

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



Permit Division  
Office of the Deputy Director

## CONSTRUCTION CODES VARIANCE / MODIFICATION PROCEDURES

### TO: VARIANCE / MODIFICATION APPLICANT

Variances/modifications are considered when there are practical difficulties and undue economic hardship involved in meeting a construction code requirement.

DCRA must complete an in-depth review of your application's ramifications before granting a variance/modification to any provision of the DC Construction Codes.

Before we can render a disposition, we must ensure that:

- the intent of the Code is preserved
- public health and safety mandates are assured.

In the case of hardships, a self-imposed hardship will not be considered.

DCRA will view equal or better methods of construction or compensatory actions to meet the intent of the code favorably.

Include all pertinent information: the documentation that you provide with this application is the only information that DCRA will review.

Use additional paper as needed. When applicable, provide plans, pictures or sketches that depict the requirement for which the variance/modification is requested.

**ANY APPLICATION THAT IS INCOMPLETE OR WITHOUT THE OWNER'S SIGNATURE WILL BE RETURNED.**

We will strive to respond promptly. Please allow at least **15 business days** from the date that the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) receives your application, before calling about its status.

If you have not received a response from this office within 15 days, please call 442-4589.

**DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
PERMIT OPERATIONS**

**CONSTRUCTION CODES VARIANCE/MODIFICATION APPLICATION**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICATION NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Type of Construction:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Height of Construction:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Construction Valuation: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Use Group:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Lot:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Square:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Gross Floor Area:** \_\_\_\_\_

Sprinklered Yes  No

Standpipe Yes  No

Fire Alarm Yes  No

Plans Attached Yes  No

**Owner's Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Number** \_\_\_\_\_

**Owner's Address** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code** \_\_\_\_\_

**Agent's Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Number** \_\_\_\_\_

**Agent's Address** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code** \_\_\_\_\_

**Project Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Project or Permit Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

In accordance with Section 104.10 of the District of Columbia Construction Code Supplement of 2003, DCMR 12A, as amended, I hereby request a variance/modification to the D.C. Construction Codes, specifically:

**Code** \_\_\_\_\_ **Section Number** \_\_\_\_\_ **Section Title** \_\_\_\_\_

**The following special circumstances or hardship exists:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Proposed alternative means of compliance with the regulation specified above:** \_\_\_\_\_

**This proposal meets the intent of the Code specified above because:** \_\_\_\_\_

I, the owner/owner's agent, assume full responsibility for non-compliance with said Code Section(s) and render the D.C. Government harmless for any consequent liabilities.

**Waiver request is based on:** Application denial Yes  No  Plan review comments: Yes  No ;

Field Inspection disapproval: Yes  No ; Other: Yes  No

\_\_\_\_\_  
Owner's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Agent's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

**FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**

**Recommendation:**

**Reviewed by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Approval**

**Disapproval**

**COMMENTS:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Approved**

**Disapproved**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Authorized Code Official**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

# STATEMENT OF CONDITIONS OF BUILDING AND WAIVER

(APPLICANT MUST COMPLETE THIS WAIVER APPLICATION SUPPLEMENTAL FORM THROUGH ITEM 21)

Project Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Lot: \_\_\_\_\_ Square: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Waiver Application: \_\_\_\_\_

## AFFIDAVIT

The information on the building, the premises and the project for which I am applying for a waiver hereafter, to the best of my knowledge, is complete and correct.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

### DATA ON BUILDING

1. HEIGHT OF BUILDING: \_\_\_\_\_ STORIES ABOVE GRADE
2. FLOOR OF TOPMOST STORY IS \_\_\_\_\_ FEET ABOVE LOWEST LEVEL OF FIRE DEPARTMENT VEHICLE ACCESS.
3. TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION (Check One):  
 1A  1B  2A  2B  2C  3A  3B  4  5A  5B
4. USE GROUPS IN THE BUILDING (Check all applicable):  
 A-1A  A-1-B  A-1  A-2  A-3  A-4  A-5  
 B  E  F  F-1  F-2  H  I-1  I-2  
 I-3  M  R-1  R-2  R-3  S-1  S-2  U
5. AREA OF LARGEST FLOOR: \_\_\_\_\_ SQUARE FEET
6. EXISTING FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS (Check all applicable):  
 FULLY SPRINKLERED BUILDING  
 PARTIALLY SPRINKLERED BUILDING (Specify below)  
 NO SPRINKLER SYSTEM  
 HALON SYSTEM  
 FULL STAND PIPE COVERAGE  
 NO STAND PIPES  
 OTHER (Specify Below)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. NUMBER OF FLOORS BELOW GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_
8. WINDOWLESS BASEMENT LEVELS? (Check One):  
 NO  YES  
If Yes, which? (Check all applicable)  
 B 1  B 2  B 3  B 4  B 5  B 6  
Parking Only
9. EXISTING FIRE PROTECT VE SIGNALING SYSTEMS (Check ONE):  
 VOICE ALARM SYSTEM  
 AUDIO/VISUAL ALARM SYSTEM  
 AUDIBLE ALARMS ONLY  NONE
10. EXISTING FIRE PROTECTIVE SIGNALING SYSTEM INITAITING DEVICES (Check all applicable)  
 MANUAL PULL STATION ONLY  
 PULL STATION AND AUTOMATIC DETECTION DEVICES  
 SMOKE DETECTORS  
 HEAT DETECTORS  
 SPRINKLER FLOW SWITCHES  
 TAMPER SWITCHES  
 NONE
11. EXISTING EMERGENCY POWER BACKUP SYSTEM (Check all applicable):  
 GAS FIRED OR DIESEL DRIVEN EMERGENCY GENERATOR  
 CENTRALIZED INVERTER SYSTEM (BATTERY PACK)  
 UNINTERRUPTIBLE POWER SYSTEM (UPS)  
 UNIT BATTERY PACK 3  NONE
12. EXISTING FIRE PUMP (Check one):  
 ELECTRIC MOTOR DRIVE  
 ENGINE DRIVEN  NONE

