IN THE MATTER OF MATTHEW AND MARIA FERNANDA CESNIK LEGAL OWNERS AND PETITIONERS FOR VARIANCE ON THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 907 ADANA ROAD

- \* .T
  - \* OF

1<sup>ST</sup> ELECTION DISTRICT 2<sup>ND</sup> COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT \* BALTIMORE COUNTY

**BOARD OF APPEALS** 

BEFORE THE

\* Case No. 20-056-A

#### OPINION

This matter comes before the Board of Appeals (Board) as a *de novo* appeal from an opinion dated August 25, 2020, by Administrative Law Judge Paul M. Mayhew, denying a variance request. In that matter, as now before the Board, the Petitioners are requesting variance relief from Baltimore County Zoning Regulation (BCZR) § 100.6. The Petitioners want to keep and maintain two chickens on a lot that is 0.177 acres instead of the minimum one acre as required by § 100.6.

There are two sets of legal principles that govern this matter. The first is traditional Baltimore County zoning law regarding variances as set forth in *Cromwell v. Ward*, 102 Md. App. 691 (1995). The second is the American With Disabilities Act ("ADA") and the Americans With Disability Act Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA), 42 U.S.C. § 12101 *et seq.*, the Fair Housing Amendments Act (FHAA), 42 U.S.C. § 3601 *et seq.*, and the Maryland Discrimination in Housing Act, Ann. Code of Md., State Gov't. Art., § 20-701, *et seq.*, all of which require that a local jurisdiction's policies and procedures, including zoning requirements, must make reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities in single family dwellings owned or occupied by a disabled person. *See also Pathways Psychosocial, et al. v. Town of Leonardtown, Md., et al.*, 223 F.Supp2d 699, 707-09 (D.Md. 2002) (finding that use of zoning

laws to discriminate under the ADA supported private cause of action and substantial jury award).

Mrs. Cesnik suffers from stage IV rectal, lung, and liver cancer. The Cesniks first acquired the chickens when they lived in Indiana, and the chickens were to be a source of comfort for Mrs. Cesnik. The chickens are pets, not part of a commercial operation. The Cesniks moved to the Pikesville area of Baltimore County several years ago. Mr. Cesnik indicated that their real estate agent told them that chickens were permitted in their new neighborhood which is correct so long as there is at least one acre of land to support those chickens. Apparently, the acreage requirement was not disclosed to the Cesniks.

After settling into their home, a neighbor complained about the chickens. As a result, the Cesniks filed their application for variance relief from the requirements of § 100.6. They also undertook to reconfigure their backyard chicken coop and outdoor feeding area. These changes re-oriented the chickens away from the complaining neighbor. They also presented evidence to the Board showing that the methods they used to care for the chickens caused little or no disruption in the neighborhood. Several neighbors testified to the same effect, indicating that they support the Cesniks in keeping the chickens. The original complaining neighbor has since moved away. Mr. Cesnik testified that the new owners do not object to the chickens. The Cesniks' devotion to these chickens (who all have names) was underscored by testimony that the Cesniks attempted to procure a prosthetic beak for one of the chickens whose top beak had broken off.

As indicated above, the Cesniks have requested variance relief from the one acre requirement in § 100.6. Under *Cromwell*, there is a two-step process to determine if a variance

is warranted. First, the petitioner must demonstrate that the property is unique in relation to the surrounding properties, and this uniqueness is what necessitates variance relief. Secondly, the petitioner must show that without the requested relief, the petitioner will experience a practical hardship not of the petitioner's own making. 102 Md. App. at p. 694-95. In this instance, the Cromwell standard is clearly **not** met. First, there is nothing unique about the property. It is a home and lot that is typical in the area, and nothing distinguishes it in relation to the maintenance of chickens. Secondly, though the Cesniks would incur an emotional hardship were the chickens to be ordered removed, there is no hardship that relates to the use and enjoyment of their property within the meaning of *Cromwell*. Additionally, whatever hardship that may exist is arguably of their own making. Though they apparently received misinformation from their real estate agent about the legality of keeping chickens, the zoning requirements are a matter of public record, and the Cesniks are charged with knowledge of those requirements. Finally, we note that variances run with the land. If we were to grant a variance allowing chickens to be kept at the Adana Road property, then any subsequent owner of that property would also have the right to maintain chickens for any purpose, including a commercial purpose. This would be an unfortunate, unjustified, and clearly ill-advised consequence.

Though the Petitioners are not entitled to a variance, the Board is not unmindful of the rather unique situation presented in this matter. The chickens in this case are not simply pets; they are pets which provide a great source of comfort, companionship, and solace to a woman who is gravely ill. The Board is also aware of its obligations under prevailing law regarding individuals with disabilities. And while it would have been far preferable for the Petitioners to

have themselves raised alternative bases for them to achieve their desired outcome, or to have engaged counsel to do so in a way that would have assisted the Board, we can on our own, recognize, consider, and adhere to important Federal and State jurisprudence where appropriate. In this instance, the Board is of the view that it should and can carve out a limited accommodation under the Americans With Disabilities Act and the Americans With Disability Act Amendments Act (ADA and ADAAA), 42 U.S.C. §§ 12131, et seq. The Board has taken a similar approach in at least one other case where the Petitioner had not specifically raised the ADA. See In re McBride, CBA No. 17-270-A (standards of side setback relaxed in order to permit a residential addition necessitated by the need to accommodate two wheelchair-bound foster sons who also had major cognitive and emotional disabilities).

The ADA requires public entities to "make reasonable modifications in policies, practices, or procedures when the modifications are necessary to avoid discrimination on the basis of disability, unless the public entity can demonstrate that making the modifications would fundamentally alter the nature of the service, program, or activity". *Wisconsin Community Services, Inc, et al. v. City of Milwaukee*, 465 F.3d 737 (7th Cir. 2006) (Easterbook, J., concurring, quoting Department of Justice regulation 28 C.F.R. § 35.130(b)(7)). Significantly, municipal zoning constitutes a public "program" or "service" as those terms are used in the ADA. *Wisconsin Community Services, Inc, et al. v. City of Milwaukee*, 465 F.3d 737, 750 (7th Cir. 2006); *Innovative Health System, Inc. v. City of White Plains*, 117 F.3d 37,48-49 (2d Cir. 1997). The ADA defines "public entity" to include ". . . any department, agency, special purpose district, or other instrumentality of a State. . . or local government". § 12131 (1)(B). And enforcement by a local government of zoning regulations is action by a "public entity".

Innovative Health System, Inc. v. City of White Plains, supra. 117 F3d at 44. See also Econ. Cmty. Action Program, Inc. v. City of Middletown, 294 F.3d 35, 45-46 (2nd Cir), cert. denied, 537 U.S. 813 (2002); Forest City Hous., Inc v. Town of North Hempstead, 175 F.3d 144, 151 (2<sup>nd</sup> Cir. 1999); Tsombanidis, et al. v. City of West Haven, et al., 352 F.3d 565, 573-73 (2<sup>nd</sup> Cir. 2003); and Smith-Berch, Inc. v. Baltimore County, 68 F. Supp. 2d 602, 618 (D.Md. 1999). See also Ann: Code of Md., State Govt Art. § 20-706(b)(4) (indicating that under Maryland law, as under ADA at 42 U.S.C. § 12131(2) and the FHAA at 42 U.S.C. § 3604(F)(3), the disabled are entitled to ". . . reasonable accommodations in rules, policies, practices, or services when the accommodations may be necessary to afford an individual with a disability equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling"). As demonstrated, the definitions in the ADA, the related statutes, and the caselaw establish that the zoning enforcement apparatus of Baltimore County as well as this Board are "public entities". Similarly, actions taken by the County zoning authorities and this Board are implementation of public "programs", "practices", and/or "services" within the ADA? In other words, in making a zoning decision, local zoning authorities must interpret the zoning principles that apply to private dwellings to reasonably accommodate a person with disabilities who inhabits that dwelling. Consequently, if Mrs. Cesnik is disabled within the meaning of the ADA, then this Board can and should accommodate her situation.

There are no hard and fast criteria for what constitutes a disability, and whether a disability exists is to be determined on a case-by-case basis. See A Helping Hand, LLC v. Baltimore County, 515 F.3d 356, 361 (4<sup>th</sup> Cir. (Md.) 2008) (holding that whether a recovering addict is "disabled" under the ADA is a question of fact). Of course, any analysis must begin with the operative statutory definitions. The ADA defines a disability as ". . . a physical

impairment. . . that substantially limits one or more major life activity. . . . § 12102(1)(A). "Major life activity" itself includes almost every aspect of normal daily living like eating, sleeping, walking, bending, breathing, concentrating, and the like. § 12102(2)(A). It also includes ". . .functions of the immune system, normal cell growth, brain, digestive, bowel, bladder, neurological, brain, respiratory, circulatory, endocrine, and reproductive functions." § 12102(2)(B). The ADA commands that the terms "disability" and "substantially limits" are to be liberally construed. §§ 12102(4)(A) and (B). In fact, effective January 1, 2009, Congress enacted changes to the ADA in order to undo limitations that had been imposed by the Supreme Court and other federal courts. Hoffman v. Carefirst of Fort Wayne, Inc. 737 F.Supp2d 976, 984 (N.D. Ind. 2010) citing revisions to § 12102(4) which, for example, expanded the definition of disability to include an impairment that is "in remission" if the impairment would "substantially limit a major life activity when active". See ADA Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA), Pub. L. No. 110-325, 122 Stat. 3553 (2008). And see 29 C.F.R. §§ 1630.2(g)-(h) further refining the definitions of "disability", "physical or mental impairment" and "major life activities" under the ADA and ADAAA and emphasizing that those definitions should be "broadly construed in favor of expansive coverage".

The nature of Mrs. Cesnik's health condition in this case is uncontested. There is little doubt that Stage IV cancer of any sort constitutes a major disruption of everyday functioning and is, therefore, a disability within the ADA. This is particularly true where the cancer involves the rectum, lungs, and liver. Indeed, even a much less impactful cancer can be a disability for employment purposes under the ADA. *See* 2009 WL 2171549 (E.E.O.C.)

announcing a settlement of \$125,000 paid by a White Marsh, Maryland medical group for refusing to retain an employee who had recovered from breast cancer surgery.

Having established that Mrs. Cesnik is disabled and that actions by the Board must account for the ADA, it is then necessary to determine what measures should be taken to properly accommodate the applicable zoning restrictions to her situation. Clearly the number of chickens that the Cesniks own should not be increased. They should maintain the mitigation strategies that they have already instigated to minimize the impact on their neighbors. To the extent that any impacted neighbor does have complaints, the Cesniks must make good faith efforts to satisfy such complaints. The Cesniks have not been using the chickens for commercial purposes, and that self-imposed limitation is now a requirement. Finally, the right to keep the chickens is coexistent with the disability, and should the disability end, the right to keep and maintain the chickens does as well.

#### **CONCLUSION**

For these reasons, we are permitting the Cesniks to keep and maintain the chickens subject to the conditions described above and recited in the Order accompanying this decision.

#### ORDER

THEREFORE, IT IS THIS \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2021 by the Board of Appeals of Baltimore County

**ORDERED,** that the variance to permit keeping and maintaining chickens in a lot smaller than one acre as required by BCZR § 100.6 is hereby **DENIED**; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Petitioners may keep and maintain the chickens they presently house subject to the following conditions:

- 1 The number of chickens cannot be increased;
- 2. The chickens cannot be used for commercial purposes;
- 3. The Petitioners must maintain the mitigation strategies already employed to minimize and untoward impact on neighboring properties or the people who inhabit those properties.
- 4. The Petitioners must make good faith efforts to resolve any complaints that individuals on adjoining properties may have; and
- 5. Any authority to keep and maintain any chickens will cease if and when the disability in question should cease or no longer be relevant.

### In the matter of: Matthew and Maria Fernanda Cesnik Case No: 20-056-A

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*.

BOARD OF APPEALS
OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

William A. McComas, Panel Chair

# In the matter of: Matthew and Maria Fernanda Cesnik Case No: 20-056-A

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*.

BOARD OF APPEALS OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

William A. McComas, Panel Chair

Joseph D. Evans

IN RE: PETITION FOR VARIANCE

907 Adana Road 1st Election District 2nd Council District

Mathew P. and Maria F. Cesnik

Legal Owners and Petitioners

BEFORE THE

\* BOARD OF APPEALS

\* OF

\* BALTIMORE COUNTY

\* CASE NO: CBA-2020-0056-A

OPINION CONCURRING IN PART AND DISSENTING IN PART

The majority determined that two sets of legal principles govern this matter. During the public deliberation, I voted with the majority to deny the Petitioners requested variance and concur with the reasons set forth in the majority opinion. The majority then voted to grant Petitioners a right to keep their chickens pursuant to Americans With Disabilities Act and/or other law pertaining to service animals. At that point, I declined to join the majority without any briefing or argument on the applicability of the foregoing law since the Petitioners had not raised it as a basis for seeking relief. I am not persuaded by the majority opinion and therefore dissent from the majority's decision to allow Petitioners to keep the chickens.

April 5, 2021
Date

Adaın I. Sampson

Adam T. Sampson

## Board of Appeals of Baltimore County

JEFFERSON BUILDING SECOND FLOOR, SUITE 203 105 WEST CHESAPEAKE AVENUE TOWSON, MARYLAND, 21204 410-887-3180 FAX: 410-887-3182

April 5, 2021

Matthew and Maria Fernanda Cesnik 907 Adana Road Pikesville, Maryland 21208

RE: In the Matter of: Matthew and Maria Fernanda Cesnik

Case No.: 20-0256-A

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Cesnik:

Enclosed please find a copy of the final Majority Opinion and Order, and the Opinion Concurring in Part and Dissenting in Part, issued this date by the Board of Appeals of Baltimore County in the above subject matter.

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*, with a photocopy provided to this office concurrent with filing in Circuit Court. Please note that all Petitions for Judicial Review filed from this decision should be noted under the same civil action number. If no such petition is filed within 30 days from the date of the enclosed Order, the subject file will be closed.

