| IN RE: PETITION FOR ADMIN. VARIANCE<br>(316 Bowleys Quarters Road)     |   | * | BEFORE THE              |   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------|---|
| 15 <sup>th</sup> Election District<br>6 <sup>th</sup> Council District |   | * | OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIV | E |
| Jose A. Pina, Jr.<br>Petitioner                                        |   | * | HEARINGS FOR            |   |
|                                                                        |   | * | BALTIMORE COUNTY        |   |
|                                                                        |   | * | CASE NO. 2015-0157-A    |   |
| * * *                                                                  | * | * | * * *                   |   |

## **OPINION AND ORDER**

This matter comes before the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) as a Petition for Administrative Variance filed by the legal owner of the property, Jose A. Pina, Jr. The Petitioner is requesting Variance relief from §§ 400.1 and 400.3 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) as follows: (1) To permit a proposed accessory building (2-story garage) to be located in the side yard in lieu of the required in the third of the lot farthest removed from any street in a corner lot; and (2) To permit the proposed accessory structure to be 19 ft. in height in lieu of the maximum allowed of 15 ft. The subject property and requested relief is more fully depicted on the site plan that was marked and accepted into evidence as 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 February 8, 2015, 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 (B.C.C.). 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 detached accessory building (2-story 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, this  $2^{nd}$  day of March, 2015, by the Administrative Law Judge for Baltimore County, that the Petition for Variance relief from §§ 400.1 and 400.3 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) as follows: (1) To permit a proposed accessory building (2-story garage) to be located in the side yard in lieu of the required in the third of the lot farthest removed from any street in a corner lot; and (2) To permit the proposed accessory structure to be 19 ft. in height in lieu of the maximum allowed of 15 ft., be and is hereby GRANTED.

The relief granted herein shall be subject to the following:

1. Petitioner may apply for necessary permits and/or licenses upon receipt of this Order. However, Petitioner is hereby made aware that proceeding at this time is at his own risk until 30 days from the date hereof, during which time an appeal can be filed by any party. If for whatever reason this Order is reversed, Petitioner would be required to return the subject 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\_\_\_\_ JOHN E. BEVERUNGEN Administrative Law Judge for Baltimore County

JEB:dlw