deputy People's Counsel

April 17, 2009

HAND DELIVERED William J. Wiseman, III, Zoning Commissioner The Jefferson Building 105 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 103 Towson, Maryland 21204

RECEIVED

APR 17 2009

ZONING COMMISSIONER

Re:

PETITION FOR SPECIAL HEARING

Herb and Joan Gampel - Legal Owners

105 Embleton Road Case No: 09-237-SPH

Dear Mr. Wiseman,

Petitioners request a special hearing for two commercial vehicles on a residential lot with advertising displays instead of one vehicle with limited advertising on the driver's or passenger's door. The petition is labeled as a special hearing, but its content really delineates it as a variance.

BCZR § 431 allows one commercial vehicle per residential lot, and only under the following conditions: that it weigh less than 10,000 pounds gross vehicle weight; that it be an owner/operator-occupied lot; and that it be parked in an enclosed structure, or in the alternative, have very limited lettering, figures, or design on the front door or passenger door, and be parked in the side or rear yard.

Our office has consistently opposed special hearing and variance petitions for commercial vehicles in residential zones. We view these virtually as use variances, in conflict with the core legislative intent, and detrimental to the character of residential neighborhoods.

There have been many County Board of Appeals cases over the years in which we have successfully defended against such requests, however described. Typically, these cases involve the use of just one commercial vehicle in conflict with the law. The presence case includes the heightened aggravation of two commercial vehicles.

It is virtually impossible to find a situation where there is any genuine argument that the uniqueness of the property results in practical difficulty, which justifies such a use. These cases involve personal preference and convenience to mix business with residential use. In such

William J. Wiseman, III, Zoning Commissioner April 17, 2009 Page 2

circumstances, the grant of one variance would inevitably be a justification for another and another, severely eroding the quality of residential life and at some point leading to an accumulation of traffic congestion and hazards.

Moreover, a petitioner cannot circumvent the law by calling it a special hearing. To illustrate, the County Board of Appeals so held in the enclosed February 23, 2005 decision in the case of <u>Gabriel & Melissa Croy</u> No. 4-470-SPH. A special hearing may not be used as a tactical vehicle to overturn the law.

Here, as the April 7, 2009 office of planning comment observes, this is an average size a suburban subdivision lot of average size in the Country Club Estates Community in Owings Mills. There is absolutely no justification for a special hearing or variance. While there is a transmission line running to the rear of many of the houses, there is nothing unique about that here or in other areas of the county. Moreover, the existence of a transmission line would not be an excuse to use commercial vehicles in a residential subdivision.

The OPZ comment raises the additional reasonable concern that the property owner is operating its commercial "HG Glass" business out of the home. The enclosed copies of photographs from the PDM enforcement file corroborate this concern. The photos show that the glass trucks are very large vehicles (the weight needs to be identified with specificity). They show significant advertising on the back for the "Herb Gampel Glass Co., Inc., 410 356-6359, Owings Mills, Md." The sides of the vehicle are barely visible in these photographs, so they do not show if there is other advertising on the sides or side doors. The OPZ comment reference to "HG Glass" advertising may refer to the sides of the trucks. There is no reason to park these vehicles at this location unless the business is being operated substantially out of the residence. A web search revealed the enclosed "ThomasNet" company profile for the Herb Gampel Glass Co. at the 104 Embleton Road residential address. Such a business, in our view, would clearly not be a home occupation. Even if the business has another location, there is no excuse to park these trucks at the residential lot.

The OPZ comment also indicates that the commercial vehicles are parked on the street. The PDM photos confirm this occurrence. This raises other concerns with respect to parking regulations discussed below.

We also asked Stephen E. Weber, Chief of Traffic Engineering, to review the petition and site plan in this case for any traffic/parking issues. As a result, he sent the enclosed e-mail dated April 15, 2009, along with two GIS photographs. As is our custom, we forward it for your consideration.

While Mr. Weber did not observe any traffic hazard issue from these vehicles at this time, his comment corroborates that the commercial vehicles detract from the residential character of the area, and that once an exception is allowed, it is hard to stop anyone from extending a personal business into the residential area.

The GIS photographs also confirm OPZ's observation that the lot is a typical suburban subdivision lot. They reflect the transmission line running to the rear of many of the adjacent homes, a common feature of the modern power system distribution system. These photographs show the two vehicles toward the rear of the property at the time taken.

As noted earlier, however, based on the OPZ comment and the PDM photographs, the trucks are sometimes parked on the street. This is not surprising. Once a commercial vehicle is allowed on a residential lot, it is likely that it will sometimes be on the street. This depends on the owner's convenience. The additional concern, as Mr. Weber also points out, is that county parking regulations prohibit parking of commercial trucks in front of homes.

The petition reflects that there is a pending violation, as also confirmed by the OPZ comment. As a result, we reviewed the enforcement file and obtained copies of the PDM photographs. While the existence of a violation citation is not a reason to deny a legitimate petition, the existence of a zoning petition should not be a reason to perpetuate a true zoning violation or provide an advantage. There does not appear to be any substantial legal justification for the present petition.

The hearing is currently scheduled for May 6, 2009.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Peter Max Zimmerman

People's Counsel for Baltimore County

Carole S. Demilio

Deputy People's Counsel

#### PMZ/rmw

cc:

Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esquire

Stephen E. Weber, Division of Traffic Engineering

Curtis Murray, Office of Planning

Timothy Kotroco, Director, PDM

George Harman, President of Reisterstown-Owings-Mills-Glyndon CC

IN THE MATTER OF
THE APPLICATION OF
GABRIEL & MELISSA CROY - PETITIONERS
FOR SPECIAL HEARING ON PROPERTY LOCATED
ON THE E/S SPARROWS POINT ROAD, 30' S OF C/L
McCOMAS AVE (2931 SPARROWS POINT ROAD)

15<sup>TH</sup> ELECTION DISTRICT 7<sup>TH</sup> COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT

- \* BEFORE THE
- \* COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS
- \* OF
- \* BALTIMORE COUNTY
- \* CASE NO. 04-470-SPH

#### **OPINION**

This case comes to the County Board of Appeals as an appeal filed by the Office of People's Counsel from a decision of the Deputy Zoning Commissioner issued on June 18 2004, granting the special hearing request in Case No. 04-470-SPHA to permit the parking of a vehicle in excess of 10,000 pounds of gross weight (tractor /trailer) on a residential lot.

The Petitioners, Gabriel and Melissa Croy, appeared *pro se*, and Peter M. Zimmerman, People's Counsel for Baltimore County, appeared on behalf of that office. The Board conducted a public hearing on February 8, 2005, and a public deliberation on February 8, 2005.

#### **Testimony**

The Petitioner, Gabriel Croy, was the only witness for the Petitioners. Mr. Croy introduced Petitioner's Exhibit #1, Site Plan, and Petitioner's Exhibit #2, 18 photos of the area. Mr. Croy testified that he worked for Atlas Van Lines. He stated that he owned a tractor and trailer and needed to park his equipment at his home because the Atlas parking lot was constantly being vandalized. He also stated that none of his neighbors had protested the use of the area for parking. Mr. Croy also indicated that much of the area is mixed use and many other individuals in the area park commercial vehicles in their yards. Mr. Croy testified that the combined weight of his vehicle and trailer is in excess of 80,000 lbs. Mr. Croy further indicated the time he was

Case No. 04-470-SPH /Gabriel & Melissa Croy - Petitioners

parking the vehicle was over night.

Mr. Zimmerman introduced People's Counsel Exhibit #1, § 431 of the *Baltimore County Zoning Regulations* (BCZR); People's Counsel Exhibit #2, A.D.C. Map; People's Counsel Exhibit #3, an aerial photo of the site and surrounding neighborhood; People's Counsel Exhibit #4, a zoning map of the area; People's Counsel Exhibit #5, Planning Board Comment dated May 25, 2004; and People's Counsel Exhibit #6, Department Of Assessments and Taxation owner information report.

The only witness called by People's Counsel was Mark Cunningham of the Baltimore County Office Of Planning. Mr. Cunningham indicated he had visited the site on two occasions and was concerned that granting the request would change the nature of the residential neighborhood and would lead to others doing the same. He also believed it would affect the property located next door.

#### Decision

Section 431 A of the BCZR provides:

A commercial vehicle exceeding 10,000 pounds gross weight or combination weight may not be parked on a residential lot for a period exceeding the time essential to the immediate use of the vehicle.

The Board finds that the Petitioners' request would violate § 431 A. The vehicle weight of 80,000 lbs would exceed the 10,000-lb. weight limit. The regulations do not allow any exception to this requirement.

Therefore, the Board will deny the special hearing request and will so order.

ORDER

THEREFORE, IT IS THIS 23rd day of Illrusty, 2005 by the

County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County

ORDERED that the Petitioner's special hearing request to approve the parking of a vehicle in excess of 10,000 pounds of gross weight (tractor/trailer) on a residential lot be and the same is hereby DENIED.

Any petition for judicial review from this decision must be made in accordance with Rule 7-201 through Rule 7-210 of the *Maryland Rules*.

COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

Lawrence S. Wescott, Panel Chair

Michael O. Ramsey

Margaret Brassil, Ph. D.

#### BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

#### INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

**DATE:** April 7, 2009

TO:

Timothy M. Kotroco, Director

Department of Permits and Development Management

FROM:

Arnold F. 'Pat' Keller, III

Director, Office of Planning

**SUBJECT:** 

104 Embleton Road

INFORMATION:

**Item Number:** 

9-237

Petitioner:

Herb and Joan Gampel

Zoning:

**DR 3.5** 

Requested Action:

**Special Hearing** 

The property in question is an average size lot, (lot 25 in Section 5 Plat 2 of Suburbia). The subject lot is one of several lots that abuts on the rear yard, the Consolidated Gas and Electric, Light and Power right of way and local open space. The property is within the boundaries of Country Club Estates Community Association and the Reisterstown Owings Mills Glyndon Community.

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#### **SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

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For further information concerning the matters stated here in, please contact Diana Itter at 410-887-3480.

Prepared by

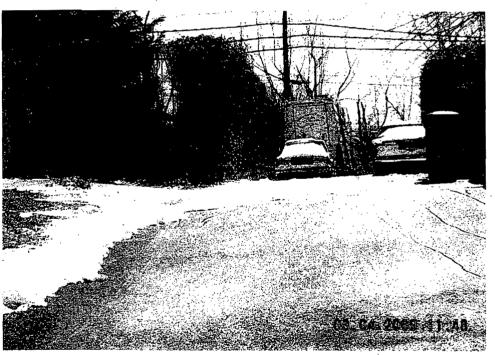
**Division Chief:** 

AFK/LL: CM



7A0122625

7AD17.2625





JAMES T. SMITH, JR. County Executive

TIMOTHY M. KOTROCO, Director

Department of Permits and

Development Management

March 9, 2009

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert B. Gampel 104 Embleton Road Owings Mills, Maryland 21117

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Gampel:

RE: Case No. 0054443 104 Embleton Road

Please be advised that a re-inspection of the above referenced property on March 4, 2009 revealed you are still in violation of the <u>Baltimore County Zoning Regulations</u>. As per the original Code Inspections and Enforcement Correction Notice (Correction Notice) issued to you, the commercial vehicle must be removed.

You must comply by March 27, 2009. Failure to comply will result in the issuance of a Citation wherein monetary fines of \$200.00 per day from the date of the original Correction Notice may be imposed.

This is your final notice. If there are any questions, please contact me at 410-887-3351 between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. or between 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Sincerely,

Layette Street

Code Inspections and Enforcement Officer

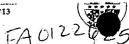
/LS





FA0122425 15

County Office Building, 111 West Chesapeake A. Towson, Maryland 21204



Electrical I Plumbing In. Signs/ Fences

410-887-3953 410-887-3960 410-887-3620 410-887-3896

	CODE INSPECTIONS AND ENFORCED	MENT CORRECTION NOTICE						
	54443 PROPERTY TAX ID 04020 (	68250 12110108						
1	Herbert B	. Gampel						
1	MAILING ADDRESS / D & Con la la trans . Rd.							
4	TITY ) (2) CA STATE IIIA	ZIP CODE 2/1/7						
	VIOLATION ADDRESS )							
	III STATE COM	bleton						
	BALTIMORE STATE MARYL	AND ZIP CODE Z1/17						
	DID UNLAWFULLY VIOLATE THE FOLLOW							
	SIDENTIAL ZONE CLASSIFICATION	NON-RESIDENTIAL CLASSIFICATION						
0	DRI							
0		((AA8)						
O		OTHER:						
	BALTIMORE COUNTY ZON	ING REGULATIONS (B.C.Z.R.)						
A¥ O	THORITY TO ENFORCE ZONING REGULATIONS: 32-3-1  101: 102.1: Definitions: general use							
0	1B01.1: DR Zones-use regulations	415A: License/ remove untagged recreation vehicle 415A: Improperty parked recreation vehicle						
D	428: License/ Remove all untagged/ inoperative or damaged/ disabled motor vehicle(s)	415A: One recreational vehicle per property 410: Illegal Class II trucking facility						
9	1B01.1D: Remove open dump/ junk yard	400: Illegal accessory structure placement.						
	431: Remove commercial vehicle(s) 101; 102.1: Remove contractors equip. storage yard	1B02.1; 270; 421.1: Illegal kennel. Limit 3 dogs 102.5: Residential site line violation /obstruction						
IJ	101; 102.1; ZCPM: Cease service garage activities	408B: Illegal rooming/ boarding house						
0	402: Illegal conversion of dwelling .  101; 102.1; ZCPM: Illegal home occupation	BCC: 32-3-102; 500.9 BCZR; ZCPM: Violation of commercial site plan and/or zoning order						
_		UNTY CODE (B.C.C)						
	13-7-112: Cease all nuisance activity	☐ 35-2-301: Obtain building/ fence/ sign permit						
D	13-7-115: County to abate nuisance & lien costs	☐ 18-2-601: Remove all obstruction(s) at street, alley, road						
0	13-7-310: Remove all trash & debris from property 13-7-312: Remove accumulations of debris, materials, etc	☐ 13-7-310(2): Remove bird seed / other food for rats ☐ 32-3-102: Violation of development plan/ site plan						
0	13-7-201(2): Cease stagnant pool water	☐ IBC 115; BCBC 115: Remove/ Repair unsafe						
0	12-3-106: Remove animal feces daily 35-5-208(a)(c): Seal exterior openings from rodents & pests	structure board and secure all openings to premise						
0	13-4-201(b)(d): Store garbage in containers w/tight lids	grass and weeds to three (3) inches in height						
	OWNER OCCUPIE	D HOUSING (B.C.C)						
О	35-5-302(a)(1): Unsanitary conditions.	☐ 35-5-302(a)(2): Store all garbage in trash cans						
0	35-5-302(a)(3): Cease infestation from prop. 35-5-302(b)(1)(2): Repair decorative trim, cornices, etc	☐ 35-5-302(b)(1): Repair exterior structure ☐ 35-5-302(b)(1)(3): Repair exterior extentions						
0	35-5-302(b)(1)(4): Repair chimney & similar extentions	35-5-302(b)(1)(5): Repair metal/wood surfaces						
	35-5-302(b)(1)(6): Repair defective door(s) / window(s)	☐ 35-5-302(b)(1)(7): Repair defective fence						
	INVESTMENT P	ROPERTY (B.C.C)						
0	35-2-404(a)(1)(i): Remove hazardous or unsafe condition 35-2-404(a)(1)(iii): Repair roof or horizontal members	35-2-404(a)(1)(ii): Repair ext. walls / vertical members						
0	35-2-404(a)(1)(v): Repair root or norizontal members 35-2-404(a)(1)(v): Repair ext. plaster or masonry	☐ 35-2-404(a)(1)(iv): Repair exterior chimney ☐ 35-2-404(a)(1)(vi) Waterproof walls/ roof /foundations						
0	35-2-404(a)(1)(vii): Repair exterior construction (see below) 35-2-404(a)(1)(3): Repair /remove defective exterior sign(s)	☐ 35-2-404(a)(1)(2): Remove trash, rubbish, & debris						
ب	33-3-40-(a)(1)(3). Repair //emore defective exterior aign(s)	building color of structure						
O'	THER VIOLATIONS OR REMARKS:							
		· ·						
		-						
	NOTICE POSTED AND MAILED	,						
	y - ,	per violation and to be placed as a lien uponyour tax bill.						
C	DMPLIANCE DATE: 0/1/01/09 INS	PECTOR NAME: L. SHEET						
-	1175	PRINT NAME (P. 976)						

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Herb Gampel Glass inc

Maryland

Home > Search Results: Glass > Company Profile









Gampel, Herb Glass Co., Inc.

Phone: 410-356-6359

▶ Tell your suppliers you found them on ThomasNet

Address:

104 Embleton Rd. Owings Mills, MD 21117 map

#### **Company Profile**

Manufacturer, Distributor, Rep., Glass Service

Sales:

Under \$1 Mil

**Employees:** 

1-9

**Activities:** 

Distributor,

Manufacturer, Manufacturers' Rep,

Service Company

Year Company Founded: 1983

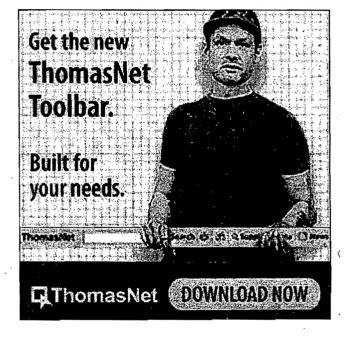
Ownership:

African American

#### Glass Information

Manufacturer, Distributor, Rep., Service

Send ThomasNet your feedback
If you have different information about this company or were unable to contact them let us know.



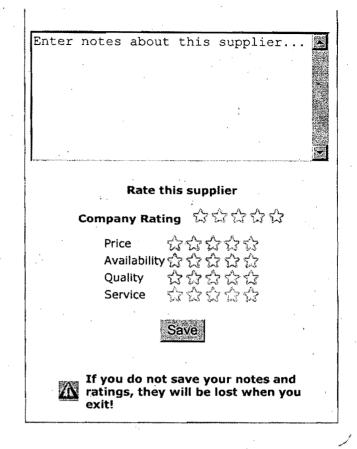
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Gampel, Herb Glass Co., Inc.