Very truly yours,

Krysundra "Sunny" Cannington

Dury Carrington Ham

Administrator

KLC/taz Enclosures

c: Jessica Skillman

Office of People's Counsel
Paul M. Mayhew, Managing Administrative Law Judge
Stephen Lafferty, Director/Department of Planning
C. Pete Gutwald, Director/PAI
Nancy C. West, Assistant County Attorney/Office of Law

James R. Benjamin, Jr., County Attorney/Office of Law

## BOARD OF APPEALS OF BALTIMORE COUNTY MINUTES OF DELIBERATION

**IN THE MATTER OF:** Matthew and Maria Fernanda Cesnik 20-056-A

**DATE:** February 17, 2021

**BOARD/PANEL:** William A. McComas, Chair

Joseph L. Evans Adam T. Sampson

**RECORDED BY:** Tammy A. Zahner, Legal Secretary

**PURPOSE:** To deliberate the following:

1. Petition for Variance relief pursuant to BCZR § 100.6 to permit fowl or poultry (chicken) on lot with 0.177 acres in lieu of the minimum 1.0 acres.

2. Is the property unique pursuant to the conditions set forth in *Cromwell v. Ward*?

#### PANEL MEMBERS DISCUSSED THE FOLLOWING:

#### **STANDING**

- The Board reviewed the history of this matter. The Petitioners are requesting a variance to allow them to keep chickens on their property. The Petitioners recently relocated to Maryland and moved two chickens with them. The ALJ denied the variance. One neighbor appeared in opposition to the request at the hearing before the ALJ but has since moved. No Protestants appeared at the hearing before the Board.
- The Board noted that the Petitioners' property is 0.177 acres and does meet the 1.0 acre requirement to permit chickens on their property pursuant to BCZR § 100.6.
- The Board reviewed the standards of *Cromwell v. Ward*. The Board determined that the property is similar to others in the neighborhood and is not unique. The Board also noted that any hardship is self-created.
- The Board majority determined that even though the property is not unique pursuant to the conditions of *Cromwell v. Ward*, the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA") permits reasonable accommodations under certain circumstances. There was testimony from Petitioners concerning Mrs. Cesnik's medical condition and the comfort the chickens provide her.
- The dissenting Member was not certain that the ADA applied in situations involving private homes and therefore could not support applying the ADA to this situation.

<u>CONCLUSION:</u> After thorough review of the facts, testimony, and law in the matter, the Board unanimously agreed to DENY the Petition for Variance, but the Board majority determined that reasonable accommodations can be made through the ADA in order to allow the Petitioners to retain chickens, with conditions.

NOTE: These minutes, which will become part of the case file, are intended to indicate for the record that a public deliberation took place on the above date regarding this matter. The Board's final decision and the facts and findings thereto will be set out in the written Opinion and Order to be issued by the Board.

Respectfully Submitted,	
/s	
Tammy A. Zahner	



## Board of Appeals of Baltimore County

JEFFERSON BUILDING SECOND FLOOR, SUITE 203 105 WEST CHESAPEAKE AVENUE TOWSON, MARYLAND, 21204 410-887-3180 FAX: 410-887-3182

December 15, 2020

## **NOTICE OF PUBLIC DELIBERATION**

IN THE MATTER OF:

Matthew and Maria Fernanda Cesnik

907 Adana Road

20-056-A

3<sup>rd</sup> Election District; 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilmanic District

Re:

Petition for Variance pursuant to BCZR § 100.6 to permit fowl or poultry (chicken) on lot with 0.177

acres in lieu of the minimum 1.0 acres.

8/25/2020

Opinion and Order of the Administrative Law Judge wherein the Petition for Variance was DENIED.

## ASSIGNED FOR: FEBRUARY 17, 2021, AT 9:00 A.M.

The above scheduled public deliberation will be held remotely using WebEx for audio and video participation. Call-in information and a link to the hearing will be posted on our web calendar at www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/appeals/index.html the night before.

NOTE: PUBLIC DELIBERATIONS ARE OPEN WORK SESSIONS WHICH ALLOW THE PUBLIC TO WITNESS THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS. A WRITTEN OPINION AND ORDER WILL BE ISSUED BY THE BOARD WITHIN A REASONABLE TIMEFRAME AFTER DELIBERATION AND A COPY SENT TO ALL PARTIES.

If you do not have access to a computer or smart device, please contact our office for the call-in information the day before the scheduled deliberation.

Krysundra Cannington, Administrator

c. Legal Owners/Petitioners

: Matthew and Maria Cesnik

**Protestants** 

: Jessica Skillman

Office of People's Counsel
Paul M. Mayhew, Managing Administrative Law Judge
C. Pete Gutwald, Director/Department of Planning
Michael D. Mallinoff, Director/Permits, Approvals and Inspections
Nancy C. West, Assistant County Attorney/Office of Law
James R. Benjamin, Jr., County Attorney/Office of Law



## Board of Appeals of Baltimore County

JEFFERSON BUILDING SECOND FLOOR, SUITE 203 105 WEST CHESAPEAKE AVENUE TOWSON, MARYLAND, 21204 410-887-3180 FAX: 410-887-3182

October 19, 2020

### **NOTICE OF ASSIGNMENT**

IN THE MATTER OF:

Matthew and Maria Fernanda Cesnik

907 Adana Road

20-056-A

3<sup>rd</sup> Election District; 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilmanic District

Re:

Petition for Variance pursuant to BCZR § 100.6 to permit fowl or poultry (chicken) on lot with 0.177

acres in lieu of the minimum 1.0 acres.

8/25/2020

Opinion and Order of the Administrative Law Judge wherein the Petition for Variance was DENIED.

## ASSIGNED FOR: DECEMBER 8, 2020, AT 10:00 A.M.

The above scheduled hearing will be held remotely using WebEx for audio and video participation. Call-in information and a link to the hearing will be posted on our web calendar at www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/appeals/index.html the night before.

A complete set of exhibits must be emailed at least 48 hours before the hearing to appealsboard@baltimorecountymd.gov in a format that complies with MDEC (Maryland Electronic Court) standards.

#### NOTICE:

- This appeal is an evidentiary hearing. Parties should consider the advisability of retaining an attorney.
- Please refer to the Board's Rules of Practice & Procedure, Appendix B, Baltimore County Code.
- No postponements will be granted without sufficient reasons; said requests must be in writing and in compliance with Rule 2(b) of the Board's Rules. No postponements will be granted within 15 days of scheduled hearing date unless in full compliance with Rule 2(c).
- If you require special accommodations, please contact this office at least one week prior to hearing date.

If you do not have access to a computing device, please contact our office for the call-in information the day before the scheduled hearing.

Krysundra Cannington, Administrator

Notice of Assignment In the matter of: Matthew and Maria Cesnik Case number: 20-056-A October 19, 2020 Page 2

c. Legal Owners/Petitioners

: Matthew and Maria Cesnik

**Protestants** 

: Jessica Skillman

Office of People's Counsel
Paul M. Mayhew, Managing Administrative Law Judge
C. Pete Gutwald, Director/Department of Planning
Michael D. Mallinoff, Director/Permits, Approvals and Inspections
Nancy C. West, Assistant County Attorney/Office of Law
James R. Benjamin, Jr., County Attorney/Office of Law

## Attendance Report

My Reports->Search Criteria->Search Results->Detailed Results

The following is a portion of the attendance report. To obtain all the details, click **Export**.

\*Attention to Duration ratio: Attentiveness based on total duration of the event.

Export

All times in: New York Time

#### **Attendee Count 1**

Event ID:	167035239026139380	Event key:	1608860390
Program name:		Event name:	Zoning Hearing - 907 Adana Road
Event Start date:	August 24, 2020 New York Time	Event Start time:	10:00 am New York Time
Event End time:	11:00 am New York Time	Event/Recording Duration:	60.0 mins
User Type:	Panelist	First name:	Jessica
Last name:	Skillman	Email:	sayhellotojess@gmail.com
Invited:	Yes	Registered:	No
Attended:	Yes	Join Time:	10:01 am New York Time
Leave Time:	10:30 am New York Time	Attendance Duration:	29.0 mins
Attention to Duration ratio:*	40%	Attention to Attendance ratio:**	100%
Lead source ID:		Registration Date/Time:	
Registration ID:	0	Registration Score:	
Okay to send email:	No	IP:	192.168.4.63
Client Agent:	WINDOWS,IE	Title:	
Number of Employees:		Company:	
Phone:	1-	Address 1:	
Address 2:		City:	
State/Province:		ZIP/Postal code:	
Country/Region:			

#### **Attendee Count 2**

Event ID:	167035239026139380	Event key:	1608860390
Program name:		Event name:	Zoning Hearing - 907 Adana Road
Event Start date:	August 24, 2020 New York Time	Event Start time:	10:00 am New York Time
Event End time:	11:00 am New York Time	Event/Recording Duration:	60.0 mins
User Type:	Panelist	First name:	Matthew
Last name:	Cesnik	Email:	mcesnik12@gmail.com
Invited:	Yes	Registered:	No
Attended:	Yes	Join Time:	9:52 am New York Time
Leave Time:	10:30 am New York Time	Attendance Duration:	37.0 mins
Attention to Duration ratio:*	52%	Attention to Attendance ratio:**	100%
Lead source ID:		Registration Date/Time:	
Registration ID:	0	Registration Score:	
Okay to send email:	No	IP:	10.0.0.205
Client Agent:	WINDOWS,Chrome	Title:	
Number of Employees:		Company:	
Phone:	1-	Address 1:	
Address 2:		City:	
State/Province:		ZIP/Postal code:	
Country/Region:			

<sup>\*\*</sup>Attention to Attendance ratio: Attentiveness based on how long participant was in the event.

Attendee Count 3 Event ID:	167035239026139380	Event key:	1608860390
Program name:		Event name:	Zoning Hearing - 907 Adana Road
Event Start date:	August 24, 2020 New York Time	Event Start time:	10:00 am New York Time
Event End time:	11:00 am New York Time	Event/Recording Duration:	60.0 mins
User Type:	Panelist	First name:	Donna
Last name:	Mignon	Email:	dmignon@baltimorecountymd.gov
Invited:	Yes	Registered:	No
Attended:	Yes	Join Time:	9:50 am New York Time
Leave Time:	10:30 am New York Time	Attendance Duration:	40.0 mins
Attention to Duration ratio:*	55%	Attention to Attendance ratio:**	100%
Lead source ID:		Registration Date/Time:	
Registration ID:	0	Registration Score:	
Okay to send email:	No	IP:	172.26.101.66
Client Agent:	WINDOWS,IE	Title:	**************************************
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#### Attendee Count 4

167035239026139380	Event key:	1608860390
	Event name:	Zoning Hearing - 907 Adana Road
August 24, 2020 New York Time	Event Start time:	10:00 am New York Time
11:00 am New York Time	Event/Recording Duration:	60.0 mins
Panelist	First name:	Paul
Mayhew	Email:	pmayhew@baltimorecountymd.gov
Yes	Registered:	No
Yes	Join Time:	10:01 am New York Time
10:30 am New York Time	Attendance Duration:	29.0 mins
41%	Attention to Attendance ratio:**	100%
	Registration Date/Time:	
0	Registration Score:	
No	IP:	172.26.101.4
WINDOWS,IE	Title:	
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	August 24, 2020 New York Time  11:00 am New York Time  Panelist  Mayhew  Yes  Yes  10:30 am New York Time  41%  0  No	Event name:  August 24, 2020 New York Time  11:00 am New York Time  Panelist  Mayhew  Email:  Yes  Registered:  Join Time:  10:30 am New York Time  Attendance Duration:  41%  Attention to Attendance ratio:**  Registration Date/Time:  0  Registration Score:  No  IP:  WINDOWS,IE  Title:  Company:  1-  Address 1:  City:

#### Attendee Count 5

Event ID:	167035239026139380	Event key:	1608860390
Program name:	Annual properties of The Africa States at Course at Course and Annual Course and Annual Course at Course a	Event name:	Zoning Hearing - 907 Adana Road
Event Start date:	August 24, 2020 New York Time	Event Start time:	10:00 am New York Time
Event End time:	11:00 am New York Time	Event/Recording Duration:	60.0 mins
User Type:	Panelist	First name:	Henry
Last name:	Ayakwah	Email:	hayakwah@baltimorecountymd.gov
Invited:	Yes	Registered:	No
Attended:	Yes	Join Time:	9:18 am New York Time
Leave Time:	10:30 am New York Time	Attendance Duration:	72.0 mins
Attention to Duration ratio:*	100%	Attention to Attendance ratio:**	100%
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Lead source ID:	į	Registration Date/Time:	
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Okay to send email:	No	IP:	172.26.101.171
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Phone:	1-	Address 1:	
Address 2:		City:	
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JOHN A. OLSZEWSKI, JR. County Executive

PAUL M. MAYHEW
Managing Administrative Law Judge
LAWRENCE M. STAHL
Administrative Law Judge

BALTIMORE COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS

September 28, 2020

Matthew and Maria Cesnik 907 Adana Road Pikesville, MD 21208

RE:

APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEALS

Petition for Variance Case No. 2020-0056-A Property: 907 Adana Road

Dear Mr. and Ms. Cesnik:

Please be advised that an appeal of the above-referenced case was filed in this Office on September 21, 2020. All materials relative to the case have been forwarded to the Baltimore County Board of Appeals ("Board").

If you are the person or party taking the appeal, you should notify other similarly interested parties or persons known to you of the appeal. If you are an attorney of record, it is your responsibility to notify your client.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the Board at 410-887-3180.

Sincerely,

PAUL M. MAYHEW

Managing Administrative Law Judge for Baltimore County

PMM/dlm

c: Baltimore County Board of Appeals
People's Counsel
Jessica Skillman, 905 Adana Road, Pikesville, MD 21208

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#### APPEAL

# Petition for Variance (907 Adana Road) 3rd Election District – 2nd Councilmanic District Legal Owner: Matthew P. & Maria F. Cesnick Contract Purchaser: N/A Case No. 2020-0056-A

Petition for Variance (2/24/2020)

Zoning Description of Property

Certificate of Posting – August 4, 2020 (Sgt. Black) Re-certification- August 23, 2020 (Sgt. Black)

Newspaper Advertisement – (The Daily Record) –3/27/2020

Notice of Zoning Hearing – July 17, 2020

People's Counsel Entry of Appearance – March 5, 2020

Zoning Advisory Committee Comments-

Web-Ex Sign In Sheet -

Petitioner(s) Exhibits -

- 1. Powerpoint
- 2. Site Plan

#### Protestant(s) Exhibits-

- 1. Email from Protestant
- 2. Video

Miscellaneous (Not Marked as Exhibits)- SDAT-Real Property Search

Administrative Law Judge Order and Letter (DENIED 8/25/2020)

Appeal from Matthew and M. Fernanda Cesnik dated

#### **Donna Mignon**

From:

Administrative Hearings

Sent:

Monday, September 21, 2020 11:17 AM

To:

Matthew Cesnik; Administrative Hearings; fernanda Cesnik

Subject:

RE: signed appeal letter case 2020-0056-A for County Board of Appeals

#### Dear Sir:

This is acknowledgement of your email, however this is pending receipt of the hardcopy of the letter and the filing fee being received by this office by the appeal date of 9/24/2020.

