



COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004

July 16, 1992

Mr. Charles White, Chairman  
ANC 7-E  
5001 Hanna Place, S.E., Suite B  
Washington, D.C. 20019

Dear Mr. White:

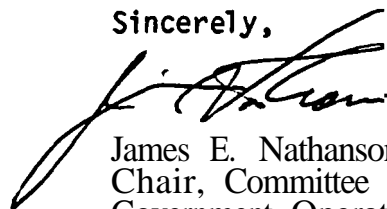
Recently my office received a complaint from a constituent of ANC 7-E. The complaint alleges that the ANC acted on June 9, 1992 to grant several hundred dollars to the 51st Street Block Club Association without there being a representative present from that organization. Based on the limited facts ascertained by my staff, I am unable to conclude that the ANC acted improperly. However, the Commissioners of ANC 7-E should be aware of the legal requirements concerning the award of grants.

In 1990 the Council adopted substantial changes to the ANC statute. Section 16(m) (D.C. Code section 1-264(m)) now requires:

U(m) A grant approved by a Commission shall provide a benefit that is public in nature and that benefits persons who reside or work within the Commission area. A grant to an individual shall be prohibited as a non-public purpose expenditure. A Commission shall adopt guidelines for the consideration and award of grants that shall include a provision that requires the proposed grantee to present the request for a grant at a public meeting of the Commission. A grant may not be awarded unless the grant is awarded pursuant to a vote of the Commission at a public meeting. The award of a grant by a Commission shall not be conditioned on support for a position taken by the Commission. "

I am also enclosing a fact sheet I have prepared concerning grants. If you have questions about any ANC matter, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



James E. Nathanson  
Chair, Committee on  
Government Operations

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