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From:

Stephen Weber

To:

People's Counsel

Date:

04/15/2009 11:21 AM

Subject:

Fwd: Case No. 09-237-SPH, #104 Embleton Rd

Attachments: 09-237-SPH Petition.pdf; 104Embleton-b.bmp; 104Embleton-a.bmp

#### Peter -

I don't really see these type of issues so much as a traffic issue as it is an aesthetics issue. As long as they're not bringing tractortrailers onto the property, it probably isn't really a traffic issue.

I certainly wouldn't want something like this in my neighborhood and the prohibition against commercial vehicles in residential neighborhoods is to help insure that they maintain their residential character. If you start making exceptions for one person, where do you really stop doing this, until eventually you have numerous people in a neighborhood basically using their private residential properties as extensions of their personal businesses. These trucks are likewise prohibited from parking on the County street in front of the homes as well.

I've attached 2 aerial photos of the property giving you some flavor of the surrounding homes. It is in a single-family home neighborhood. You can see in the photo what appears to already be the subject trucks parked at the very rear of the property on an extremely long driveway. The adjacent properties do have a high-voltage transmission line running behind the houses, so there would never be any close adjacent homes being built behind #104 Embleton Rd.

If there is anything further you need from us or if you wish to discuss the matter further, please give me a call.

Stephen E. Weber, Chief Div. of Traffic Engineering Baltimore County, Maryland 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Rm. 326 Towson, MD 21204 (410) 887-3554

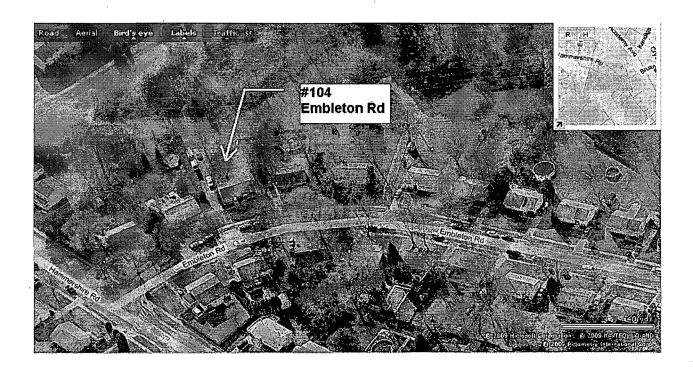
>>> People's Counsel 4/15/09 10:45 AM >>> Steve,

Enclosed please find the Petition for Special Hearing with regard to the above-mentioned case. Please review with respect to any traffic concerns.

Thank you for your consideration.

#### Peter Max Zimmerman

Rebecca M. Wheatley Legal Secretary Office of the People's Counsel for Baltimore County 410-887-2188 Phone 410-823-4236 Fax





10 An

#### Bill Wiseman - People's Counsel Letter to WJW Case 09-237-SPH

From:

Carl Richards

To:

Bostwick, Thomas; Kotroco, Timothy; Wiseman, Bill

Date:

04/22/09 3:58 PM

Subject:

People's Counsel Letter to WJW Case 09-237-SPH

#### Bill,

Pete's trite objection to form and use is worn out. I wish he would stick to the facts. He tries to broaden his objection and rejection unnecessarily. There is no guilt by application in this office as Pete has indicated. Petition applications are processed in this office in accordance with the BCZR. Also, he attached a BOA decision in case # 04-470SPH that presumably would justify his objection to form. Incredibly, the BOA assumed the role of inspector and not the court when they stated "the regulations do not allow any exception to this requirement" DUH! Eighty to ninety percent of the structured provisions in the BCZR do not allow exceptions, and that is one of the main reasons the BOA exists. Anybody remember the ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS?

OOOR we could allow exceptions for handicapped, minority, feminist, atheist, gay, dwarf veteran that was related to the governor. I would respectively remind Pete and the Board of all the proximity variances and special hearings that have been granted over the years. The "use" argument may be legitimate, however it has been successfully rejected many times by the BOA and Court. Once the "just the facts ma'am " are presented, the decisions will follow and hopefully equitable compliance will survive without objection to form.

#### Thomas Bostwick - RE: Case No. 09-237-SPH - Gampel Property

From: "Larry Schmidt" <|schmidt@gildeallc.com>

To: "'Thomas Bostwick'" <tbostwick@baltimorecountymd.gov>

**Date:** 6/30/2009 6:21 PM

Subject: RE: Case No. 09-237-SPH - Gampel Property

CC: "People's Counsel" <peoplescounsel@baltimorecountymd.gov>

Mr. Bostwick: I have received Mr. Zimmerman's letter. I will forward a written letter in reply for your file. Given the potential cost and delays associated with a potential appeal, Mr. and Mrs. Gampel are agreeable to a restriction that the relief granted is "personal to Herbert and Joan Gampel for so long as they reside at 104 Embleton Road and that the approval shall not continue/pass to any successors in title, whether they be family descendents or others." I will confirm this agreement via letter so that you have it for your file.

Strictly as an academic exercise, I note the following: I have reservations about whether the Zoning Commissioner can impose restrictions on the grant of something that has been determined to be non-conforming. There are already restrictions in the law (see e.g. Section 104.3) in terms of expansion, etc. and I do not believe that additional restrictions can be imposed. The item considered is either non-conforming as a matter of law or it isn't, I don't know how a restriction can be added; unlike the grant of a variance or special exception.

Moreover, Mr. Zimmerman's comment that Mr. Gampel's trucks are not a non-conforming "use" is indeed a correct statement, but not for the reason he states. The regulation from which we seek relief is not "use" regulation. The actual "use" on this property is as a "dwelling" and a "home occupation", as defined under BCZR 101. The prohibition on the storage of trucks is actually akin to an area regulation. Just as a building with deficient setbacks can be non-conforming and therefore not illegally located on a lot because it was constructed before the setback regulation applicable was enacted; my clients' trucks are non-conforming to the regulation that was adopted by County and now appears as BCZR 431. Thus, this is not a Kowalski or Surina case as Mr. Zimmerman suggests. The storage of trucks is not a "use" within those "uses" permitted by right or special exception in the zone. It is not a use at all.

In any event, I will not debate the point further. If the restriction noted above ends the case and allows my client to store his trucks while he lives and operates at the property, he is more than pleased to enter into that restriction. As noted above, I will send you a letter to that effect.

Larry Schmidt

Lawrence E. Schmidt

Gildea & Schmidt, LLC

600 Washington Avenue

Suite 200

Towson, MD 21204

(410) 821-0070

(410) 821-0071 - fax

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----Original Message----

From: Thomas Bostwick [mailto:tbostwick@baltimorecountymd.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2009 11:25 AM

To: Larry Schmidt Cc: People's Counsel

Subject: Fwd: Case No. 09-237-SPH - Gampel Property

Mr. Schmidt,

The attached letter dated June 29, 2009 from People's Counsel was hand delivered to this office yesterday. While it indicates that you were copied on the letter, I am attaching a copy for your review concerning the above-referenced matter.

Please advise me of your position on People's Counsel's Motion for Reconsideration in writing at your earliest convenience.

Thank you. Tom Bostwick.

# DIVISION OF CODE INSPECTIONS AND ENFORCEMENT ACTIVE VIOLATION CASE DOCUMENTS

**CO-0054443 104 Embleton Rd** 

# BALTIMORE COUNTY MARYLAND INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

DATE:

March 30, 2009

TO:

W. Carl Richards, Jr.

FROM:

Meghan Ferguson, Chief

Division of Code Inspections & Enforcement

SUBJECT:

Item No:

2009-0237-sph

Legal Owner/Petitioner:

Herb & Joa Gampel

Contract Purchaser:

Property Address:

104 Embleton Rd

Location Description:

South side of Embleton Rd; 100 feet South West of

Hammershire Rd.

Please be advised that the aforementioned petition is the subject of an active violation case. When the petition is scheduled for a public hearing, please notify the following person(s) regarding the hearing date:

In addition, please find attached a duplicate copy of the following pertinent documents relative to the violation case, for review by the Zoning Commissioner's Office:

Case No: CO-0054443

Photographs

Final Notice Letter

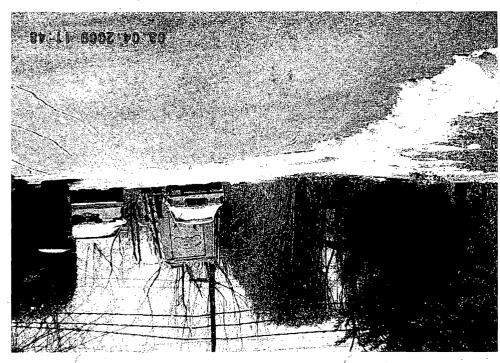
After the public hearing is held, please send a copy of the Zoning Commissioner's order to Christina Moscati in Room 213 in order that the appropriate action may be taken relative to the violation case.

MF/cm

C: Lavette Street, Code Enforcement Officer



7A0122625



\_5292210AL



JAMES T. SMITH, JR. County Executive

TIMOTHY M. KOTROCO, Director Department of Permits and Development Management

March 9, 2009

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert B. Gampel 104 Embleton Road Owings Mills, Maryland 21117

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Gampel:

RE: Case No. 0054443 104 Embleton Road

Please be advised that a re-inspection of the above referenced property on March 4, 2009 revealed you are still in violation of the <u>Baltimore County Zoning Regulations</u>. As per the original Code Inspections and Enforcement Correction Notice (Correction Notice) issued to you, the commercial vehicle must be removed.