Thank you.

From: Matthew Cesnik <mcesnik12@gmail.com> Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 11:00 AM

To: Administrative Hearings <administrativehearings@baltimorecountymd.gov>; Matthew Cesnik

<mcesnik12@gmail.com>; fernanda Cesnik <Cesnikfernanda@gmail.com>
Subject: signed appeal letter case 2020-0056-A for County Board of Appeals

**CAUTION:** This message from <a href="mailto:mcesnik12@gmail.com">mcesnik12@gmail.com</a> originated from a non Baltimore County Government or non BCPL email system. Hover over any links before clicking and use caution opening attachments.

#### Dear Administration Hearings:

Attached is a signed copy of the appeal letter for case 2020-0056-A for County Board of Appeals to preserve timely filing deadline.

A hard copy of this appeal letter, along with the \$300 filing fee, has been mailed today. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Matthew and M. Fernanda Cesnik

#### **Donna Mignon**

From:

Matthew Cesnik < mcesnik12@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, September 21, 2020 11:00 AM

To:

Administrative Hearings; Matthew Cesnik; fernanda Cesnik

Subject:

signed appeal letter case 2020-0056-A for County Board of Appeals

**Attachments:** 

signed appeal letter 2020-0056-A for County Board of Appeals.JPG

**CAUTION:** This message from mcesnik12@gmail.com originated from a non Baltimore County Government or non BCPL email system. Hover over any links before clicking and use caution opening attachments.

#### Dear Administration Hearings:

Attached is a signed copy of the appeal letter for case 2020-0056-A for County Board of Appeals to preserve timely filing deadline.

A hard copy of this appeal letter, along with the \$300 filing fee, has been mailed today. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Matthew and M. Fernanda Cesnik

**PMCEIVED** 

SEP 2 1 2020

OFFICE OF

Matthew and M. Fernanda Cesnik 907 Adana Road Pikesville, MD 21208

21 September 2020

Office of Administrative Hearings c/o ALI Paul M. Mayhew 105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Room 103 Jefferson Bullding Towson, MD 21204

Dear Office of Administrative Hearings:

This is a request for an appeal to the County Board of Appeals for the denial of a variance to permit chickens on the lot of 907 Adama Road in Case No. 2020-0056-A.

Thank you for the opportunity to present our appeal to ALI Mayhew and look forward to the scheduling of an appeal with the County Board of Appeals.

This request is being sent via email to preserve the timely filing prior to the deadline per helpful instructions via telephone with the Office of Administrative Hearings. A hard copy of this letter, along with the \$300 filing fee, has been submitted via USPS on this day.

Thank you for your assistance in proving the County Board of Appeals this appeal request.

Sincerely,

In F Cernile

Matthew and M. Fernanda Cesnik

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CASHIER'S VALIDATION

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IN RE: PETITION FOR VARIANCE

(907 Adana Road)

3<sup>rd</sup> Election District 2<sup>nd</sup> Council District Matthew P. & Maria F. Cesnik *Legal Owners*  BEFORE THE

\* OFFICE OF

\* ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

\* FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

\* Case No. 2020-0056-A

**Petitioners** 

\* \* \* \* \* \*

#### **OPINION AND ORDER**

This matter comes before the Office of Administrative Hearings ("OAH") for consideration of a Petition for Variance filed on behalf of Matthew P. and Maria F. Cesnik, legal owners ("Petitioners"). The Variance was filed pursuant to § 100.6 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations ("BCZR") to permit fowl or poultry (chicken) on lot with 0.177 acres in lieu of the minimum 1.0 acres. A site plan was marked and admitted as Petitioners' Exhibit 2.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a WebEx hearing was conducted remotely by computer and/or phone participation. The Petition was advertised and posted as required by the BCZR.

Petitioners, Matthew P. and Maria F. Cesnik, appeared in support of the petition. Their next door neighbor, Jessica Skillman, testified in opposition to the requested variance. A substantive Zoning Advisory Committee ("ZAC") comment was received from the Department of Planning ("DOP") dated April 24, 2020.

The site is approximately 7,701 sq. ft. in size and zoned DR 5.5. It is a flat, rectangular lot, with no remarkable natural features. It is similar to the other lots on the street. Mr. Cesnik testified that they moved from Bloomington, Indiana to Pikesville with four chickens. He testified that the realtor who sold them the house told them that chickens were permitted at this location. This is incorrect. BCZR § 100.6 requires a minimum of 1 acre of land in order to keep chickens. The

ORDER RECEIVED FOR FILING

Date 8 25 2020

By DMugnon

Cesnik's lot is only .177 of an acre. The Cesnik's testified that they are very attached to their chickens, Pippa and Maddie. They presented a powerpoint detailing every aspect of the chickens' lives. (Petitioners' Exhibit 1). They testified that the chickens are not overly noisy. Their neighbor, Ms. Skillman, told a very different story. She testified that the chickens are often loud and that they also have a strong odor. Ms. Skillman testified that the chickens' cries sound quite like a child's cry and that this is quite disturbing to her and her children. She submitted a video/audio tape of the chickens that supports her noise complaint. (Protestant's Exhibit 2).

The general rule is that "the authority to grant a variance should be exercised sparingly and only under exceptional circumstances." *Mueller v. People's Counsel for Baltimore* County, 177 Md. App. 43, 71(2007). This is because "a variance is an authorization for that which is prohibited by a zoning ordinance." *Cromwell v. Ward*, 102 Md. App. 691, 699 (1995). And because "citizens [of a given county or municipality] are entitled to strict enforcement of the existing zoning regulations." *Salisbury Bd. Of Zoning Appeals v. Bounds*, 240 Md. 547, 555-56 (1965). Therefore, "[t]he burden is on the applicant to show facts to warrant a variance," and "the specific need for the variance must be substantial and urgent and not merely for the convenience of the applicant." *Mueller v. People's Counsel for Baltimore* County, 177 Md. App. at 70.

Under BCZR Sec. 307, and Maryland common law, in order to be entitled to variance relief the Petitioners must satisfy a two-step legal analysis, summarized as follows:

- (1) It must be shown the property is unique in a manner which makes it unlike surrounding properties, and that uniqueness or peculiarity is what necessitates the requested variance relief; and
- (2) If variance relief is denied, Petitioner will experience a practical difficulty or hardship.

Cromwell v. Ward, supra. Finally, "unless there is a finding that the property is unique, unusual, or different, the process stops here and the variance is denied without any consideration of practical

Date S 25 2020

2

difficulty or unreasonable hardship." Mueller, supra, 177 Md. App. at 70.

In the instant case, the Site Plan, photographs, and testimony fail to show that there is anything unique about this property. The Petitioners have therefore failed to meet the first prong of the legal analysis. Further, even if I were to reach the second prong, the record evidence does not support a finding that Petitioners' need for this variance is "substantial and urgent." *Mueller, supra*, 177 Md. App. at 70. I am sympathetic to the Cesniks because it is evident that they are very attached to their chickens. However, I must also consider the rights of their neighbors, who are entitled to "strict enforcement of the existing zoning regulations." *Salisbury Bd. Of Zoning Appeals v. Bounds*, 240 Md. 547, 555-56 (1965). Residents living in a densely populated neighborhood such as this one do not expect to be living next to barnyard sounds and odors.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED this **25th** day of **August**, **2020** by this Administrative Law Judge, that the Petition for Variance seeking relief pursuant to § 100.6 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations ("BCZR") to permit fowl or poultry (chicken) on lot with 0.177 acres in lieu of the minimum 1.0 acres, is hereby DENIED.

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

PAUL M. MAYHEW

Managing Administrative Law Judge

for Baltimore County

PMM:dlm

Date 8 25 2020

By Clay On The By Control of the



JOHN A. OLSZEWSKI, JR. County Executive

PAUL M. MAYHEW
Managing Administrative Law Judge
LAWRENCE M. STAHL
Administrative Law Judge

August 25, 2020

Matthew P. Cesnik Maria F. Cesnik 907 Adana Road Pikesville, MD 21208

RE:

Petition for Variance

Case No. 2020-0056-A Property: 907 Adana Road

Dear Mr. & Ms. Cesnik:

Enclosed please find a copy of the decision rendered in the above-captioned matter.

Pursuant to Baltimore County Code § 32-3-401(a), "a person aggrieved or feeling aggrieved" by this Decision and Order may file an appeal to the County Board of Appeals within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order. For further information on filing an appeal, please contact the Office of Administrative Hearings at 410-887-3868.

Sincerely,

PAUL M. MAYHEW

Managing Administrative Law Judge for Baltimore County

for Baltimore County

PMM:dlm Enclosure

c: PAI, Code Enforcement Ms. Jessica Skillman

## Panelist List

Name	Email address	Phone number	Time Zone	Language	Locale
donna m. mignon (Alternate Host)	dmignon@baltimorecountymd.gov	1-	New York Time	English	U.S.
henry ayakwah (Alternate Host)	hayakwah@baltimorecountymd.gov	1-	New York Time	English	U.S.
Paul M. Mayhew (Alternate Host)	pmayhew@baltimorecountymd.gov	1-	New York Time	English	U.S.
Jessica Skillman	sayhellotojess@gmail.com	1-	New York Time	English	U.S.
Matthew P. Cesnik	mcesnik12@gmail.com	1-	New York Time	English	U.S.

OK

#### **Debra Wiley**

From:

Administrative Hearings

Sent:

Monday, August 24, 2020 8:01 AM

To:

JS

Subject:

RE: ALERT: CASE 202-0056-A URGENT SCHEDULED 8/24/2020

Good Morning Ms. Skillman,

This is to acknowledge receipt of both your email and voice mail.

You have been emailed an invitation from WebEx for you to participate in this morning's hearing, which must be accepted. In addition, your email has been accepted for you to present and speak at today's hearing.

Thank you for contacting the Office of Administrative Hearings.

Debra Wiley, Legal Administrative Secretary Baltimore County Office of Administrative Hearings 105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 103 Towson, Maryland 21204 410-887-3868

From: J S <sayhellotojess@gmail.com> Sent: Saturday, August 22, 2020 11:15 AM

To: Administrative Hearings <administrativehearings@baltimorecountymd.gov>

Subject: ALERT: CASE 202-0056-A URGENT SCHEDULED 8/24/2020

CAUTION: This message from sayhellotojess@gmail.com originated from a non Baltimore County Government or non BCPL email system. Hover over any links before clicking and use caution opening attachments.

I want to submit written testimony/comments again for the hearing scheduled Monday. I had sent another thing months ago to this address and to the Judge Stahl regarding case # 2020-0056-A. This case is scheduled for Monday 8/24/2020.

I had submitted video and audio of the chickens. I would like to resubmit this.

My comments are the following:

- 1) The owners were alerted prior to moving in that chickens were not allowed under 1 acre per County zoning ordinance. They were informed by Zoning at the first violation (10/19) they could apply for a variance but did not seek one until after several violations and many months later. I believe they were buying time to delay having to get rid of them.
- 2) They brought 4 chickens in October 2019.
- 3) The chickens are approximately 20 feet from my house and 12 feet from our property line.
- 4) They are extremely loud, constantly during the day, to the point it creates an incessant noise disturbing to those around them. The chickens sound like screaming children, which is alarming.
- 5) They are kept in an extremely small area and appear to need attention/feeding more than given. They are not used as a companion pet. I am constantly outside and we do not see owners interact with chickens.

- 6) The smell is a nuisance and discurbance. It makes people gag and can be smelled several houses over at times. Also, the food left out for chickens attracts pests including rats, which are being seen in more abundance in the neighborhood.
- 7) The zoning violation effects my ability to sell my neighboring house.
- 8) Zoning requires 1 acre. They have .177.
- 9) There are no compelling reason they should be granted a variance.

My name is Jessica Skillman. My number is 410-215-5454.

I am a direct neighbor of the person seeking a variance.

Please contact me so I can appear at the hearing, or have these comments submitted for Monday. I had subitted this to your office on April 3, 2020

I have submitted video and audio, which are compelling evidence. Please let me know in the affirmative that you can recieve and open them.

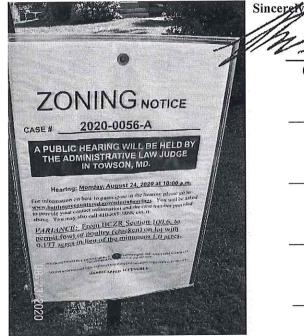
Sincerely,

Jessica Skillman

VID\_20200816 (1).mp4

# CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

	2020-0056-A
RE	: Case No.:
	Petitioner/Developer:
	Mathew P. & Maria F. Cesnik
	August 24, 2020
	Date of Hearing/Closing:
Baltimore County Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections County Office Building, Room 111 11 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204 Attn: Kristen Lewis: Ladies and Gentlemen:	RECEIVED  AUG 2 4 2020  OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
This letter is to certify under the penalties of perjury posted conspicuously on the property located at:	y that the necessary sign(s) required by law were
007 Adana Road SIGN 1 Re	ecertification
The sign(s) were posted on	st 4, 2020
(Mon	th, Day, Year)



(Signature of Sign Poster) (Date)

SSG Robert Black

(Print Name)

1508 Leslie Road

(Address)

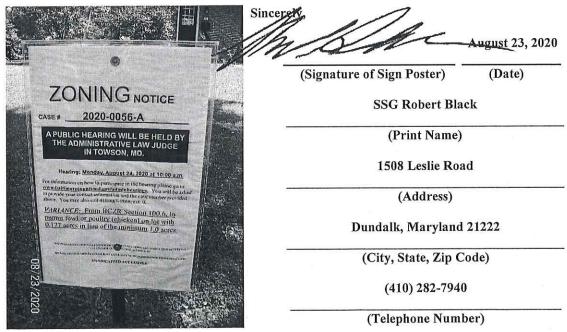
Dundalk, Maryland 21222

(City, State, Zip Code)

(410) 282-7940

(Telephone Number)

RE	2020-0056-A C: Case No.:
N.S.	Petitioner/Developer:
	Mathew P. & Maria F. Cesnik
	August 24, 2020 Date of Hearing/Closing:
Baltimore County Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections	
County Office Building, Room 111 11 West Chesapeake Avenue	RECEIVED
Towson, Maryland 21204	AUG 2 4 2020
Attn: Kristen Lewis:	OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
Ladies and Gentlemen:	
This letter is to certify under the penalties of perjur posted conspicuously on the property located at:	
907 Adana Road SIGN 2 Re	ecertification
Augus	st 4, 2020
(Mon	ith, Day, Year)
Sincere	E 7



8-24-20 10 Am

SGT ROBERT BLACK <1opie@comcast.net>
Sunday, August 23, 2020 9:37 PM
Administrative Hearings
Recertification's For 2020-0056-A
Re-Cert 1 2020-0056-A.doc; Re-Cert 2 2020-0056-A.doc

ments:

ON: This message from 1opie@comcast.net originated from a non Baltimore County Government or non BCPL email system. over any links before clicking and use caution opening attachments.

rtification's for 907 Adana Road. Thanks.