13. EXISTING ELEVATOR EQUIPMENT (Check all applicable):

- ELEVATOR RECALL, PHASES 1 AND 2
- ELEVATOR PUMP BACKUP
- WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE CABS
- ELECTRIC     HYDRAULIC     NONE

14. POWER OPERATED DOORS Check all applicable and circle applicable floors:

- YES (Complying with Section 1003.3.1.8.2)
- YES (Special approval)     NONE

B6 B5 B4 B3 B2 B1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

15. EXISTING SPECIAL CONDITIONS (Check all applicable)

- ATRIUM BUILDING     MALL BUILDING
- PRESSURIZED AIRWAY ENCLOSURES
- MECHANICAL SMOKE CONTROL SYSTEM
- COMMERCIAL KITCHEN EXHAUST SYSTEM
- NONE OF THE ABOVE

16. WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBILITY (Check all applicable)

- ACCESSIBLE ENTRANCE TO BUILDING
- ACCESSIBLE ELEVATOR TO ALL FLOORS
- LIMITED ELEVATOR ACCESSIBILITY
- ACCESSIBLE TOILET FACILITIES THROUGHOUT BLDG
- LIMITED ACCESSIBILITY OF TOILET FACILITIES
- WHEELCHAIR LIFTS
- WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE PARKING FACILITIES
- LIFT-EQUIPPED VAN PARKING SPACES
- NONE OF THE ABOVE

**WAIVER DATA**

(Check one for each question)

17. HAS ANY OTHER WAIVER(S) BEEN GRANTED TO THIS BUILDING?

- NO     YES     UNKNOWN

If Yes, provide number of Waiver request(s) \_\_\_\_\_

18. IS THERE ANY OTHER WAIVER REQUEST(S) PENDING FOR THIS BUILDING?

- NO     YES     UNKNOWN

If Yes, provide number of Waiver Request(s) \_\_\_\_\_

**DATA ON CURRENT PROJECT**

19. FLOOR LEVELS INVOLVED IN CURRENT CONSTRUCTION PROJECT (Circle all applicable)

B6 B5 B4 B3 B2 B1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

20. FLOOR LEVELS AFFECTED BY PRESENT WAIVER REQUEST (Circle all applicable):

B6 B5 B4 B3 B2 B1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

21. CODE SECTION FROM WHICH WAIVER IS BEING REQUESTED:

\_\_\_\_\_ CODE SECTION# \_\_\_\_\_

**OFFICIAL USE ONLY  
CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL OF WAIVER REQUEST**

A. SPRK. FLRS.  FUL: B6-B5-B4-B3-B2-B1-1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14  PRT: B6-B5-B4-B3-B2-B1-1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14,  FUL. SPRK. BLDG.

B.  SMK. DET.:  F.A.CON.,  HD., WR., SGL., ST.;  BAT. SGL. ST.

C.  TYP. CNST. UPGR: A 2A 2B 3A 5A

D.  EXT. STOP.;  THRU. BLDG.,  FUL. FLR. COV.; B6-B5-B4-B3-B2-B1-1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14

E.  FPSS UPGR.;  VC.;  AUDNIS:  AUD

F.  FPSS ADD. DEV.,  SD,  HID,  SFS  TS

G.  EN. BKUP UPGR.,  GEN.,  INV.,  UPS  UNIT BP

H.  F.PP.;  EL.J;  DSL.;  GAS

I.  ELV. UPGR.;  REC.;  PWR BKUP.;  ACC CAB;  ACC. CTRL.

J. OTHER:  ST.PR.;  RMP.,  CH.LF  UNSX. ACC.TLT.;  BLDG.,  FLR;  ACC DRKF.;  \_\_\_\_\_ PKG. SP.;  \_\_\_\_\_ VAN PKG SP  SPEC. \_\_\_\_\_