You must comply by March 27, 2009. Failure to comply will result in the issuance of a Citation wherein monetary fines of \$200.00 per day from the date of the original Correction Notice may be imposed.

This is your final notice. If there are any questions, please contact me at 410-887-3351 between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. or between 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Sincerely

axette Street

Code Inspections and Enforcement Officer

/LS



#### **Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation**

Taxpayer Services Division

301 West Preston Street W Baltimore, MD 21201 (2007 vw1.1)

Main Menu | Security Interest Filings (UCC) | Business Entity Information (Charter/Personal Property) New Search | Rate Stabilization Notices | Get Forms | Certificate of Status | SDAT Home

#### **Taxpayer Services Division**

Entity Name: HERBERT GAMPEL GLASS COMPANY, INC. Dept ID #: D01530153

#### General Information Amendments Personal Property Certificate of Status

**Principal Office** 

104 EMBELTON ROAD

(Current):

**OWINGS MILLS, MD 21117** 

**Resident Agent** 

BERNARD J. SACHS

(Current):

111 N. CHARLES STREET

BALTIMORE, MD 21201

Status:

FORFEITED

**Good Standing:** 

No

**Business Code:** 

Ordinary Business - Stock

Date of

Formation or

03/08/1983

Registration:

State of

Formation:

MD

Stock/Nonstock: Stock

Close/Not Close: Unknown

#### **Link Definition**

**General Information** 

General information about this entity

**Amendments** 

Original and subsequent documents filed

Personal Property

Personal Property Return Filing Information and Property Assessments

**Certificate of Status** 

Get a Certificate of Good Standing for this entity





#### **Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation**

Taxpayer Services Division

301 West Preston Street M Baltimore, MD 21201 (2007 vw1.1)

Main Menu | Security Interest Filings (UCC) | Business Entity Information (Charter/Personal Property) New Search | Rate Stabilization Notices | Get Forms | Certificate of Status | SDAT Home

#### **Taxpayer Services Division**

**Entity Name: HERBERT GAMPEL GLASS COMPANY, INC.** Dept ID #: D01530153

#### General Information Amendments Personal Property Certificate of Status

NOTICE ABOUT IMAGE AVAILABILITY AND ACCURACY

Page 1 of 1

Folio Pages View Order Description Date Filed <u>Time</u> <u>Film</u> **Document** Copies

DEPT. ACTION -**FORFEITURE** 

10/05/2007 01:21-AM

THE ENTITY WAS FORFEITED FOR FAILURE TO FILE PROPERTY RETURN FOR 2006.

**CONVERTED** 

AMENDMENT WITH NAME 01/04/1985 10:02-AM F2693 290 0002

**CHANGE** 

AMENDMENT N.C. FROM: HERBERT GAMPEL COMPANY, INC.

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

03/08/1983 09:28-AM F2581 2841 0004

Ø

COD)

**Link Definition** 

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General information about this entity

**Amendments** 

Original and subsequent documents filed

**Personal Property** 

Personal Property Return Filing Information and Property Assessments

**Certificate of Status** 

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600 WASHINGTON AVENUE

SUITE 200

TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204 TELEPHONE 410-821-0070

FACSIMILE 410-821-0071

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SEBASTIAN A. CROSS

DAVID K. GILDEA

D. DUSKY HOLMAN

CHARLES B. MAREK, III

LAWRENCE E. SCHMIDT

JASON T. VETTORI

May 8, 2009

RECEIVED

<u>Via Hand Delivery</u>

Honorable Thomas H. Bostwick **Deputy Zoning Commissioner** Office of the Zoning Commissioner Jefferson Building 105 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 103

MAY 08 2009 ZONING COMMISSIONER

Towson, MD 21204

Re:

Herb Gampel Glass Co./104 Embleton Road

Case No. 09-0237-SPH

Dear Commissioner Bostwick:

This is to follow up our comments in open hearing regarding the above matter and the Petition for Special Hearing filed by my clients, Herb & Joan Gampel.

As you recall, I presented testimony and evidence at the hearing regarding my client's longstanding use of his property for the storage of two small trucks at the end of the driveway (rear yard). Evidence was presented that I believe is persuasive to a finding that Mr. Gampel's business activity on the property qualifies as a "home occupation" under the definition of that term in Section 101 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations ("BCZR"). Specifically, testimony was uncontradicted that each of the criteria contained within that definition are met by Mr. Gampel.

I also submitted documentation that indicated Mr. Gampel's use of his property is not objected to by any of his immediate neighbors. Particularly, the neighbors on both sides of his property are supportive of the ongoing parking on the site. The only interested party that appeared in opposition was Ms. Percy, the current president of the County Club Estates Community Association. The previous president (Mark Hemler) has submitted a letter in support of Mr. Gampel's request which offered into evidence as Exhibit No. 2. That letter is dated January 16, 2009, and was written after Mr. Gampel's presentation to the Community Association at their January meeting.

Honorable Thomas H. Bostwick May 8, 2009 Page 2

At your direction, I have investigated the history of the relevant regulation that relates to this case. As you are aware, Section 431 of the BCZR is the applicable statute. Section 431 is titled "Parking of Commercial Vehicles on Residential Property" and was enacted into law through Bill No. 70-1988. The section regulates both the storage of commercial vehicles exceeding 10,000 lbs. gross vehicle weight and those which are less than 10,000 lbs. gross vehicle weight. Mr. Gampel's two vehicles are far less than the weight limitation.

As the Bill number suggests, this Bill was enacted into law during the County's 1988 legislative session. I have reviewed the Zoning Regulations in effect prior to that date and enclose relevant portions of those regulations.

These regulations are persuasive to a finding that Baltimore County first regulated parking of commercial vehicles on a residential zone through Bill 70-1988. That is, to the best of my knowledge, there was no regulation in effect prior to this time which addressed that issue. I enclose herewith the definitional section (Section 101 of the BCZR) from the 1981 regulations. Please note that a commercial vehicle is not defined. This definition was first provided through Bill No. 70-1988. Moreover, there is no Section 431 in the 1981 edition of the BCZR nor is there any other section which regulated this subject matter.

Mr. Gampel's uncontradicted testimony was that he and his wife purchased the property in 1977 and he began his home occupation use and parking in 1983. He further testified that the two vehicles which he presently keeps on the property are 1985 models. Thus, it is clear the ongoing use and vehicles pre-date the effective date of the applicable regulation contained in Section 431.

Under the circumstances, I would request that you find that Mr. Gampel's use of the property is "nonconforming" as defined in Section 101 of the BCZR and regulated in Section 104 thereof. As you indicated at the hearing, the nonconforming designation serves to grandfather an otherwise illegal use. I believe that this is an appropriate finding as it will serve my client and the interests of the community. Under law, Mr. Gampel will be eligible to continue storing his vehicles on the property in accordance with his longstanding practice. In terms of the community's interest, this finding will prevent others from a similar use. Specifically, only those individuals who had stored commercial vehicles on their property prior to 1988 (similar to Mr. Gampel) would be eligible for approval. In that the likelihood of any other resident of this neighborhood having used a property similarly for the past 21 years is highly unlikely; this should address Ms. Percy's concern about the establishment of any precedent by this case.

I have also considered the potential imposition of conditions on Mr. Gampel's use. Upon reflection, I am reluctant to voluntarily agree to any restrictions, given the fact that I respectfully do not believe that your office has the authority to enter such a restriction in a

Honorable Thomas H. Bostwick May 8, 2009 Page 3

nonconforming case. That would establish a precedent which could be a matter of concern in future cases. Moreover, based on the overwhelming testimony offered, it is clear that Mr. Gampel's operation is not detrimental to his neighborhood. The fact that he has stored vehicles in the back of his property since 1983 without complaint is persuasive. Additionally, as noted above, he enjoys the support of his immediate adjacent neighbors on both sides. Finally, in view of Mr. Gampel's age, it is unlikely that this storage will continue for a lengthy period. He testified that he is "semi-retired" and at age 67, it is unlikely that this will present any long term issue for the community.

In conclusion, I would request that you determine that the existing use is nonconforming in nature and issue the appropriate order. I would also respectfully request that you withhold the imposition of any condition regarding the use, in view of the potential precedent that such action may establish. Again, I emphasize the minimal impact cause by this use and believe that the community's primary concern will be address if the matter is handled in this fashion.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

Lawrence E. Schmidt

LES: jkl Enclosure

CC: Herb Gampel, Herb Gampel Glass Co.

Linda Percy, President, County Club Estates Community Association

Charles B. Marek, III, Esquire

#### GILDEA & SCHMIDT, LLC

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D. DUSKY HOLMAN

RECEIVED

May 15, 2009

MAY 1 8 2009

**ZONING COMMISSIONER** 

#### Via Hand Delivery

Honorable Thomas H. Bostwick Deputy Zoning Commissioner Office of the Zoning Commissioner Jefferson Building 105 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 103 Towson, MD 21204

Re: Herb Gampel Glass Co./104 Embleton Road

Case No. 09-0237-SPH

Dear Commissioner Bostwick:

I am receipt of Ms. Percy's letter dated May 14, 2009, regarding the above matter. I appreciate her forwarding a copy to me for my review. I do not intend to continue the dialogue on this case, but felt that the following was necessary for inclusion in the case file.