RECEIVED

AUG 2 4 2020

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

### **Debra Wiley**

From:

Administrative Hearings

Sent:

Sunday, August 23, 2020 9:41 AM

To:

Debra Wiley

Subject:

FW: ALERT: CASE 202-0056-A URGENT SCHEDULED 8/24/2020

Follow Up Flag:

Flag for follow up

Flag Status:

Flagged

Hi Deb, I was checking the emails and this woman has a video to present and wishes to be at the hearing Monday morning.

Can you invite her? I will save the attached stuff and will bring it to Paul's attention Monday.

From: J S <sayhellotojess@gmail.com> Sent: Saturday, August 22, 2020 11:15 AM

To: Administrative Hearings <administrativehearings@baltimorecountymd.gov>

Subject: ALERT: CASE 202-0056-A URGENT SCHEDULED 8/24/2020

CAUTION: This message from <a href="mailto:sayhellotojess@gmail.com">sayhellotojess@gmail.com</a> originated from a non Baltimore County Government or non BCPL email system. Hover over any links before clicking and use caution opening attachments.

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I had submitted video and audio of the chickens. I would like to resubmit this.

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- 5) They are kept in an extremely small area and appear to need attention/feeding more than given. They are not used as a companion pet. I am constantly outside and we do not see owners interact with chickens.
- 6) The smell is a nuisance and disturbance. It makes people gag and can be smelled several houses over at times. Also, the food left out for chickens attracts pests including rats, which are being seen in more abundance in the neighborhood.
- 7) The zoning violation effects my ability to sell my neighboring house.
- 8) Zoning requires 1 acre. They have .177.
- 9) There are no compelling reason they should be granted a variance.

My name is Jessica Skillman. My number is 410-215-5454.

I am a direct neighbor of the person seeking a variance.

Please contact me so I can appear at the hearing, or have these comments submitted for Monday. I had subitted this to your office on April 3, 2020

I have submitted video and audio, which are compelling evidence. Please let me know in the affirmative that you can recieve and open them.

Sincerely,

Jessica Skillman

**VID\_20200816 (1).mp4** 

From: Bruce Doak < doakfarm@gmail.com > Sent: Friday, August 21, 2020 11:30 AM

To: Donna Mignon < dmignon@baltimorecountymd.gov > Subject: Re: 18310 Gunpowder Road - 8/27/2020 10:00 a.m.

CAUTION: This message from doakfarm@gmail.com originated from a non Baltimore County Government or non BCPL email syste Hover over any links before clicking and use caution opening attachments.

Good morning Donna,

I have enclosed the previous posting cert that was submitted to Jenae

And the re-cert from today.

Bruce
Bruce E. Doak Consulting, LLC
3801 Baker Schoolhouse Road
Freeland, MD 21053
410-419-4906
bdoak@bruceedoakconsulting.com

On Aug 20, 2020, at 1:09 PM, Donna Mignon <a href="mailto:dmignon@baltimorecountymd.gov">dmignon@baltimorecountymd.gov</a> wrote:

#### Good Afternoon,

I am in the process of getting this file ready for the hearing next week.

I do not see the Certification of Sign Posting in the file. Can you please check to see if you have this and if so email to me.

Thank you.

Donna Mignon, Legal Assistant Baltimore County Office of Administrative Hearings 105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 103 Towson, Maryland 21204 410-887-3868



CONNECT WITH BALTIMORE COUNTY



<Posting Cert 8 06 20.pdf><Posting cert 8 21 20.pdf>

### **Donna Mignon**

From:

Matthew Cesnik <mcesnik12@gmail.com>

Sent:

Thursday, August 20, 2020 6:53 PM

To:

Donna Mignon; Administrative Hearings

Subject:

Re: Hearing on 8/24/2020 at 10:00 a.m. - Case No: 2020-0056-AIAL 202020

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Follow Up Flag:

Follow up

Flag Status:

Flagged

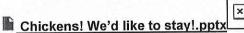
CAUTION: This message from mcesnik12@gmail.com originated from a non Baltimore County Government or non BCPL email system. Hover over any links before clicking and use caution opening attachments.

Thank you so much!

Attached is a short Powerpoint presentation with notes on each slide that I would like to present. Thank you for this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Matt and Fernanda Cesnik



On Thu, Aug 20, 2020 at 9:35 AM Donna Mignon < dmignon@baltimorecountymd.gov > wrote:

Dear Mr. Cesnik:

As you are aware, you have a hearing that is currently scheduled for this Monday, August 24, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

Please forward any exhibits in PDF form that you wish to present at your hearing within 48 hours of the hearing date.

Please email them to our general mailbox at: administrativehearings@baltimorecountymd.gov

Thank you so much. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office.

Donna Mignon, Legal Assistant

Baltimore County Office of Administrative Hearings

105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 103

Towson, Maryland 21204

410-887-3868



### CONNECT WITH BALTIMORE COUNTY



### **Donna Mignon**

From:

Donna Mignon

Sent:

Thursday, August 20, 2020 9:36 AM

To:

'mcesnik12@gmail.com'

Subject:

Hearing on 8/24/2020 at 10:00 a.m. - Case No: 2020-0056-A

Dear Mr. Cesnik:

As you are aware, you have a hearing that is currently scheduled for this Monday, August 24, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. Please forward any exhibits in PDF form that you wish to present at your hearing within 48 hours of the hearing date. Please email them to our general mailbox at: <a href="mailto:administrativehearings@baltimorecountymd.gov">administrativehearings@baltimorecountymd.gov</a>

Thank you so much. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office.

Donna Mignon, Legal Assistant Baltimore County Office of Administrative Hearings 105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 103 Towson, Maryland 21204 410-887-3868



JOHN A. OLSZEWSKI, JR. County Executive

MICHAEL D. MALLINOFF, Director Department of Permits, Approvals & Inspections

August 18, 2020

Matthew Cesnik, 907 Adana Road Pikesville MD 21208

RE: Case Number: 2020-0056-A, 907 Adana Road

To Whom It May Concern:

The above referenced petition was accepted for processing **ONLY** by the Bureau of Zoning Review, Department of Permits, Approvals, and Inspection (PAI) on February 24, 2020. 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.

W. Carl Richards, Jr. Supervisor, Zoning Review

WCR/kl

Enclosures

c: People's Counsel

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYL INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/24/2020

TO:

Michael D. Mallinoff

Director, Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections

FROM:

C. Pete Gutwald

Director, Department of Planning

SUBJECT: ZONING ADVISORY COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Case Number: 20-056

INFORMATION:

**Property Address:** 

907 Adana Road

Petitioner:

Matthew P Cesnik, Maria Cesnik

Zoning:

DR 5.5

Requested Action:

Variance

The Department of Planning has reviewed the petition for variance to determine whether the administrative law judge should permit fowl or poultry (chickens) on a lot with 0.177 acres in lieu of the minimum 1 acre.

A site visit was conducted on March 5, 2020 and was observed that the four (4) chickens appear to be healthy and have adequate facilities to include an outdoor run, coop and free roaming space. Mrs. Cesnik stated she considers the chickens as pets and stated that they would like to install a privacy fence. Fences exist along adjacent/contiguous property lines. Mrs. Cesnik was referred to Historic Preservation in order to obtain the requirements and procedures for historic district approvals.

The applicants should also be aware that, along with a fence, any chicken coop might require approval by the Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC).

The Department of Planning has no objections to the requested relief conditioned upon the following:

- 1. No more than four (4) hens (no roosters) shall be permitted on the property provided if a nuisance is not created nor allowed to exist on the property.
- 2. If hens are no longer housed on the property within a year, all supporting structures shall be removed.

For further information concerning the matters stated herein, please contact Bill Skibinski at 410-887-3480.

Prepared by:

Krystle Patchak

Kyt RK

**Division Chief:** 

Jenifer G. Nugent

Date: 4/24/2020

Subject: ZAC # 20-056

Page 2

### CPG/JGN/kma/

c: Bill Skibinski Matthew and Maria Cesnik Office of the Administrative Hearings People's Counsel for Baltimore County ADMINISTRATION

Larry Hogan Governor Boyd K. Rutherford Lt. Governor Gregory Slater Acting Secretary Tim Smith, P.E. Acting Administrator

Date: 3/4/20

Ms. Kristen Lewis
Baltimore County Office of
Permits and Development Management
County Office Building, Room 109
111 West Chesapeake Avenue
Towson, Maryland 21204

Dear Ms. Lewis:

Thank you for the opportunity to review your referral request on the subject of the Case number referenced below. 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 Case No. 2020-0056-N

Variance. Mathew P.E Maria F Cesnik 907 Adama Road

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Richard Zeller at 410-229-2332 or 1-866-998-0367 (in Maryland only) extension 2332, or by email at (rzeller@mdot.maryland.gov).

Sincerely,

Wendy Wolcott, P.L.A.

Metropolitan District Engineer

Maryland Department of Transportation

State Highway Administration

District 4 - Baltimore and Harford Counties

WW/RAZ

### BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

### **Inter-Office Correspondence**



TO:

Hon. Paul M. Mayhew; Managing Administrative Law Judge

Office of Administrative Hearings

FROM:

Jeff Livingston, Department of Environmental Protection and

Sustainability (EPS) - Development Coordination

DATE:

March 6, 2020

SUBJECT:

**DEPS** Comment for Zoning Item

# 2020-0056-A

Address

907 Adana Road

(Cesnik Property)

Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting of March 9, 2020.

X The Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability has no comment on the above-referenced zoning item.

Reviewer:

Steve Ford

	2020-0056-A RE: Case No.:
	Petitioner/Developer:
	Mathew P. & Maria F. Cesnik
	August 24, 2020  Date of Hearing/Closing:
Baltimore County Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections County Office Building, Room 111 I11 West Chesapeake Avenue Fowson, Maryland 21204	
Attn: Kristen Lewis:	
Ladies and Gentlemen:	
This letter is to certify under the penalties opposted conspicuously on the property locat	of perjury that the necessary sign(s) required by law were ed at:
907 Adana Road SIGN 1	
The sign(s) were negted on	August 4, 2020
The sign(s) were posted on	(Month, Day, Year)
(	
	Sincerely,  August 4, 2020
	(Signature of Sign Poster) (Date)
ZONING NOTICE	SSG Robert Black
A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE IN TOWSON, MD.	(Print Name)
Theorem Manufac Assauss 24, 2000 at 1880 a in.  According recognition of the Confederation of the Assauss 200 at 1880 a in.  See Section of the Confederation of the Confederatio	1508 Leslie Road
species of the control of the contro	(Address)
The second secon	Dundalk, Maryland 21222
S Company of the Comp	(City State Zin Code)

(410) 282-7940

(Telephone Number)

	2020-0056-A RE: Case No.:
	Petitioner/Developer:
	Mathew P. & Maria F. Cesnik
	August 24, 2020 Date of Hearing/Closing:
Saltimore County Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections County Office Building, Room 111 11 West Chesapeake Avenue Cowson, Maryland 21204	
Attn: Kristen Lewis:	
adies and Gentlemen:	
This letter is to certify under the penalties of penosted conspicuously on the property located a	erjury that the necessary sign(s) required by law were t:
007 Adana Road SIGN 2	
	ugust 4, 2020
The sign(s) were posted on	(Month, Day, Year)
Sin	August 4, 2020
	(Signature of Sign Poster) (Date)
ZONING NOTICE	SSG Robert Black
CASE # 2020-0056-A  A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE	(Print Name)
IN TOWSON, MD.  Hearing: Woodey, Arrives 24, 2020 at 10:00 arr.	1508 Leslie Road
For information in how to junicipous in the housing playing as in a many housing containing and an administration. View on his was of many housing information and the form sample proposal properties and the form sample proposal properties and the formation of the proposal properties and the strength of the properties	(Address)
1 ARIANCE: From IEEE Rection 1,00.6, in germit fowl or poultry, (chicken) on her with 0,137 acres, in line of the minimum 1,0 acres.	Dundalk, Maryland 21222
The second secon	(City, State, Zip Code)

(410) 282-7940

(Telephone Number)



JOHN A. OLSZEWSKI, JR. County Executive

July 17, 2020

PAUL M. MAYHEW
Managing Administrative Law Judge
LAWRENCE M. STAHL
Administrative Law Judge

#### NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING

The Administrative Law Judge of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a virtual hearing on the property identified herein as follows:

### **CASE NUMBER: 2020-0056-A**

Address: 907 Adana Road

Location: East side of Adana Road, 582 ft. to the centerline SW of Kingston Road

Election District: 3 Council District: 2 Legal Owner: Mathew P. & Maria F. Cesnik

Contract Purchaser: No Contract Purchaser was set.

<u>VARIANCE</u>: From BCZR § 100.6, to permit fowl or poultry (chicken) on lot with 0.177 acres in lieu of the minimum 1.0 acres.

### Hearing: Monday, August 24, 2020 at 10:00 AM

For information on how to participate in the hearings, please go to <a href="https://www.baltimorecountymdgov/adminhearings">www.baltimorecountymdgov/adminhearings</a>. You will be asked to provide your contact information and the case number provided above. You may also call 410-887-3868, press 0 for operator.

