

IN RE: PETITION FOR ADMIN. VARIANCE	*	BEFORE THE
(106 W. Chestnut Hill Lane)		
4 th Election District	*	OFFICE OF
4 th Councilmanic District		
Antonio G. Martinez	*	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
Petitioner		
	*	FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY
	*	Case No. 2014-0224-A

* * * * *

OPINION AND ORDER

This matter comes before the Office of Administrative Hearings for Baltimore County as a Petition for Administrative Variance filed by the legal owner of the subject property, Antonio G. Martinez. The variance request is from Section 400.3 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (“B.C.Z.R.”), to permit a garage in the rear yard of an existing single family with a height of 24 ft. in lieu of the required 15 ft. The subject property and requested relief are more particularly described on Petitioner’s Exhibit 1.

The Zoning Advisory Committee (ZAC) comments were received and are made part of the record of this case. There were no adverse ZAC comments received from any of the County reviewing agencies.

The Petitioner having filed a Petition for Administrative Variance and the subject property having been posted on May 6, 2014, and there being no request for a public hearing, a decision shall be rendered based upon the documentation presented.

The Petitioner has filed the supporting affidavits as required by Section 32-3-303 of the Baltimore County Code. Based upon the information available, there is no evidence in the file to indicate that the requested variance would adversely affect the health, safety or general welfare of the public and should therefore be granted. In the opinion of the Administrative Law Judge,

the information, photographs, and affidavits submitted provide sufficient facts that comply with the requirements of Section 307.1 of the B.C.Z.R. Furthermore, strict compliance with the B.C.Z.R. would result in practical difficulty and/or unreasonable hardship upon the Petitioner.

Although the Department of Planning did not make any recommendations related to the garage height and usage, I will impose conditions that the garage not be converted into a dwelling unit or apartment, not contain any sleeping quarters, living area, kitchen or bathroom facilities, and not be used for commercial purposes.

Pursuant to the posting of the property and the provisions of both the Baltimore County Code and the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations, and for the reasons given above, the requested variance should be granted.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, by the Administrative Law Judge for Baltimore County, this 28th day of May, 2014, that a Variance from Section 400.3 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (“B.C.Z.R.”), to permit a garage in the rear yard of an existing single family with a height of 24 ft. in lieu of the required 15 ft., be and is hereby GRANTED, subject to the following:

1. Petitioner may apply for his appropriate permits and be granted same upon receipt of this Order; however, Petitioner is hereby made aware that proceeding at this time is at his own risk until such time as the 30-day appellate process from this Order has expired. If, for whatever reason, this Order is reversed, Petitioner would be required to return, and be responsible for returning, said property to its original condition.
2. The Petitioner or subsequent owners shall not convert the subject garage into a dwelling unit or apartment. The structure shall not contain any sleeping quarters, living area, kitchen or bathroom facilities.
3. The garage shall not be used for commercial purposes.

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

Signed
LAWRENCE M. STAHL
Managing Administrative Law Judge
for Baltimore County

LMS:dlw