First, it appears that all are in agreement that a proper disposition of this case is a finding that Mr. Gampel's use is nonconforming. In the event of such a finding, the variance would be dismissed as moot in that it is no longer requested. Procedurally, a dismissal of the variance as opposed to a denial, is appropriate.

Second, I believe that Mr. Gampel's use qualifies as a home occupation. Just as the business of a Walgreen's later becoming a Rite-Aid, is a drug store under either name, the fact of the matter is that the use of the property (either as a corporation, sole proprietorship, etc.) is continuing. I would respectfully submit that the form of the business is not relevant in terms of that determination.

Finally, I appreciate Ms. Percy's position regarding the imposition of a restriction on the use. As set forth in my prior letter, my concern is the precedent that this would establish and the fact that under law I respectfully suggest that you are without authority to impose such a condition. From a practical standpoint, Mr. Gampel does not have children who intend in following in his business footsteps. Ultimately, I suspect that he and his wife will vacate their house and the business will terminate then if not before. I find it highly unlikely

Honorable Thomas H. Bostwick May 15, 2009 Page 2

that someone would want to park to glass hauling trucks in the rear of the property as a condition of the acquisition of 104 Embleton Road.

In any event, I am pleased that we are able to come to an agreed resolution. Please contact me should you have any further questions regarding this matter.

Very truly yours,

Lawrence E. Schmidt

LES: jkl

CC: Herb Gampel, Herb Gampel Glass Co.

Linda Percy, President, County Club Estates Community Association

Charles B. Marek, III, Esquire

#### GILDEA & SCHMIDT, LLC

600 WASHINGTON AVENUE

SUITE 200

LAWRENCE E. SCHMIDT TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204

TELEPHONE 410-821-0070 FACSIMILE 410-821-0071

www.gildeallc.com

CHARLES B. MAREK. III July 1, 2009

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JUL **0** 1 2009

ZONING COMMISSIONER

Via Hand Delivery

DAVID K. GILDEA

D. DUSKY HOLMAN

SEBASTIAN A. CROSS

JASON T. VETTORI

Honorable Thomas H. Bostwick Deputy Zoning Commissioner 105 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 103 Towson, MD 21204

Re: Herb Gampel Glass Co./104 Embleton Road

Case No. 09-0237-SPH

Dear Commissioner Bostwick:

This is in response to People's Counsel's letter of June 29, 2009, regarding the above matter. I have spoken to my clients, Hebert and Joan Gampel, and they are agreeable to a restriction that provides that the non-conforming relief granted to them is "personal to Herbert and Joan Gampel for so long as they reside at 104 Embleton Road and that the approval shall not continue/pass to any successors in title, whether they be family descendants or others." I am hopeful that the imposition of such a restriction will address the concerns expressed by People's Counsel in their letter and that further proceedings related to this case will not be necessary.

As I indicated in open hearing, I have some concern over whether the Zoning Commissioner can impose a restriction on the granting of a non-conforming use. Without waiving that position in any future matters, I am willing to consent to the imposition of a restriction due to the equities present in this case. Also, as I have previously advised you by email, I do not believe that the regulation at issue is a "use" regulation. However, I concur with People's Counsel's letter that the equitable considerations of this case, including the positions of the respective parties, justify the disposition as stated herein above. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions regarding this matter.

Very truly yours,

Lawrence E. Schmidt

LES: jkl

CC: Herbert Gampel, Herb Gampel Glass Co.

Peter Max Zimmerman, Esquire, People's Counsel for Baltimore County

Carole S. DeMilio, Esquire, Deputy People's Counsel

Linda Percy, President, County Club Estates Community Association

George Harman, President, Reisterstown - Owings Mills - Glyndon Coordinating Council

### Country Club Estates

Community Association of Reisterstown, Inc.

Box 32, Reisterstown, Maryland 21136 www.CCECA-ONLINE.com

May 14, 2009

**RECEIVED** 

MAY 15 2009

**ZONING COMMISSIONER** 

Honorable Thomas H. Bostwick Deputy Zoning Commissioner Office of the Zoning Commissioner Jefferson Building 105 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 103 Towson, MD 21204

OPPOSITION TO VARIANCE FOR 104 EMBLETON ROAD

PETITION FOR SPECIAL HEARING Herb and Joan Gampel - Legal Owners 104 Embleton Road Owings Mills, MD 21117

Case No. 09-0237-SPH

Dear Commissioner Bostwick:

Re:

This letter is in response to Mr. Schmidt's follow up correspondence of May 8, 2009, in which he reviews testimony and evidence to support a finding that his client's business activity on the property qualifies as a "home occupation" under the definition of that term in Section 101 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations ("BCZR"). Mr. Gampel did testify that he dissolved his corporation in 2007, but continued doing business as a sole proprietor. If changing the form of his business does not constitute a discontinuation of business, then the Association concedes that Mr. Gampel has operated his business without interruption since 1983, and is a home occupation.

However, the Association <u>denies</u> that the former President of the Association, Mark Hemler, wrote a letter <u>supporting</u> Mr. Gampel's petition for a variance. He did not. I testified to this fact at the hearing. That letter that Mr. Schmidt refers to, dated January 16, 2009, addresses the sweep the county did regarding code violations, and only the sweep. There is no mention anywhere in that letter about a variance. The Association has never provided Mr. Gampel anything in writing that supports his petition for a variance. I have attached a copy of the former President's January 16, 2009 letter as Exhibit 1.

The Association has no objection to your finding that Mr. Gampel's use of the property is "nonconforming" as defined in Section 101 of the BCZR and as regulated in Section 104. The Association asks that the petition for a variance be denied, and that a nonconforming use be found. That would allow Mr. Gampel's use to be grand fathered in. Grand fathering Mr. Gampel's use would not present a threat to the community as would permitting a variance.

Mr. Schmidt has argued that no restrictions should be placed on Mr. Gampel's use, and cites Mr. Gampel's advancing age. He also states that Mr. Gampel has the support of his immediate neighbors (one of whom parks his van used in his painting business and has advertising on it on the street). The Association feels that there should be a time limit placed on the nonconforming use, with good reason. Mr. Gampel testified that he originally was in a "family" business. What is to prevent other family members from joining Mr. Gampel in his business, and carrying on after Mr. Gampel stops. What is to stop Mr. Gampel from selling his home and business to another person to carry on the same use. Section 104.1 of the Zoning Regulations states that a nonconforming use may continue except as otherwise specifically provided in these regulations. There is nothing in Section 100, in the definition of home occupation, or in Section 104.4 to prevent the hypotheticals posed by the Association. The Commission has the authority to terminate a nonconforming use under Section 104.8. It stands to reason that the Commission has the authority to place a limit on a nonconforming use. Therefore, the Association asks that a time limit be placed on this nonconforming use.

The Association does not object to a finding of a nonconforming use, but asks that the Commission place a time restriction on the nonconforming use.

Sincerely,

Linda Eve Percy, President

Country Club Estates Community Association of Reisterstown, Inc.

1003 Kingsbury Road (Home address)

Reisterstown, MD 21136

410-244-6634

Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esq.

CC:

# Country Club Estates Community Association of Reisterstown, Inc

BOX 32, REISTERSTOWN, MARYLAND 21136

January 16, 2009

TO: THE DEPARTMENT OF CODE ENFORCEMENT FROM: Mark Hemler – President of Country Club Estates Community Assoc. SUBJECT: COMMUNITY SWEEP – COMMERCIAL VEHICLE PARKING

To Whom It May Concern,

It has come to my attention at a recent Community Association meeting that one of the residents of our community Mr. Herb Campbell of Campbell Glass Co. was given a citation for having a commercial vehicle parked in his driveway on Embleton Rd.

After much discussion about the community sweep and what it was suppose to entail it was unanimously agreed by all that this citation should not have been given to Mr. Campbell as he is an outstanding member of the community. He follows the regulations such as parking on the side of the house, etc as the regulations state and there have never been any complaints against him ever that I am aware of.

Our assumption may be incorrect but it is our concern and understanding that the community sweep is conducted on a weekday during normal business hours. This is very acceptable to a community as far as any of the other county code issues are concerned. When it comes to the significant group of commercial vehicle violators, they have moved their vehicles to go to work themselves during normal business hours. This seems to me to be a very unfair practice (related to citing commercial vehicles during weekdays) for addressing this issue within a community as it singles out a very select few when the majority of violations of this nature are being overlooked simply because of the timing of the sweep. Everyone knows that if you are looking for commercial vehicle violations in any community one must look on a weekend or evening to see the true extent of the situation. We respect the fact that the county may not find it feasible to conduct community sweeps in the evenings or on weekends and as such are simply asking for fairness in this situation.

I think in this case it would be fair to all to reevaluate the citation that was given to Mr. Campbell. If you have any question concerning this matter as related to the support of Mr. Campbell's situation please feel free to contact me, 410-299-7517.

Any help you can give Mr. Campbell in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Thank You in advance.

Mark Hemler

President

Country Club Estates Community Assoc.