PAUL M. MAYHEW

Managing Administrative Law Judge for Baltimore County

Office of Administrative Hearings

ON AUTHORITY OF: Michael Mallinoff, Director, Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections

PMM:dlw

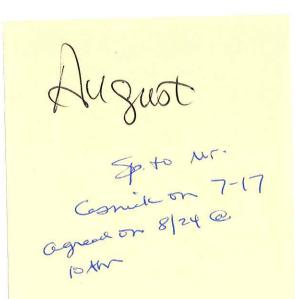
c: Matthew P. and Maria F. Cesnik, 907 Adana Road, Pikesville, MD 21208 (via email <a href="mailto:mcesnik12@gmail.com">mcesnik12@gmail.com</a>)

NOTE: THE PETITIONERS MUST HAVE THE ZONING NOTICE SIGN POSTED BY AN APPROVED POSTER ON THE PROPERTY BY TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2020

### Panelist List

Name	Email address	Phone number	Time Zone	Language	Locale
donna m. mignon (Alternate Host)	dmignon@baltimorecountymd.gov	1-	New York Time	English	U.S.
henry ayakwah (Alternate Host)	hayakwah@baltimorecountymd.gov	1-	New York Time	English	U.S.
Paul M. Mayhew (Alternate Host)	pmayhew@baltimorecountymd.gov	1-	New York Time	English	U.S.
Matthew P. Cesnik	mcesnik12@gmail.com	1-	New York Time	English	U.S.

OK



#### **Debra Wiley**

From:

Debra Wiley

Sent:

Friday, July 17, 2020 1:22 PM

To:

Kristen L Lewis

Subject:

Link - 8/24 @ 10 AM - Case No. 2020-0056-A

Zoning Hearing - 907 Adana

**Start Event Now** 

Road

You can start the

Type:

event by clicking

Start Now.

Listed Event

**Event address for attendees: Event address for panelists:** 

https://baltimorecountymd.webex.com/baltimorecountymd/onstage/

https://baltimorecountymd.webex.com/baltimorecountymd/onstage/

Date and time:

Monday, August 24, 2020 10:00 am

Eastern Daylight Time (New York, GMT-04:00)

**Duration:** 

1 hour

Description:

Zonina Hearing

Send Event Emails 907 Adana Road

You can send event emails by clicking

Case No. 2020-0056-A Matthew and Maria Cesnik

Event number:

Send Emails.

160 886 0390

**Event password:** 

1234

Host key:

811738

Alternate Host:

donna m. mignon, henry ayakwah, Paul M. Mayhew

Panelist Info:

Panelist password:

Panelist numeric password:

810531

Video Address:

1608860390@baitimorecountymd.webex.com

You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

Audio conference:

US Toll

+1-415-655-0001

Show all global call-in numbers Access code: 160 886 0390

Debra Wiley, Legal Administrative Secretary **Baltimore County Office of Administrative Hearings** 105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 103 Towson, Maryland 21204

410-887-3868

7900 mg3-A

### The Daily Record

200 St. Paul Place Suite 2480 Baltimore, Maryland 21202 1 (443) 524-8100 www.thedailyrecord.com

### **PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT**

We hereby certify that the annexed advertisement was published in The Daily Record, a daily newspaper published in the State of Maryland 1 times on the following dates:

3/27/2020

Order #: Case #:

11869398

2020-0056-A

Description:

NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING - CASE NUMBER: 2020-0056-A

Darlene Miller, Public Notice Coordinator (Representative Signature)

**Baltimore County** 

¹/Vr

pu

NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING

The Administrative Law Judge 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: 2020-0056-A

907 Adana Road

E/side of Adana Road, 582 ft. to the centerline of Kingston Road

3rd Election District- 2nd Councilmanic District

Legal Owners: Matthew & Maria Cesnik

Variance to permit fowl or poultry (chicken) on lot with 0.177 acres in lieu of the minimum required-1.0 acre.

Hearing: Friday, April 17, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 205, Jefferson Building, 105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Towson 21204

Mi chael Mall inoff

Director of Permits, Approvals and Inspections for Baltimore County
NOTES: (1) HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE, FOR SPECIAL
ACCOMODATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
OFFICE AT 410-887-3868.
(2) FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FILE AND/OR HEARING,
CONTACT THE ZONING REVIEW OFFICE AT 410-887-3391.

11,7 1

RE: PETITION FOR VARIANCE
907 Adana Road; E/S of Adana Road, 582'
to c/line of SW Kingston Road
3<sup>rd</sup> Election & 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilmanic Districts
Legal Owner(s): Matthew & Maria Cesnick
Petitioner(s)

- \* BEFORE THE OFFICE
- \* OF ADMINSTRATIVE
- \* HEARINGS FOR
- \* BALTIMORE COUNTY
- \* 2020-056-A

### **ENTRY OF APPEARANCE**

Pursuant to Baltimore County Charter § 524.1, please enter the appearance of People's Counsel for Baltimore County as an interested party 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.

RECEIVED

MAR 05 2020

Peter Max Zummerman

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN
People's Counsel for Baltimore County

CAROLE S. DEMILIO

Carle S Nombro

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 5th day of March, 2020, a copy of the foregoing Entry of Appearance was mailed to Matthew & Maria Cesnick, 907 Adana Road, Pikesville, Maryland 21208, Petitioner(s).

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN
People's Counsel for Baltimore County

Peta Max Zumerman

### **ZAC AGENDA**

Case Number: 2020-0055-X

Reviewer: Jason Seidelman
Proposed Use: COMMERCIAL

Existng Use: COMMERCIAL
Type: SPECIAL EXCEPTION
Legal Owner: Essex Plaza, LLC

Contract Purchaser: No Contract Purchaser was set.

Critical Area: No Flood Plain: No Historic: No Election Dist: 15 Council Dist: 7

Property Address: 122 EASTERN AVE

Location: NW/S of Eastern Blvd (80'), 345' SW of Wiltshire Road (50').

Existing Zoning: BL

Area: 2.14 AC

Proposed Zoning: SPECIAL EXCEPTION:

To approve the use of a 2,457 square foot tenant suite + parking area with the address of #122 Eastern Avenue for a

community building per section 230.3 BCZR.

Attorney: Not Available Prior Zoning Cases: None Concurrent Cases: None Violation Cases: None

Closing Date:

Miscellaneous Notes:

Case Number: 2020-0056-A Reviewer: Gary Hucik
Existing Use: RESIDENTIAL Proposed Use: RESIDENTIAL

Type: VARIANCE

Legal Owner: Mathew P. & Maria F. Cesnik

Contract Purchaser: No Contract Purchaser was set.

Critical Area: No Flood Plain: No Historic: No Election Dist: 3 Council Dist: 2

Property Address: 907 ADANA RD

Location: East side of Adana Road 582' to the center line South West of Kingston Road.

Existing Zoning: DR 5.5

Area: 7701 SQ FT

Proposed Zoning:

VARIANCE:

100.6 of the (BCZR) To permit Fowl or Poultry (chicken) on lot with 0.177 acres in lieu of the minimum 1.0 acres.

Attorney: Not Available
Prior Zoning Cases: None
Concurrent Cases: None
Violation Cases: CC1914506

**Closing Date:** 

Miscellaneous Notes:



TITION FOR ZONING HI RING(S)

To be used with the Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections

To the Address	Office of Adm	inistrative Lav	v of Baltimore Coul	nty for the p	roperty located at: y zoned (esidential) 0 4 0 3 5 4 00
Deed Re	eferences: $4(919)$	0067	10 Digit Tax A	ccount # <u>0 3</u>	04035400
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(SELECT THE H	EARING(S) BY MARKI	NG X AT THE APPRO	PRIATE SELECTION AND P	RINT OR TYPE TH	E PETITION REQUEST)
The undersigned I	legal owner(s) of the and plan attac	e property situate i ched hereto and m	in Baltimore County and ade a part hereof, hereb	which is descri by petition for:	bed in the description
1 a Special He or not the Zoning (	earing under Section Commissioner shou	on 500.7 of the Zor ald approve	ning Regulations of Balti	more County, to	o determine whether
2 a Special Ex	ception under the.	Zoning Regulation	s of Baltimore County to	use the hereir	described property for
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See	allachment				
Property is to be posted an I, or we, agree to pay experience and restrictions of Baltimo Legal Owner(s) Affirmati which is the subject of this	enses of above petition(s re County adopted pursuon: on: 1 / we do so solemni	s), advertising, posting,	ala and fuelles seems to	are to be bounded hat I / We are the le	by the zoning regulations egal owner(s) of the property
Contract Purchaser	/Lessee:		Legal Owners (Pet	li4i α	
					(- FA - 1)
Name- Type or Print			Matthew P.Ces		e #2 - Type or Print
Signature		* 6	MARK		FCesmile
-			Signature #1 907 Adama R	oad Pikesi	alure # 2
Mailing Address	City	State	Mailing Address	City	State
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Attorney for Petition	er:		Representative to b	e contacted:	Co.
Name- Type or Print			Name – Type or Print		
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Signature			Signature	SHAKE	
Mailing Address	City	State	Mailing Address	City	State
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				ephone #	Email Address
CASE NUMBER <u>2020 -</u>	0056:A Fill	ing Date 2 2420	20 Do Not Schedule Date	es:	Reviewer 4 h

Variance Request for keeping 4 chickens at 907 Adama Road, Pikesville. MD 21208 (Baltimore County)

B.C.Z.R. 100.6: Non permitted livestock/fowl/poultry

Case CC1914506

Cesnik, Matthew Paul and Maria Fernanda Cesnik

Dear Zoning Commissioner:

We are in the process of applying for a variance at our home at 907 Adana Road, Pikesville, MD 21208 (Sudbrook Park, Baltimore County). We received a code enforcement violation regarding having chickens on less than one acre of land (B.C.Z.R. 100.6). Our property is a well maintained 7,701 square feet plot that we will be using for vegetable and flower gardens.

We are from Bloomington, Indiana which allows chickens, without regard to the size of the property, and we have had the chickens for about two and a half years and moved to Pikesville, MD on August 2, 2019. We drove our chickens from Indiana to Maryland in the backseat of an airconditioned car. Our chickens are put away each night in a secure wooden coop.

We consider our four chickens, Penelope, Pipi, Maddie, and Annie to be pets, and we obtained them more as emotional support for my wife and I. My wife was diagnosed with Stage 4 liver, colorectal, and lung cancer soon following my return from deployment for which I serve as an intelligence officer for the U.S. Army Reserves and we obtained the chickens during that time period to provide an opportunity for hope, new beginnings, comfort, treatment and for important nutritional benefits. We love our chickens so much—we cannot imagine the possibility of having to give them up due to the size of our plot—this is one thing that my wife has to live for and keeps her going each day as they have become a part of our lives.

We moved to the Baltimore, MD area because I was fortunate enough to be recruited for a government job with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in Woodlawn, MD and to continue my 27-year Army career in nearby Ft. Meade, MD. My wife was accepted to be a patient of the director of oncology at Johns Hopkins so there was no reason not to move here but of course we could not leave our children, our dogs, and our chickens behind.

I want to thank you for your consideration in the delay of the compliance action while we are in the process of a variance request to keep the chickens on our property. Please note that I do have to travel on military orders each month and my wife receives chemotherapy treatments twice a month at Johns Hopkins which has delayed us filing for the variance request in a timely manner.

We have never been "rule breakers" and understand the importance of following all just laws, regulations, and orders. I hold a Top Secret/Sensitive Compartmented Information (TS/SCI) clearance with the U.S. Army so I understand the importance of being an outstanding and

trustworthy citizen and neighbor. But, to give up our chickens would break up this family and be devasting to my wife. We can only imagine a positive outcome to our variance request.

Thank you for your time and consideration in the variance request and look forward to providing you all of the necessary documentation so a sound decision can be made. Our family looks forward to continuing to live healthy and prosperous at our home in Sudbrook Park.

Sincerely,

mflesmie

MAJ Matthew P. Cesnik Maria Fernanda Cesnik

### The Zoning Petition Property Description

Part A:

ZONING PROPERTY DESCRIPTION FOR 907 Adama Road, Pikesville, MD 21208

Beginning at a point on the east side of Adana Road which is 50 feet wide at a distance of 580 feet feet feet feet wide.

Part B:

Being Lot #8, Section #1 in the subdivision Sudbrook Park as recorded in Baltimore County Plat Book #C.W.B., Folio #51, containing 7701 square feet. Located in the 3 Election District and 2 Council District.

2020-0056-A

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## **CE...IFICATE OF POST...G**

	2020-0056-A RE: Case No.:
	Petitioner/Developer:
	Mathew P. & Maria F. Cesnik
	August 24, 2020 Date of Hearing/Closing:
Baltimore County Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections County Office Building, Room 111 11 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204	
Attn: Kristen Lewis:	
Ladies and Gentlemen:	
This letter is to certify under the penalties of perjoosted conspicuously on the property located at:	ury that the necessary sign(s) required by law were
007 Adana Road SIGN 1	
The sign(s) were posted on	gust 4, 2020
(M	onth, Day, Year)
Since	August 4, 2020



August 4, 2020

(Signature of Sign Poster) (Date)

SSG Robert Black

(Print Name)

1508 Leslie Road

(Address)

Dundalk, Maryland 21222

(City, State, Zip Code)

(410) 282-7940

(Telephone Number)

## CE...IFICATE OF POST...G

	2020-0050-A
F	RE: Case No.:
	Petitioner/Developer:
7	Mathew P. & Maria F. Cesnik
	August 24, 2020 Date of Hearing/Closing:
Baltimore County Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections County Office Building, Room 111 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204	
Attn: Kristen Lewis:  Ladies and Gentlemen:	
This letter is to certify under the penalties of perju- posted conspicuously on the property located at:_	ury that the necessary sign(s) required by law were
907 Adana Road SIGN 2	
	ust 4, 2020
The sign(s) were posted on(Mo	onth, Day, Year)



Sincerely,

August 4, 2020

(Signature of Sign Poster) (Date)

SSG Robert Black

(Print Name)

1508 Leslie Road

(Address)

Dundalk, Maryland 21222

(City, State, Zip Code)

(410) 282-7940

(Telephone Number)

### **Debra Wiley**

From:

Debra Wiley

Sent:

Friday, July 17, 2020 1:57 PM

To:

'mcesnik12@gmail.com'

Subject:

Hearing Notice & Sign Poster Info. Re: Case No. 2020-0056-A - 907 Adana Rd. (August

24th at 10 AM)

Attachments:

20200717135656903.pdf

Good Afternoon Mr. Cesnik,

Per our telephone conversation, please find attached the Hearing Notice and Sign Poster information regarding your case scheduled for Monday, August 24, 2020 at 10:00 AM.

Please let me know if you have any questions and/or concerns.

Thanks and have a great and safe day!

Debra Wiley, Legal Administrative Secretary Baltimore County Office of Administrative Hearings 105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 103 Towson, Maryland 21204 410-887-3868

----Original Message----

From: adminhearingscpr@baltimorecountymd.gov <adminhearingscpr@baltimorecountymd.gov>

Sent: Friday, July 17, 2020 1:57 PM

To: Debra Wiley <dwiley@baltimorecountymd.gov>

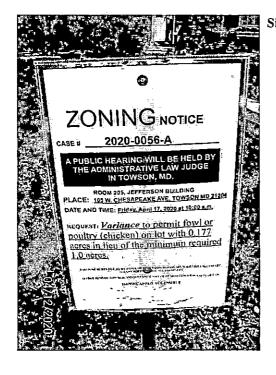
Subject: Message from "RNP002673F6C9D3"

This E-mail was sent from "RNP002673F6C9D3" (MP 3055).

Scan Date: 07.17.2020 13:56:56 (-0400)

Queries to: adminhearingscpr@baltimorecountymd.gov

	2020-0056-A RE: Case No.:
	Petitioner/Developer:
	Matthew & Maria Cesnik
	April 17, 2020  Date of Hearing/Closing:
Baltimore County Depa Permits, Approvals and County Office Building, 111 West Chesapeake A Towson, Maryland 2120 Attn: Kristen Lewis:	Inspections Room 111 venue
Ladies and Gentlemen:	
	nder the penalties of perjury that the necessary sign(s) required by law were the property located at:
907 Adana Road	SIGN 1 Recertification
TDI ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( )	March 28, 2020
The sign(s) were posted	(Month, Day, Year)



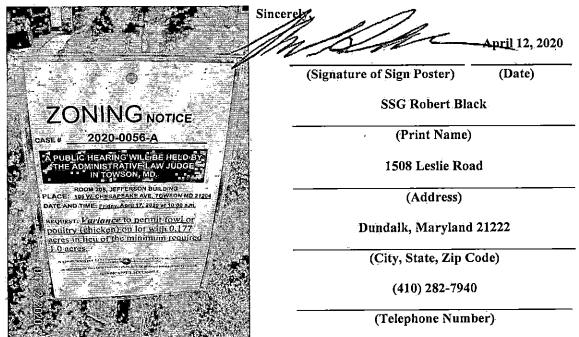
ncere	April 12, 2020
A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	(Signature of Sign Poster) (Date)
	SSG Robert Black
-	(Print Name)
	1508 Leslie Road
-	(Address)
	Dundalk, Maryland 21222
=	(City, State, Zip Code)
	(410) 282-7940
•	(Telephone Number)

	RE: Case No.:	2020-0056-A 
	Petitioner/Developer:	
	Matthew	& Maria Cesnik
	Date of Hearing/Closing: _	April 17, 2020
Baltimore County Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections County Office Building, Room 111 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204		
Attn: Kristen Lewis:		
Ladies and Gentlemen:		
This letter is to certify under the penalties of posted conspicuously on the property located		quired by law were
907 Adana Road SIGN 2	Recertification	
	March 28, 2020	
The sign(s) were posted on	(Month, Day, Year)	<del></del>
I A STAN AND LONG S	incerely	
	Mille	- April 12, 2020
	(Signature of Sign Poster)	(Date)
ZONING NOTICE	SSG Robert Bla	ek
CASE# 2020-0056-A	(Print Name)	
A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE IN TOWSON, MD.	1508 Leslie Roa	ad
ROOM 205, IEFFERSON BUILDING PLACE: 105 W. GHEBAPEAKE AYE. TOWSON MD 21204 DATE AND TIME: Eridek Abell 12, 2020 a 10:00 a.m.	(Address)	
REQUEST Variance to permit fowl or poultry (chicken) on lot with 0.177 acres in lieu of the minimum required	Dundalk, Maryland	21222
LO acres  Administrative Administrative Administrative and partition made:  Administrative Administrative Administrative and partition made:  Administrative	(City, State, Zip C	Code)
	(410) 282-794	0
	(Telephone Num	ber)

				2020-0056-A
			RE: Case No.:	
			Petitioner/Developer:	
			Matthew	& Maria Cesnil
			Date of Heaving/Cleaning	April 17, 202
			Date of Hearing/Closing: _	
Baltimore County Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections County Office Building, Room 111				
111 West Chesapeake	Avenue			
Γowson, Maryland 212	.04			
Attn: Kristen Lewis:				
Ladies and Gentlemen				
	, <del>•</del>		perjury that the necessary sign(s) relat:	
907 Adana Road	SIGN	1	Recertification	
			March 28, 2020	= = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = =
The sign(s) were posted	d on		(Month, Day, Year)	
			(month, buj, real)	



	2020-0056-A RE: Case No.:
	Petitioner/Developer:
	Matthew & Maria Cesnil
*	April 17, 2020
	Date of Hearing/Closing:
Baltimore County Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections County Office Building, Room 111 I11 West Chesapeake Avenue Fowson, Maryland 21204	•
Attn: Kristen Lewis:	
Ladies and Gentlemen:	
	s of perjury that the necessary sign(s) required by law were ated at:
907 Adana Road SIGN	2 Recertification
The sign(s) were posted on	March 28, 2020
no sign(s), were possed on	(Month, Day, Year)
	_
	Sincerely7





JOHN A. OLSZEWSKI, JR. County Executive

MICHAEL D. MALLINOFF, Director

Department of Permits,

Approvals & Inspections

March 6, 2020

### NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING

The Administrative Law Judge 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: 2020-0056-A

907 Adana Road

E/side of Adana Road, 582 ft. to the centerline of Kingston Road

3rd Election District - 2nd Councilmanic District

Legal Owners: Matthew & Maria Cesnik

Variance to permit fowl or poultry (chicken) on lot with 0.177 acres in lieu of the minimum required 1.0 acre.

Hearing: Friday, April 17, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 205, Jefferson Building, 105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Towson 21204

Michael Mailinoff

Director

MM:kl

C: Mr. & Mrs. Cesnik, 907 Adana Road, Pikesville 21208

- NOTES: (1) THE PETITIONER MUST HAVE THE ZONING NOTICE SIGN POSTED BY AN APPROVED POSTER ON THE PROPERTY BY SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2020.
  - (2) HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE; FOR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS PLEASE CALL THE ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS OFFICE AT 410-887-3868.
  - (3) FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FILE AND/OR HEARING, CONTACT THE ZONING REVIEW OFFICE AT 410-887-3391.

TO:

THE DAILY RECORD

Friday, March 27, 2020 - Issue

Please forward billing to:

Matthew Cesnik 907 Adana Road Pikesville, MD 21208 812-320-6659

#### **NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING**

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CASE NUMBER: 2020-0056-A

907 Adana Road

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105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Towson 21204

Michael Mallinoff

Director of Permits, Approvals and Inspections for Baltimore County

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OFFICE AT 410-887-3868.

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

### **CERTIFICATE OF POSTING**

	RE: Case No.:	020-0056-A
	Petitioner/Developer:	
	Matthew & Ma	aria Cesnik
	Ap Date of Hearing/Closing:	ril 17, 2020
Baltimore County Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections County Office Building, Room 111 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204		
Attn: Kristen Lewis:		
Ladies and Gentlemen:		
This letter is to certify under the penalties of posted conspicuously on the property located	perjury that the necessary sign(s) required at:	by law were
907 Adana Road SIGN 1		
	March 28, 2020	
The sign(s) were posted on	(Month, Day, Year)	
Si	Marc	h 28, 2020
0	(Signature of Sign Poster) (I	Date)
ZONING NOTICE	SSG Robert Black	
CASE #	(Print Name)	11
A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE IN TOWSON, MD.	1508 Leslie Road	
PLACE: 105 W. CHESAPEAKE AVE, TOWSON MD 21204  DATE AND TIME: Friday, April 17, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.	(Address)	
REQUEST: Variance to permit fowl or poultry (chicken) on lot with 0,177 acres in lieu of the minimum required	Dundalk, Maryland 21222	
1.0 acres.	(City, State, Zip Code)	
28.	(410) 282-7940	

(Telephone Number)

#### **CERTIFICATE OF POSTING**

		2020-0056-A
	RE: Case No.:	
	Petitioner/Developer:	
	Matthew	v & Maria Cesnik
	Date of Hearing/Closing:	April 17, 2020
Baltimore County Departmen Permits, Approvals and Inspo County Office Building, Room 111 West Chesapeake Avenu Towson, Maryland 21204	ections m 111	
Attn: Kristen Lewis:		
Ladies and Gentlemen:		
	the penalties of perjury that the necessary sign(s) r property located at:	-
907 Adana Road	SIGN 2	
The sign(s) were posted on	March 28, 2020	
ine sign(s) were posted on _	(Month, Day, Year)	



Sincerely,

March 28, 2020

(Signature of Sign Poster) (Date)

SSG Robert Black

(Print Name)

1508 Leslie Road

(Address)

Dundalk, Maryland 21222

(City, State, Zip Code)

(410) 282-7940

(Telephone Number)

# DEPARTMENT OF PERMITS, APPROVALS AND INSPECTIONS ZONING REVIEW OFFICE

#### 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 legal owner/petitioner) and placement of a notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the County, both at least twenty (20) days before the hearing.

Zoning Review will ensure that the legal requirements for advertising are satisfied. However, the legal owner/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.

Case Numb	per: 2020-0056-A
Property Ad	Idress: 907 Adama Road, Pikesville, MD 21208
Described De	ensimilar lot 1/2 0 5 a Section 1 At the "POLISED Plat of
JI, NOIZ, F	dio 51 a Patt of Sudbrook Palk", which flat is recorded a money of the Land Records of Baltimore County's Plat Book Citers (Petitioners): "Mathew P. and Maria Fernanda Cesnik
Legal Owner	ers (Petitioners): " Mathew P. and Maria Fernanda Cesnik
	ers (Petitioners): Mathew P. and Maria Fernanda Cesnik
Contract Pu	
PLEASE FO	DRWARD ADVERTISING BILL TO:
PLEASE FOR Name:Company/F	DRWARD ADVERTISING BILL TO:

#### BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO:

Michael D. Mallinoff

**DATE:** 4/24/2020

Director, Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections

FROM:

C. Pete Gutwald '

Director, Department of Planning

SUBJECT: ZONING ADVISORY COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Case Number: 20-056

INFORMATION:

Property Address: 907 Adana Road

Petitioner:

Matthew P Cesnik, Maria Cesnik

Zoning:

DR 5.5

Requested Action: Variance

The Department of Planning has reviewed the petition for variance to determine whether the administrative law judge should permit fowl or poultry (chickens) on a lot with 0.177 acres in lieu of the minimum 1 acre.

A site visit was conducted on March 5, 2020 and was observed that the four (4) chickens appear to be healthy and have adequate facilities to include an outdoor run, coop and free roaming space. Mrs. Cesnik stated she considers the chickens as pets and stated that they would like to install a privacy fence. Fences exist along adjacent/contiguous property lines. Mrs. Cesnik was referred to Historic Preservation in order to obtain the requirements and procedures for historic district approvals.

The applicants should also be aware that, along with a fence, any chicken coop might require approval by the Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC).

The Department of Planning has no objections to the requested relief conditioned upon the following:

- 1. No more than four (4) hens (no roosters) shall be permitted on the property provided if a nuisance is not created nor allowed to exist on the property.
- 2. If hens are no longer housed on the property within a year, all supporting structures shall be removed.

For further information concerning the matters stated herein, please contact Bill Skibinski at 410-887-3480.

Prepared by:

Krystle Patchak

Kyt Rt

Jenifer G. Nugent

Order / 8/24 (4-17-30)
CASE NO. 2020- COSL-10

#### CHECKLIST

Comment					Conditions/ Comments/
Received	Depa	<u>artment</u>			No Comment
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3.6	DEPS (if not received, o	late e-mail sent			NO
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Comments, if an	y: thay we	recit	ata	1) 201	ahons
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#### Real Property Data Search

#### Search Result for BALTIMORE COUNTY

View Map	View Grou	ndRent Re	demption		View GroundRent Registration				
Special Tax Recapt	ure: None								
Account Identifier:		District - 0	3 Account	Number - 03	3040354	100			
				Information				7	
Owner Name:		CESNIK M	ATTHEW F	PAUL	Use:	Jan 1		RESIDE	NTIAL
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		***************************************					7,701 SF		04
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omeowners Tax Cre	dit Application Stat	us: No App	lication		Date:			9	



TI N FOR ZONING HE RING

WALKEY TO THE OTHICE OF Administrative Lac	ment of Permits, Approvals and Inspections w of Baltimore County for the property located at:
Address 907 Adam Road Piles	Ville, MD 21208 which is presently zoned ( aside wit = 1025.5)
Deed References: 7/919/ (2002 7	10 Digit Toy Assembly 2 oned 1 "Sid with = 105.
	TOW IT ATE MATINETINANDE CESNIK
(SELECT THE HEARING(S) BY MARKING $\underline{X}$ AT THE APPROPRIATE CONTRACTOR OF THE APPROPRIATE CONTR	OPRIATE SELECTION AND PRINT OR TYPE THE PETITION REQUEST)
The undersigned legal owner(s) of the property situate and plan attached hereto and n	in Baltimore County and which is described in the description nade a part hereof, hereby petition for:
1a Special Hearing under Section 500.7 of the Zo	ning Regulations of Baltimore County, to determine whether
or not the Zoning Commissioner should approve	,
2 a Special Exception under the Zoning Regulation	ns of Baltimore County to use the herein described property for
	*
3. X a Variance from Section(s) 100-6 of the	(R(70)) T. C
3. X a Variance from Section(s) 100.6 of the (Chicken) on lot with 0.1772	Acces in the incline
minimum 1.0 Acres.	William William Control
of the zoning regulations of Baltimore County, to the	e zoning law of Baltimore County, for the following reasons:
you need additional space, you may add an attachm	CONTINUESTO MOTOUS VICE DE DECCEMPENTA PLUMA SULA SULA SULA SULA SULA SULA SULA SUL
See affachment	· · ·
Social annual framework for the social formation of th	
Properly is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by the zoning regu	dations
I, UI WE, 80[66 to Day expenses of above nelition/s), advantages posting	and and doubt
and restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the zoning law Legal Owner(s) Affirmation: I / we do so solemnly declare and affirm, t which is the subject of this / these Petition(s).	for Ballimore County, ander the penalties of perjury, that I / We are the legal owner(s) of the property
• •	
Contract Purchaser/Lessee:	Legal Owners (Petitioners):
Name- Type or Print	Matter P. Cesnik, Mala F. Cesnik
	Name #1 – Type or Print  Name #2 – Type or Print
Signature Signature	Signature #1 Signature #2
	Oliginature # 2
Mailing Address City Slate	Mailing Address City MD
	21208 1812 320-1059 Mcesnik 126
ip Code Telephone # Email Address	Zip Code Telephone # Email Address
Attorney for Petitioner:	Representative to be contacted:
ame- Type or Print	Name – Type or Print
	w)
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alling Address City State	
	Mailing Address City State
p Code Telephone # Email Address	Zip Code Telephone # Email Address
ASE NUMBER <u>2020 - 0056 - A</u> Filing Date <u>2</u> 1242	020 Do Not Schedule Dates: Reviewer Q h
	REV. 10/4/11

3/30 2:33 pm. left v. nigerie Karry 3/30 Case No.: 2020-0050-/-

Petitioner/Developer

Exhibit Sheet

Protestants

		10',
No. 1	Powerpoint	Email 8
No. 2	Plan	Video in Exhibit Folder
No. 3		
No. 4		
No. 5	,	
No. 6		
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No. 11		
No. 12	2	



- 1. Each day, we are blessed to share the fresh, organic eggs from Pippa and Maddie
- 2. When you walk near Pippa and Maddie, they will crouch down so you can pet them and take a few moments to enjoy their love
- 3. Pippa's beak was broken when she was young and we had to feed her by hand for several months, thinking she may not be able to survive but she persevered and learned to eat "sideways" and now is the same size as Maddie (even though we have to occasionally feed her by hand her favorite small treats—peanuts and blueberries which can be difficult to grab onto.