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CASE NAME	
CASE NUMBER,	
DATE 5/6/09	

# PETITIONER'S SIGN-IN SHEET

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY, STATE, ZIP	E- MAIL
LAURCHG EShMIDT	600 WASHINGTON AVE -9	200 PUSON, MD ZNOY	
Hend Gympal	104 EMBLE J. J RE.	OWINGS MILL MEDILD	
JOAN H. GAMPEL	104 EMBLETON Rel.	661008 m1//s MAZ111)	•
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			*
			-

CASE NAME	
CASE NUMBER_	209-0737-5PH
DATE 5-6-09	

## CITIZEN'S SIGN-IN SHEET

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY, STATE, ZIP	E- MAIL		
Linda PERCY	1003 Kingsbury	Keistenstown	Spercy@rerizon.net		
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- Country Club Estal	es Community Amorada of Re	uslaistoin, Tuc.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
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#### MESSRS. EVANS & HICKERNELL, COUNCILMEMBERS

#### BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL, May 16, 1988

#### A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Commercial Vehicles on Residential Property

FOR the purpose of amending the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations in order to define a commercial vehicle and to regulate the parking of such vehicles on residential property in Baltimore County.

BY adding

Section 101 - Definitions, the definition of "Commercial Vehicle"

Baltimore County Zoning Regulations, as amended BY repealing and re-enacting, with amendments,

Section 101 - Definitions, the definition of "Garage, Residential"

Baltimore County Zoning Regulations, as amended BY adding

Section 431

Baltimore County Zoning Regulations, as amended

WHEREAS, the Baltimore County Council has received a final report from the Planning Board concerning the subject legislation and has held a public hearing thereon, now, therefore,

- 1. SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE
- 2. COUNTY, MARYLAND, that the definition of "Commercial Vehicle" be and it
- is hereby added, alphabetically, to Section 101 Definitions, of the
- 4. Baltimore County Zoning Regulations, as amended, to read as follows:

5. Section 101 - DEFINITIONS

Words used in the present tense include the future; words in the 1. singular number include the plural number; the word "shall" is 2. mandatory. For the purposes of these Regulations, certain terms and 3. words are defined as follows: 4.

6.

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9. 10.

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30.

COMMERCIAL VEHICLE - ANY VEHICLE WITH A GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT 5. OR GROSS COMBINATION WEIGHT OVER 10,000 POUNDS, OR ANY VEHICLE, REGARDLESS OF WEIGHT, WHICH: (1)-IS-REGISTERED-AS-A-TRUCK;-OR 7. (2) (1) IS USED FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF MATERIALS, PRODUCTS, FREIGHT, OTHER VEHICLES, OR EQUIPMENT IN FURTHERANCE OF ANY COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY; OR (3) (2) IS USED "FOR HIRE"; OR (4) (3) DISPLAYS ADVERTISING THEREON. IDENTIFICATION OF THE VEHICLE'S MANUFACTURER, MODEL OR DEALER SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED AS ADVERTISING. COMMERCIAL 12. VEHICLES SHALL NOT BE DEEMED TO INCLUDE ANY FARM VEHICLE OR FARM 13. EQUIPMENT ACTUALLY AND REGULARLY USED ON A FARM, SATELLITE FARM, OR 14. FARMETTE; SCHOOL OR CHURCH VEHICLE LOCATED AT A CIVIC, EDUCATIONAL, 15. SOCIAL, RECREATIONAL OR RELIGIOUS INSTITUTION; RECREATIONAL VEHICLE AS DEFINED IN SECTION 101: TRAILER (OR MOBILE HOME) AS DEFINED IN SECTION 17. 101; VANPOOL OR HISTORIC VEHICLE AS REGISTERED WITH THE STATE MOTOR 18. VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION. AS USED HEREIN, GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT OR GROSS 19. COMBINATION WEIGHT MEANS THE WEIGHT RECORDED BY THE STATE MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION ON THE VEHICLE'S REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE OR RECORDED BY 21. THE MANUFACTURER ON THE CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN IF NO SPECIFIC WEIGHT IS 22. RECORDED ON THE REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE.

> SECTION 2. And be it further enacted, that the definition of "Garage, Residential", in Section 101 - Definitions, of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations, as amended, be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

Garage, Residential: An accessory building, portion of a main building, or building attached thereto, used for storage of private motor vehicles (, only one of which may be a commercial vehicle).

i.	Section 3. And be it intuited enacted that Section 431 be and 1
2.	is hereby added to the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations, as amended
3.	to read as follows:
4.	SECTION 431 - PARKING OF COMMERCIAL VEHICLES ON RESIDENTIAL
5.	PROPERTY
6.	(A) A COMMERCIAL VEHICLE EXCEEDING 10,000 POUNDS GROSS VEHICLE
7.	WEIGHT OR GROSS COMBINATION WEIGHT MAY NOT BE PARKED ON A RESIDENTIAL
8.	LOT FOR A PERIOD EXCEEDING THE TIME ESSENTIAL TO THE IMMEDIATE USE OF
9.	THE VEHICLE.
10.	(B) ONE COMMERCIAL VEHICLE PER DWELLING UNIT MAY BE PARKED ON A
11.	RESIDENTIAL LOT FOR A PERIOD EXCEEDING THE TIME ESSENTIAL TO THE
12.	IMMEDIATE USE OF THE VEHICLE #F-THE-GROSS-VEHICLE-WEIGHT-OR-GROSS
13.	SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:
14.	(1) THE GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT OR GROSS COMBINATION WEIGHT
15.	SHALL NOT EXCEED 10,000 POUNDS.
16.	(2) THE OWNER OR OPERATOR OF THE VEHICLE SHALL RESIDE ON
17.	THE LOT.
	(3) THE VEHICLE SHALL BE PARKED WITHIN A FULLY ENCLOSED
18.	(3) THE VEHICLE SHALL BE PARKED WITHIN A FULLY ENCLOSED  STRUCTURE OR, ALTERNATIVELY, IF NOT WITHIN A FULLY ENCLOSED STRUCTURE:
19.	SIROCIONE ON, ADIENVATIVADI, IF NOT WITHIN A POLICI ENCLOSED SIROCIONE.
20	(a) NO MATERIALS, PRODUCTS, FREIGHT, OR EQUIPMENT
20.	SHALL BE VISIBLE;
21.	CLEEN DE VIDITALLY
22	(b) THE VEHICLE SHALL DISPLAY NO ADVERTISING OTHER
22.	THAN LETTERING, FIGURES OR DESIGNS LOCATED ON THE
23.	DRIVER'S DOOR OR FRONT SEAT PASSENGER'S DOOR; AND
24.	District D 2001 St. 1 10011 District D 2001 1110
25.	(c) THE VEHICLE SHALL BE PARKED IN A SIDE OR REAR
	YARD.
26.	ALL AND A

1.	COMBINATION-WEIGHT-EXCEEDS-7,000-POUNDS-BUT-DOES-NOT-EXCEED-10,000
2.	POUNDS,-OR-IF-THE-VEHICLE-DISPLAYS-ADVERTISING-OTHER-THAN-LETTERING,
3.	FIGURES-OR-DESIGNS-ON-THE-BRIVER'S-DOOR-OR-FRONT-SEAT-PASSENGER'S-DOOR
4.	OF-THE-VEHICLE;-AND
5.	1)THE-VEHICLE-SHALL-BE-PARKED-WITHIN-A-FULLY-ENCLOSED
6.	STRUCTURE-OR-IN-A-REAR-OR-SIDE-YARD-FULLY-SCREENED-FROM-PUBLIC-VIEW;
7.	AND
8.	2)THE-OWNER-OR-OPERATOR-OF-THE-VEHICLE-SHALL-RESIDE-ON
9.	THE-LOT:
10.	CTWO-COMMERCIAL-VEHICLES-PER-DWELLING-UNIT-MAY-BE-PARKED
11.	ON-A-RESIDENTIAL-LOT-FOR-A-PERIOD-EXCEEDING-THE-TIME-ESSENTIAL-TO-THE
12.	IMMEDIATE-USE-OF-THE-VEHICLE-IF-THE-GROSS-VEHICLE-WEIGHT-OR-GROSS
13.	COMBINATION-WEIGHT-IS-7,000-POUNDS-OR-LESS,-AND-IF-THE-VEHICLE-DISPLAYS
14.	NO-ADVERTISING-OTHER-THAN-LETTERING,-FIGURES-OR-DESIGNS-ON-THE-DRIVER'S
15.	DOOR-OR-FRONT-SEAT-PASSENGER S-DOOR-OF-THE-VEHICLE; -AND
16.	1}THE-VEHICLE-SHALL-BE-PARKED-WITHIN-A-FULLY-ENCLOSED
17.	STRUCTURE-OR-IN-A-REAR-OR-SIDE-YARD-FULLY-SCREENED-FROM-PUBLIC-VIEW,-OR
18.	ALTERNATIVELY,-ALL-MATERIALS,-FREIGHT,-PRODUCTS,-OR-EQUIPMENT-MUST-BE
19.	FULLY-ENCLOSED-WITHIN-THE-VEHICLE;-AND
20.	2) THE-OWNER-OR-OPERATOR-OF-THE-VEHICLE-SHALL-RESIDE-ON
21.	THE-LOT.
22.3	SECTION 4. And be it further enacted, that this Act shall take
23.	effect forty-five days after its enactment.