As a Master Resiliency Trainer (MRT) for my Army Reserve Unit, I provide training on ways to overcome difficulties and seek positive change in soldiers' live. My training and experience in this area has led me to adapt this training and experiences to our own lives here at 907 Adana Road, especially during times of difficulties in our lives and health and during the COVID-19 pandemic. By "hunting the good stuff", you can counter negativity bias and create a positive emotion by actively noticing and analyzing the good things around you. Each day, one should try to identify 3 good things that they have encountered—often, it is easy to recognize and remember the bad things but gloss over good things, however small, that helped make your day a better one. For our chickens, each day, I can find "new good stuff" in them or what they have done to contribute to making our lives better.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this short presentation and hope you are able to consider how our chickens have contributed to making our lives as complete as possible when you render your decision.



# Chickens! We'd like to stay!

Case No: 2020-0056-A

907 Adana Road, Pikesville, MD

When my wife, Fernanda, was diagnosed with Stage 4 colorectal and liver cancer several years ago, instead of dwelling on the negatively, we wanted to do something to help us overcome her surgeries and chemotherapy and try to enjoy our life together as best we could. At the time, we were living in Bloomington, Indiana, which does not have a prohibition of having chickens, so we adopted four baby chicks and watched them grow, each with their own personality and quirks. We nurtured them, treated them like pets, protected them from predators, fed them, and brought them into our lives. Not only did they provide us love and entertainment but provided us with organic fresh eggs that were perfect for my wife's diet to increase her resistance. Due to my civilian employment and active Army Reserve duties throughout the year, I am sometimes absent from the home for which my wife will fills some voids with by playing, watching, feeding, and looking after the chickens. They love to follow her in the backyard while she gardens, as they forage off the land, worms, and insects, steal our tomatoes, and assist in digging and fertilizing the garden.



# The family: Pippa and Maddie

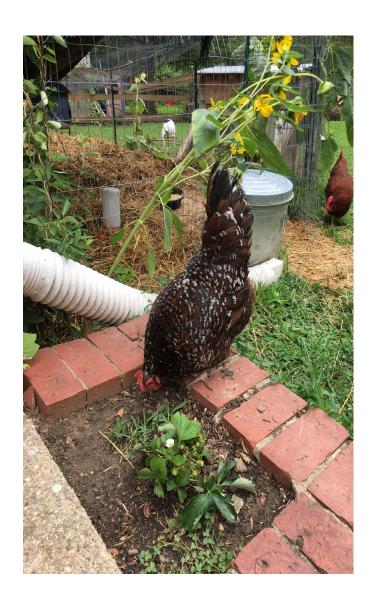




Exhibit 1 Matthew and Maria Fernanda Cesnik 20-056-A

Currently, Pippa and Maddie, are our two children but often they like to think they are in charge—usually, we end doing what they ask of us! While they are our children, we would like to maintain the ability to have up to 4 chickens, especially if one unexpectantly passes away, as they do need chicken-on-chicken socialization, besides our loving care.



# Our secure home and run





Jack, our loyal Rat Terrier, acts as our Shetland Sheepdog and herds Pippa and Maddie to their coop each night if they are suborn and aren't yet ready for bed.



The herder

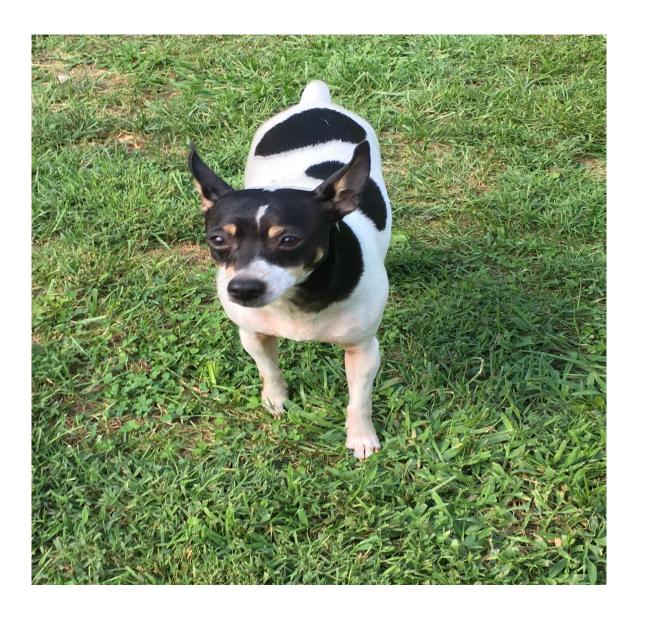
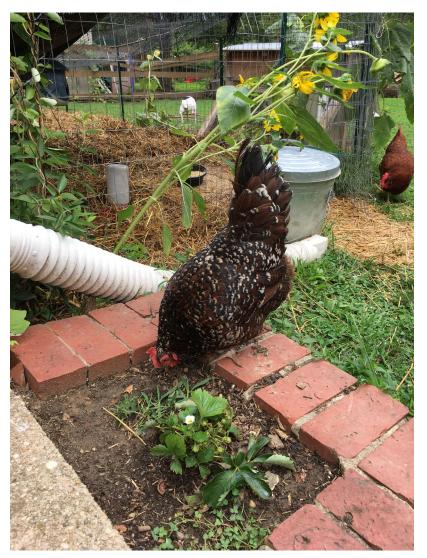


Exhibit 1 Matthew and Maria Fernanda Cesnik 20-056-A

Pippa and Maddie have a secure wire fenced in area/chicken run that contains food and water, shelter from the rain and sun, a nesting box, and plenty of room. They use this area when we are not home or if we are unable to watch them for an extended period of time. Each night after dusk, the chickens are gathered and placed into our custom-made, secure chicken coop that can house for up to 4 chickens. The coop provides fresh water and feed, a nesting box, and two resting bars on which they sleep each night. The coop provides for overnight protection from predators from below, at ground level, and from above. It also provides a dry environment during torrential rains and has removeable insulated sides during the freezing, winter nights.



We like to forage





Pippa is fond of the plastic garden tags that mark our various tomato and pepper plants. So, we never know which variety we are harvesting as she takes the tags out of the ground that mark the plants—sometimes we are surprised, and not always pleasantly, when we cook with a pepper that we thought was sweet but turns out to be hot and spicy! Thanks, Pippa!



Pippa prefers plastic garden tags



Pippa and Maddie have many places to eat, explore and hide!



# Our yard







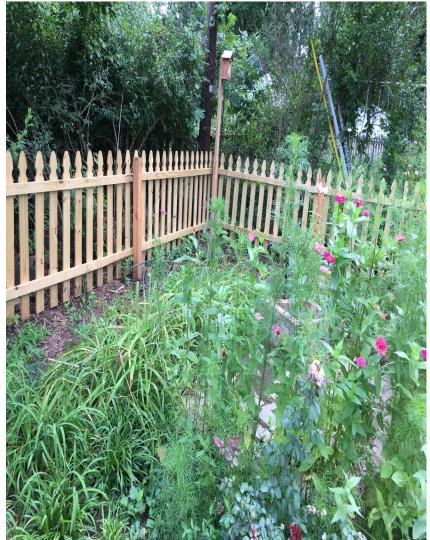
Exhibit 1 Matthew and Maria Fernanda Cesnik 20-056-A

While our backyard is not one acre, it has ample room for our chickens to move about, forage, explore, sunbathe, or take refuge in the shade. Our backyard is completely secured by a wooden pick fence for which a chicken can not get through or jump over. Just in case, Pippa and Maddie's wings are clipped to prevent them from jumping over and exploring our neighbor's yards.



Our fresh edibles and hiding places









Hunt the good stuff in chickens

- Each day, we are blessed to share the fresh, organic eggs from Pippa and Maddie
- 2. When you walk near Pippa and Maddie, they will crouch down so you can pet them and take a few moments to enjoy their love
- 3. Pippa's beak was broken when she was young and we had to feed her by hand for several months, thinking she may not be able to survive but she persevered and learned to eat "sideways" and now is the same size as Maddie (even though we have to occasionally feed her by hand her favorite small treats—peanuts and blueberries which can be difficult to grab onto.

Exhibit 2-Photos of New Chicken Coop and Run—Mitigation

New chicken coop and run, view from house



New chicken coop and run, close up view



#### Matthew and Maria Fernanda Cesnik 20-056-A

New chicken coop and run, close up side view



New chicken coop and run, view looking toward neighbor's yard



#### Mitigation strategy applied

- 1. Moved chicken coop and run from next to the back of the house to the far back end of the property along the back fence.
- 2. Incorporated the back property fencing into the run and used the same picket fencing on all sides to create a larger chicken run.
- 3. Picket fencing provides appropriate air flow for the chickens but also provides aesthetics and obscures an individual's view of the chickens and chicken coop.

\*Protestant, Jessica Skillman has indicated she now has no issues with the chickens due to the change in location and redesign of the chicken coop/run. She seems satisfied with the mitigation strategy applied and that the new owners of her home are aware of the chickens and have no issues with the two chickens on the property. She indicates that we have provided a "chicken paradise".

#### **Findings of Fact**

The Administrative Law Judge indicated the property has "no remarkable natural features", but is unclear why chickens need to have remarkable natural features on land for which they are living. The property does have appropriate features for 2-4 chickens, including a sturdy, well-built commercial chicken coop and chicken run composed on picket fencing with wire fencing reinforced and screen and wire cover. The property also has a unique vegetable garden and bushes for the chickens to forage and hide in. The property also has an entirely enclosed backyard composed of wooden picket fencing. We do not believe that the chickens need to live on a lot that has other remarkable natural features.

The chicken coop has recommended space for up to 4 chicken. We currently have two chickens. A chicken run is recommended to have at least 8-10 square feet per chicken. Our chicken run is appropriately 18 feet long by 6 feet wide, or 108 square feet. Our chickens are also "free range" during times when we are in the garden doing yard work, gardening, or spending an extended time outside with our dogs. For free range chickens, it is recommended that they have at least 250-300 square feet per chicken. Please note that while our lot size may be relatively standard for the neighborhood, it is more than adequate space for the chicken as the lot is approximately 7,840 square feet, with a totally enclosed backyard where the chickens reside. We believe the one-acre minimum lot for chickens in Baltimore County to be arbitrary, rather than based on scientific evidence; for this, we appreciate that fact that Baltimore County may grant a variance in some circumstances.

We do not believe that our two chickens are noisy or smell. However, we have applied our mitigation strategy per Exhibit 3 and believe this satisfies the Protestant's concerns and will also satisfy the new owners of 905 Adana Road.

If variance relief if denied, we do believe that we will experience practical difficulty or hardship. My wife is battling stage IV rectal, lung, and liver cancer and the gift to her from her spouse were the chickens at her time of diagnosis. They have provided her comfort and have become her pets while living in Bloomington, Indiana and Pikesville, Maryland. The removal of the chickens will cause additional stress and mental anguish for Maria Fernanda, at a time she needs to be positive and have a happy outlook on life, despite her grave medical conditions.

Thank you for your consideration in granting a variance for our two chickens and providing Maria Fernanda comfort and hope for her future.

#### **Donna Mignon**

#### PROTESTANT'S

EXHIBIT NO.

From:
Sent:

J S <sayhellotojess@gmail.com> Saturday, August 22, 2020 11:15 AM

To:

Administrative Hearings

Subject:

ALERT: CASE 202-0056-A URGENT SCHEDULED 8/24/2020

**CAUTION:** This message from sayhellotojess@gmail.com originated from a non Baltimore County Government or non BCPL email system. Hover over any links before clicking and use caution opening attachments.

I want to submit written testimony/comments again for the hearing scheduled Monday. I had sent another thing months ago to this address and to the Judge Stahl regarding case # 2020-0056-A. This case is scheduled for Monday 8/24/2020.

I had submitted video and audio of the chickens. I would like to resubmit this.

My comments are the following:

- 1) The owners were alerted prior to moving in that chickens were not allowed under 1 acre per County zoning ordinance. They were informed by Zoning at the first violation (10/19) they could apply for a variance but did not seek one until after several violations and many months later. I believe they were buying time to delay having to get rid of them.
- 2) They brought 4 chickens in October 2019.
- 3) The chickens are approximately 20 feet from my house and 12 feet from our property line.
- 4) They are extremely loud, constantly during the day, to the point it creates an incessant noise disturbing to those around them. The chickens sound like screaming children, which is alarming.
- 5) They are kept in an extremely small area and appear to need attention/feeding more than given. They are not used as a companion pet. I am constantly outside and we do not see owners interact with chickens.
- 6) The smell is a nuisance and disturbance. It makes people gag and can be smelled several houses over at times. Also, the food left out for chickens attracts pests including rats, which are being seen in more abundance in the neighborhood.
- 7) The zoning violation effects my ability to sell my neighboring house.
- 8) Zoning requires 1 acre. They have .177.
- 9) There are no compelling reason they should be granted a variance.

#### My name is Jessica Skillman. My number is 410-215-5454.

I am a direct neighbor of the person seeking a variance.