READ AND PASSED this 20 day of June, 1988 BY ORDER
Thomas Toporovich Secretary
PRESENTED to the County Executive for his approval this 21 day
of June , 1988
Thomas Toporovich Secretary
APPROVED AND ENACTED:
Dennis F. Rasmussen County Executive
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT BILL NO. 70-88 IS TRUE AND CORRECT AND TOOK EFFECT ON
Date 1. Volz
Chairman, County Council

#### BALTIMORE COUNTY ZONING REGULATIONS

AS AMENDED THROUGH OCTOBER 29, 1981

1981 EDITION

BALTIMORE COUNTY OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING TOWSON MARYLAND

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<u>Basement</u>: That portion of a building below the first floor, the floor of which is less than one-half of the height of the room below the average grade of the adjoining ground. (See definitions of Cellar and Story) [B.C.Z.R., 1955.]

Bedroom: The term "bedroom" includes a bedroom, any other room used principally for sleeping purposes, an "all-purpose room," a study, or a den, provided that no room having less than 100 square feet of floor area shall be considered a hedroom. [Bill No. 100, 1970.]

Boarding House: A building other than a hotel in which meals or rooms and meals are provided for compensation for four or more persons, including a "care home", as defined by the Maryland State Health Department. (B. C. Z. R., 1955)

<u>Boat Yard</u>: A commercial or non-profit boat basin with facilities for one or more of the following: sale, construction, repair, storage, launching, berthing, securing, fueling, and general servicing of marine craft of all types. [Bill No. 64, 1963]

<u>Building</u>: A structure enclosed within exterior walls or firewalls for the shelter, support, or enclosure of persons, animals, or property of any kind. [B.C.Z.R., 1955.]

<u>Building Height</u>: The vertical distance measured from the average grade to the average elevation of the roof of the highest story. [B.C.Z.R., 1955.]

<u>Building Line</u>: The line established by law beyond which a building shall not extend. [B.C.Z.R., 1955.]

<u>Car Wash</u>: An area of land and/or a structure with machine or hand-operated facilities used principally for the cleaning, washing, polishing, or waxing of motor vehicles. [Bill No. 108, 1964.]

<u>Cellar</u>: That portion of a building below the first floor, the floor of which is more than one-half the height of the room below the average grade of the adjoining ground. (See definition of Basement) [B.C.Z.R., 1955.]

Collector street, major: A street, or a part of one, that: is intended for travel between neighborhoods or between neighborhoods and other places, but not for travel within neighborhoods; is not an arterial street; and has been designated as a major collector street by the Planning Board by the same method used to designate freeways, expressways, and arterial streets. [Bill No. 18-76]

Commercial fishing, crabbing and shellfishing operation [Bill No. 93-75]

Primary and Secondary deleted by Bill No. 30-78

(see fishing and shellfishing facility) Sect. 101

Commercial motorway, Class I: A motorway, or portion thereof at least one mile in length, with at least 70% of all frontage thereon (the sum of the lengths of both sides), excluding land publicly owned for highway right-of-way purposes, zoned as B.L., B.M., B.R., and/or M.L., and designated as a Class I commercial motorway under ordinance of the County Council. No portion of a motorway shall be considered as a Class I commercial motorway unless such portion is bounded at its ends by intersections with freeways, expressways, arterial streets, town-center boundaries, political-subdivision boundaries, the urban-rural demarcation line, or major streams or rivers. [Bill No. 40, 1967.]

Commercial motorway, Class II: Same as Class I commercial motorway in all respects except that less than 70% of the frontage considered, but at least 20% of such frontage, is zoned B.L., B.M., B.R., and/or M.L., and except that it is designated as Class II<sup>3</sup> commercial motorway under ordinance of the County Council. [Bill No. 40, 1967.]

www.cial vehicle definition

Community: A coherent urban area generally comprising three to five neighborhoods and a central concentration of public facilities and commercial uses necessary or appropriate to serve the population of the area as a whole, usually including a middle, junior-high or high school (or school-recreation center) and a variety store. [Bill No. 100, 1970.]

Community care center: A small-scale facility, sponsored or operated by a private charitable organization or by a public agency and licensed by the Maryland State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene or by the Maryland State Department of Social Services, for the housing, counseling, supervision, or rehabilitation of alcoholics or drug abusers or of physically or mentally (including emotionally) handicapped or abused individuals who are not subject to incarceration or in need of hospitalization. [Bill No. 142-79]

<u>Convalescent Home</u>: This term includes rest homes, nursing homes, convalescent homes for children, and homes providing chronic and convalescent care. It does not include a "care home" as defined by the Maryland State Health Department, which merely provides board, shelter, and personal services in a protective environment for persons not gainfully employed. [B.C.Z.R., 1955.]

Country club: A 9- or 18-hole golf course with a clubhouse and other appropriate facilities, which may include other recreational facilities (see Section 406A). [Bill No. 62-78]

County trucking-facilities- development officials: A committee consisting of the County Administrative Officer, as chairman; the Directors of Planning, Public Works, Permits and Licenses, and Traffic Engineering; and the Director of the Industrial Development Commission; or their respective designees. [Bill No.18-76]

["Density, Gross" and definition deleted by Bill No. 106, 1963.]

["Density, Gross Residential" and definition added by Bill No. 106, 1963; deleted by Bill No. 100, 1970.]

["Density, Net" and definition deleted by Bill No. 100, 1970.]

<sup>3.</sup> Thus (without article) in Bill No. 40, 1967.

# Country Clubber



A Neighborhood

#### CCECA General Meeting

May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Open To All CCE Residents

Can You Help?
We are looking for someone
to help as
Membership Coordinator

Now computerized and easy to maintain Some Spreadsheet Understanding Needed Call 410-517-0819 for details

Become A Featured
Article Writer
Call 410-517-0819 for details

Official Website Of Country Club Estates www.CCECA-ONLINE.com



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CCECA Scholarship 2009
Words Of Inspiration
Pet -Talk

#### SPECIAL FEATURES NEW – Neighbor To Neighbor !!!

**MAY 2009** 

## Country Club Estates Community Yard Sale Day



#### Saturday - May 30

8:30am to 12:30
Everyone may participate.
No rain date

Put things out like you would if having your own yard sale. Post the signs at each end of your street to show people your street is having a yard sale.

End of street SIGNS are already created for your use.

Please help promote this event by printing out the

General Announcement signs and posting them starting

two weeks before May 30

Visit our website home page to print out the signs www.CCECA-ONLINE.com



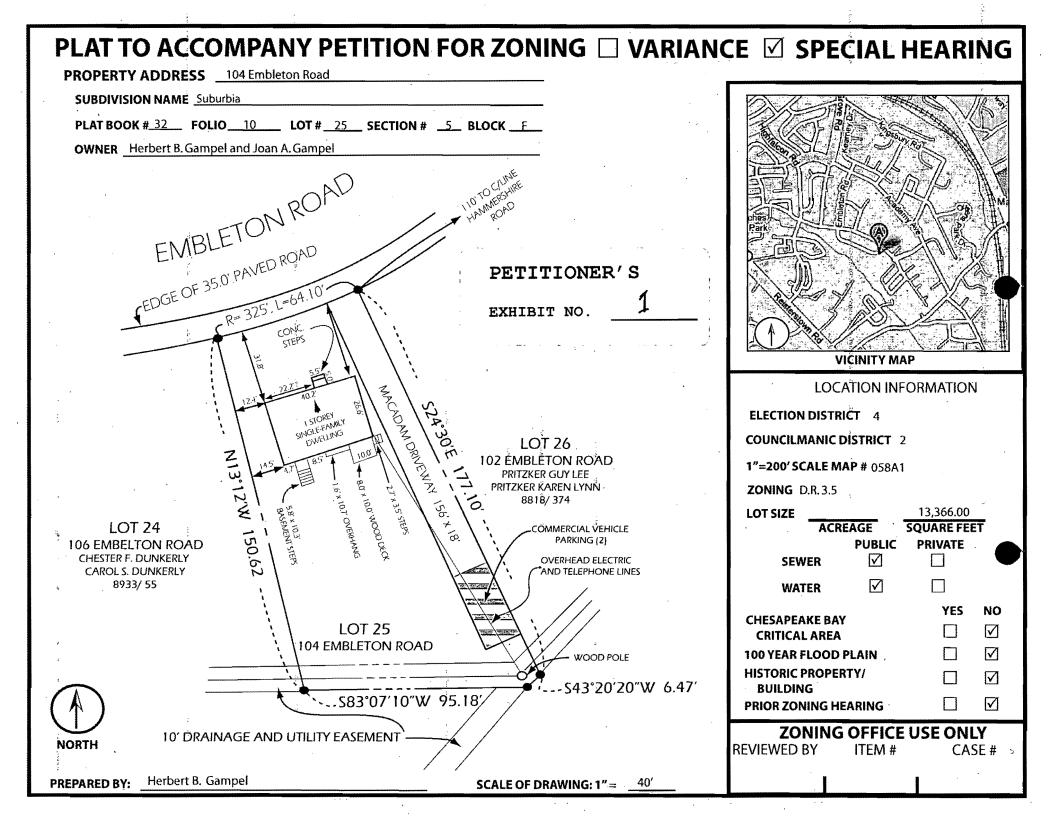
Case No.: 2009-0737-5PH

#### Exhibit Sheet

#### Petitioner/Developer

#### Protestant

No. 1	Site Plan	Wilten festimony and wife from Linda Percy
No. 2	Lette from Revious comm. assoc.	
No. 3	Letter of Support	
No. 4	photography	
No. 5	letter of support from	·
No. 6	O	
No. 7		
No. 8		
No. 9		
No. 10		
No. 11		
No. 12		



### Country Club Estates Community Association of Reisterstown, Inc

BOX 32, REISTERSTOWN, MARYLAND 21136

January 16, 2009

TO: THE DEPARTMENT OF CODE ENFORCEMENT FROM: Mark Hemler – President of Country Club Estates Community Assoc. SUBJECT: COMMUNITY SWEEP – COMMERCIAL VEHICLE PARKING

To Whom It May Concern,

It has come to my attention at a recent Community Association meeting that one of the residents of our community Mr. Herb Campbell of Campbell Glass Co. was given a citation for having a commercial vehicle parked in his driveway on Embleton Rd.

After much discussion about the community sweep and what it was suppose to entail it was unanimously agreed by all that this citation should not have been given to Mr. Campbell as he is an outstanding member of the community. He follows the regulations such as parking on the side of the house, etc as the regulations state and there have never been any complaints against him ever that I am aware of.

Our assumption may be incorrect but it is our concern and understanding that the community sweep is conducted on a weekday during normal business hours. This is very acceptable to a community as far as any of the other county code issues are concerned. When it comes to the significant group of commercial vehicle violators, they have moved their vehicles to go to work themselves during normal business hours. This seems to me to be a very unfair practice (related to citing commercial vehicles during weekdays) for addressing this issue within a community as it singles out a very select few when the majority of violations of this nature are being overlooked simply because of the timing of the sweep. Everyone knows that if you are looking for commercial vehicle violations in any community one must look on a weekend or evening to see the true extent of the situation. We respect the fact that the county may not find it feasible to conduct community sweeps in the evenings or on weekends and as such are simply asking for fairness in this situation.

I think in this case it would be fair to all to reevaluate the citation that was given to Mr. Campbell. If you have any question concerning this matter as related to the support of Mr. Campbell's situation please feel free to contact me, 410-299-7517.

Any help you can give Mr. Campbell in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Thank You in advance,

Mark Hemler

President

Country Club Estates Community Assoc.

PETITIONER'S

EXHIBIT NO.





FREE ESTIMATES Since 1945 AFFORDABLE PRICES 104 Embleton Road Owings Mills, MD 21117
ALL TYPES OF GLASS, MIRRORS AND ALUMINUM PRODUCTS

THIS ORDER NUMBER MUST APPEAR ON ALL PACKAGES, INVOICES AND SHIPPING PAPERS

#### PURCHASE ORDER

NO. 2343

DATE

PETITIONER'S

EXHIBIT NO. \_\_

The Ballmon County
To Commissions of General
Towson, Waryland

Md. Home Improvement License No.19186 QUANTITY DESCRIPTION PRICE AMOUNT Dear Commissioni I am Herb Harpel. I live at 104 Embleton food in Owings Thele, Marylan in the sub-division toround to Cotentre Club Estates! Plene La list of my fellow neighbors are not offerled by the fact; my too glas brucks in my driveway at the my home Sincerely, 103 Embletar Re or mo out 2 619 Hermershine Rd





#### ASE ORD

2344

DATE

SHIPTO

SHIP VIA

Owings Mills, MD 21117 104 Embleton Road ALL TYPES OF GLASS, MIRRORS AND ALUMINUM PRODUCTS

Baltlique County (OMMITORCH OF ZOMING Touth Mahyland

Md. Home Improvement License No.19186

DELIVERY DATE

QUANTITY AMOUNT age Dunkocky 106 EMBle For AL BRIAN MELAUGHILIN 126 FMBLE TON RD James Jenning it. 105 Embleton RD. MA + MR Willie F Booker 609 HAMMERShine Rd 21117 122 EMBLERON Rd My Tope 100 E



















#### To Whom It May Concern:

We are Guy and Karen Pritzker, residents at 102 Embleton Road, in Owings Mills. We have lived at our current address for eighteen years, and have always considered Herb Gample to be a good next door neighbor and friend.

Never, have we been bothered by his trucks. They do not disturb the peace, nor do they take up space in a way that is disruptive to the neighborhood. Actually, we prefer his vehicles to remain where they are. With his trucks parked in the driveway, it looks as though someone is always home. This actually gives us peace of mind in regards to neighborhood safety. A house that always looks occupied does not easily catch the attention of loiterers who may be passing through a residential street. Therefore, we see no reason for why his trucks cannot remain as they are.

Herb Gample has always been a kind, friendly neighbor who greets anyone who comes his way. We have never had complaints about him or his trucks. In all fairness, we wouldn't want another neighbor living in his place. Thank you for taking the time to read our letter.

Sincerely,

Guy and Karen Pritzker

PETITIONER'S

EXHIBIT NO

Country Club Estates

Community Association of Reisterstown, Inc.

Box 32, Reisterstown, Maryland 21136 www.CCECA-ONLINE.com

May 5, 2009

Re: OPPOSITION TO VARIANCE FOR 104 EMBLETON ROAD

PETITION FOR SPECIAL HEARING Herb and Joan Gampel - Legal Owners 104 Embleton Road Owings Mills, MD 21117 410-356-6359

To the Zoning Commission:

My name is Linda Eve Percy, and I am the President of the Country Club Estates Community Association of Reisterstown. I am here to inform you that our Association opposes Mr. Gampel's request for a variance to allow him to park two commercial vehicles, with advertising, at his residence which is 104 Embleton Road.

#### **Our Community Association**

Our community consists of a little over 1,000 homes. Our Association puts out a monthly 20 page newsletter, and hand delivers it to all of these homes owners. On the inside cover of the newsletter is a complaint form. Anyone can fill out the form, and send it to us for our consideration. We also have a web site where residents can obtain information and file a complaint. We do not search the community for code violations. However, we request that the County conduct a code violation sweep at least once a year.

#### **Our Policy and Procedure Regarding Code Violations**

If our Community Association receives a complaint, it is our policy to look at the property to see for ourselves if a violation has in fact occurred. If we feel that there has been a clear violation, we will send a "friendly letter" to the home owner letting them know that we have received a complaint, and that they "may be in violation of the County Code." We also invite the home owner to call us to discuss the matter, and invite them to join us at one of our meetings. If the homeowner ignores our letter, or refuses to correct the violation, we will then file a complaint with code enforcement, and request a follow up. The most frequent complaint we receive is about parked commercial vehicles, unregistered vehicles, and disabled vehicles stored in the open on the premises for long periods of time.

PROTESTANT'S
EXHIBIT NO.

Page	1	of	3
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#### Opposition to the Request for a Variance for 104 Embleton

It is our understanding the Mr. Gampel is asking to have two commercial vehicles with advertising on them to be parked at his residence. We are opposed to this request. If the request is granted, it is of great concern to us as to how the county could reasonably deny other requests of a similar nature from other home owners. I have seen people copy what they see others do, to the detriment of our community. Our community will be inundated with complaints of other residents bringing home their commercial vehicles, and parking them on the streets, with or without a variance for their own properties.

#### Permitting This Variance May Create a Violation of Another Zoning Regulation.

I have been by the property of 104 Embleton on several occasions, and have seen a commercial truck parked in the driveway next to the house. Corporate Charter has records on the corporation that is advertised on the truck.

In 1983, according to the public records at Corporate Charter, Mr. Gampel started his business, and gave as his principal place of business his home address, 104 Embleton Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117.

In 1986 he changed the name of his corporation, but nothing else. The principal place of business remained 104 Embleton Road.

In 2006 Mr. Gampel failed to file his corporate property tax return.

On October 5, 2007, Corporate Charter issued a Forfeiture Notice of Mr. Gampel's corporation. I have attached the print outs from Corporate Charter with this information.

Mr. Gampel indicated to Corporate Charter that his business is located at his home, and has done so since 1983. The phone number on his commercial vehicles is his home phone. It appears that Mr. Gampel is running his business out of his home. If this variance is permitted, it may create another zoning violation regarding running a business at a home and having commercial vehicles and materials and commercial advertising at the residence. Accordingly, the variance should be denied.

If Mr. Gampel is winding down his business by letting his corporation go into default, our community should not have to bear the burden of housing his commercial vehicles until he stops his business all together. Given this shrinking economy, I am sure there are other residents who would like to give up their commercial rental space and bring their businesses, vehicles and all, to their homes rent free. If Mr. Gampel's request is granted, how could the county deny the requests of other business owners who live in the community who want to do the same.

#### Parking Commercial Vehicles on the Narrow Streets Presents a Hazard

Many streets in our community are very narrow, and, with parking on both sides of the street, two moving vehicles cannot pass each other at the same time. One vehicle has to pull over to let the other vehicle pass. If this request is permitted, I have no doubt that other members of our community will start parking their commercial vehicles at their homes as well. Commercial vehicles parked on these narrow streets will create a hazard for the residents and for those people who are passing through.

Please deny the request for two commercial vehicles with advertising on the residential lot of 104 Embleton Road. I would appreciate notification of your decision regarding this property. Thank you for your time in this matter.

Sincerely,

Linda Eve Percy, President

Country Club Estates Community Association

Of Reisterstown

Work: 410-244-6634 Home: 410-833-2062

E-mail: lpercy@verizon.net