Please contact me so I can appear at the hearing, or have these comments submitted for Monday. I had subitted this to your office on April 3, 2020

I have submitted video and audio, which are compelling evidence. Please let me know in the affirmative that you can recieve and open them.

Sincerely,

Jessica Skillman

#### Real Property Data Search

#### Search Result for BALTIMORE COUNTY

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Matthew Cesnik, Maria Cesnik 907 Adana Road Baltimore, Maryland 21208

#### FINAL ORDER

The matter came before the Administrative Law Judge on February 26, 2020, for a hearing on a Code Inspections and Enforcement Citation ("Citation"), for specified violations of the Baltimore County Code ("B.C.C.") or Zoning Regulations ("B.C.Z.R."). The Citation names the owners of record, as published in the Maryland State Tax Assessment Database, as Respondents. The Citation was served upon Respondent(s) in a manner consistent with Section 3-6-205(c)(2) of the Baltimore County Code. The Citation, which is included in the case file and is incorporated herein by reference, proposes a civil penalty in the amount of \$800.00.

The following persons appeared for the Hearing: Maria Cesnik and Matthew Cesnik, Respondents, and Inspector 119, Baltimore County Code Enforcement Officer.

Based on the testimony, photographs, documents and other exhibits I find for the reasons stated at the conclusion of the hearing Baltimore County has proven by a preponderance of the evidence that Respondent(s) is in violation of the ordinances or regulations set forth in the civil Citation.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED this 28<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2020, by the Administrative Law Judge for Baltimore County that a civil penalty of \$800.00 be imposed and suspended.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that all corrections be completed pursuant to this ORDER by March 27, 2020.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that if the subject property is not brought into compliance pursuant to this Order by March 27, 2020, the suspended \$800.00 civil penalty may be imposed without need for further hearing or order; and, that Baltimore County shall be authorized to send an employee or authorized contractor to enter the property to correct the violation(s), the costs and expenses of which shall be assessed against Respondents.

LAWRENCE M. STAHL

Administrative Law Judge for Baltimore County

NOTICE: Pursuant to §3-6-301(a) of the Baltimore County Code, the Respondent or Baltimore County may appeal this order to the Baltimore County Board of Appeals within fifteen (15) days from the date of this order. Any such appeal requires the filing of a petition setting forth the grounds for appeal, payment of a filing fee of \$225.00 and the posting of security in the amount of the penalty assessed.

Send payments to:

Baltimore County Office of Budget and Finance
400 Washington Ave, Rm 150
Towson, MD 21204

LMS/hmk

Permits, Approvals, and Inspections Code Inspections & Enforcement County Office Building, Rm. 213 111 West Chesapeake Ave Towson, Maryland 21204



Code Enforcement Electrical Inspection Plumbing Inspection Building Inspection

410-887-3351 410-887-3960 410-887-3620 410-887-3953

www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/permits/

#### **CODE ENFORCEMENT & INSPECTION CITATION**

CASE NUMBER CC1914506

PROP.TAX ID 03-04-035400

**VIOLATION ADDRESS** 

907 ADANA RD

PIKESVILLE, MD 21208-4745

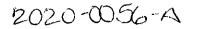
Inspector's Comments

CESNIK MATTHEW PAUL CESNIK MARIA F 907 ADANA RD PIKESVILLE, MD 21208

County Codes/Regulations

#### DID UNLAWFULLY VIOLATE THE FOLLOWING BALTIMORE COUNTY CODES AND/OR REGULATIONS:

B.C.Z.R 100.6: Non permitted livestock / for	Failure to remove chickens from property. Chickens are not permitted on less than 1 acre (property size per SDAT = 7,701 sq ft)  *Hearing and fine may be dismissed if all chickens are				
		removed by no la	ter than 2/19/	/20	
Pursuant to Section 1-2-217, Baltimore County assessed, as a result of the violation(s) cited he indicated:	Code, civil penalty has been erein, in the amount	\$800			
A quasi-judicial hearing has been pre-schedule Jefferson Building, 105 W. Chesapeake Ave, Rr Towson, Maryland, 21204	d in: n 205 DATE: .	02/26/2020	TIME	:09:00	A.M.
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I do solemnly declare and affirm, under the pen of my knowledge, information, and belief.	alty of perjury, that the contents s	ated above are true	and correct to	the best	
Inspector Badge Number				Issu	ed Date
76				01/2	23/2020



Permits, Approvals, and Inspections Code Inspections & Enforcement County Office Building, Rm. 213 111 West Chesapeake Ave Towson, Maryland 21204



Code Enforcement Electrical Inspection Plumbing Inspection Building Inspection

410-887-3351 410-887-3960 410-887-3620 410-887-3953

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#### **CODE ENFORCEMENT & INSPECTION CITATION**

 CASE NUMBER
 PROP.TAX ID

 CC1914506
 03-04-035400

 VIOLATION ADDRESS

CESNIK MATTHEW PAUL CESNIK MARIA F 907 ADANA RD PIKESVILLE, MD 21208

907 ADANA RD PIKESVILLE, MD 21208-4745

#### DID UNLAWFULLY VIOLATE THE FOLLOWING BALTIMORE COUNTY CODES AND/OR REGULATIONS:

County Codes/Regulations	inspector's	Comments			
B.C.Z.R 100.6: Non permitted livestock / fowl / poultry	<b>I</b>	Failure to remove chickens from property. Chickens are not permitted on less than 1 acre (property size per SDAT = 7,701 sq ft)			
	*Hearing and fine may be dism removed by no later than 2/19/				
Pursuant to Section 1-2-217, Baltimore County Code, civil penalty has been assessed, as a result of the violation(s) cited herein, in the amount indicated:	\$800				
A quasi-judicial hearing has been pre-scheduled in:	DATE: 02/26/2020 TIME:	<u>09:00</u> A.M.			
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76		01/23/2020			

Permits, Approvals, and Inspections Code Inspections & Enforcement County Office Building, Rm. 213 111 West Chesapeake Ave Towson, Maryland 21204



Code Enforcement Electrical Inspection Plumbing Inspection Building Inspection

410-887-3351 410-887-3960 410-887-3620 410-887-3953

www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/permits/

#### **CODE ENFORCEMENT & INSPECTION CITATION**

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO THE PERSON'S CHARGED

- If unable to appear on the designated date, the violator may request in writing to the Code Official within fifteen (15) days from the date of
  this citation for a rescheduled hearing. If you require the assistance of an interpreter because you do not understand or speak the language
  in which the proceedings are being conducted you must ask for an interpreter within 72 hours of the court date.
- At this hearing, you are entitled to be represented by an attorney, present witnesses, present evidence, and cross-examine any witnesses against you. An attorney can be helpful to you by (a) explaining the charges in this citation, (b) helping you at the hearing, and (c) helping you challenge the civil penalty, if found in violation.
- 3. If Administrative Law Judge finds that a violation has occurred, the Final Order may include (a) a civil penalty, (b) reasonable conditions as to time and manner of correction and (c) requirement to reimburse the County for any lien(s) or costs incurred to correct a violation.
- 4. (a) Civil penalty a lien.
  - (1) If a final order assesses a civil penalty or an order of the Board of Appeals affirms or modifies a final order that assesses a civil penalty and the violator does not pay the civil penalty within the time required by the order, the Code Official or the Director shall certify to the Director of Budget and Finance the amount owed.
  - (2) If a violator does not pay a civil penalty within the time required as specified in paragraph (1) of this subsection, the amount owed
    - (i) Become a lien on the property on which the violation existed and shall be collectible in the manner provided for the collection of real estate taxes; or
    - (ii) May be collected in the same manner as any civil money judgment or debt may be collected.
  - (b) Code Official may procure performance. If a violator fails to comply with a final order or an order of the Board of Appeals, the Code Official or the Director may procure the performance of the work needed to correct the violation in accordance with the procedure
- authorized in 3-6-402 of this subtitle.

  If you are the Owner of the property, failure to pay the assessed penalty shall constitute a lien on the property and shall be collectible in the same manner and to the same extent as real estate taxes. In addition, failure to correct the violation(s) shall result in appropriate judicial action for enforcement, including civil contempt, which could result in imprisonment.
- Should the Violator disagree with the Final Order rendered by the Office of Administrative Law, an appeal may be taken to the Baltimore County Board of Appeals within fifteen (15) days of the date of the Order.
- A filing fee of \$225.00 and a security in the amount of any civil penalty assessed in the Final Order must accompany the notice of appeal and petition. See Baltimore County Code: 3-6-302.
- Inclement weather procedure: If Baltimore County Government offices are closed or have a delayed opening, all code enforcement hearings will be rescheduled. Reschedule letters will be mailed to the property owner of record.
- 9. If the violator wishes <u>NOT</u> to contest this citation, give up your right to a hearing and wish to pay the fine. Please remit the following: a copy of this citation, and a check or money order payable to: Baltimore County Office of Budget and Finance, 400 Washington Ave, Rm 150, Towson, MD 21204

Permits, Approvals, and Inspections
Code Inspections & Enforcement
County Office Building, Rm. 213
111 West Chesapeake Ave
Towson, Maryland 21204
www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/permits/



Code Enforcement Electrical Inspection Plumbing Inspection 410-887-3351 410-887-3960 410-887-3620

Building Inspection 410-887-3953

#### **CODE ENFORCEMENT CORRECTION NOTICE**

CASE NUMBER CC1914506 PROP.TAX ID 03-04-035400

**VIOLATION ADDRESS** 

907 ADANA RD

PIKESVILLE, MD 21208-4745

MORGENBESSER AUDREY F FALK JONATHAN A C/O AUDREY FALK 11 SHERRY DR ANDOVER, MA 01810

#### DID UNLAWFULLY VIOLATE THE FOLLOWING BALTIMORE COUNTY CODES AND/OR REGULATIONS:

County Codes/Regulations	Inspector's Comments
B.C.Z.R 100.6: Non permitted livestock / fowl / poultry	You need a minimum of 1 acre to be able to keep chickens/poultry
	Please contact me if you have any questions or updates: rfisher@baltimorecountymd.gov

Failure to comply with this correction notice, may result in a \$200.00 flne/penalty per day, per violation pursuant to BCC: 1-2-217; 32-3-602 and/or the County sending a contractor to correct the violation(s) at your expense. Call the inspector for more information and details.

**COMPLIANCE DATE:** 

10/21/2019

INSPECTOR ID: 76

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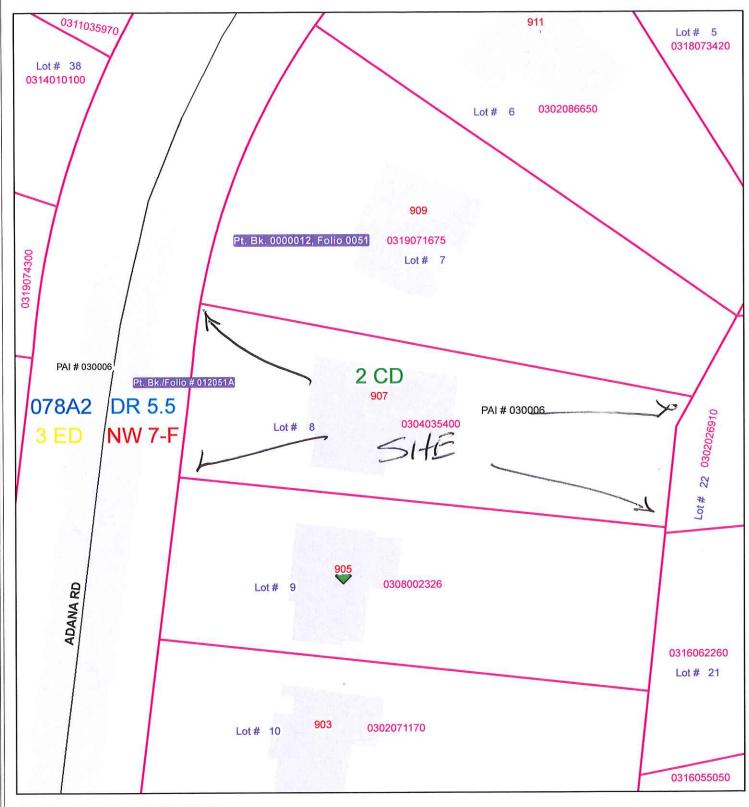
ISSUED DATE: 10/01/2019

IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO THE PERSON'S CHARGED

- It is important that you read this document carefully, as it charges you with the commission of a crime.
- 2. If you fail to correct the violations noted by the date dictated, a citation may be issued, and a trial scheduled at which you may be penalized by a fine, imprisonment, or both.
- 3. If the County is required to bring your property into compliance, all costs and fines shall become a lien and shall be collectible in the manner provided for collection of real estate taxes; or may be collected in the same manner as any civil money judgment or debt collected.
- A lawyer can give important assistance to you:
  - (a) on how to correct the violation(s) in order to avoid trial or
  - (b) at trial, if you failed to correct the violation(s) noted. Assistance may be provided to determine whether there are any defenses to the charges against you or any circumstances helpful to you that should be brought to the trial. A lawyer can help you by developing and presenting information, which could effect how you correct the violation(s).
- 5. A conviction for each violation will subject you to potential fines of \$200, \$500, \$1000 per day per violation, depending on the violation, or 90 days in jail, or both Baltimore County Code section 1-2-217 and 32-3-602.
- 6. It is your responsibility to obtain any required permit(s) to correct the cited violation(s). All repairs must be in accordance with applicable laws,
- Code of Baltimore County Regulations, and standards.

  7. Upon correction of these violation(s), contact the inspector for re-inspection. If you have any questions contact the inspector promptly.

# Enter Property Address Here

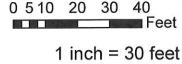


Publication Date: 2/24/2020



Publication Agency: Permits, Approvals & Inspections Projection/Datum: Maryland State Plane, FIPS 1900, NAD 1983/91 HARN, US Foot





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2020-0056-A

ZONING HEARING PLAN FOR VARIANCE X FOR SPECIAL HEARING (MARK TYPE REQUESTED WITH X)	SITE VICINITY MAP
ADDRESS 907 Adana Rd OWNER(S) NAME(S) Mathew & Maria Cesnik	
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2020 -0056 - A

VIOLATION CASE INFO:

ZONING HEARING PLAN FOR VARIANCE x FOR SPECIAL HEARING (MARK TYPE REQUESTED WITH X)  ADDRESS 907 Adama Rd OWNER(S) NAME(S) Mathew & Maria Casnik	SITE VICINITY M
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VIOLATION CASE INFO.