

<b>IN RE: PETITION FOR ADMIN. VARIANCE</b>	*	BEFORE THE
<b>(5 Fairfield Drive)</b>		
1 <sup>st</sup> Election District	*	OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE
1 <sup>st</sup> Council District		
Michael Geist	*	HEARINGS FOR
Petitioner		
	*	BALTIMORE COUNTY
	*	<b>CASE NO. 2019-0530-A</b>

\* \* \* \* \*

**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, Michael Geist (“Petitioner”). The Petitioner is requesting Variance relief from Section 1B02.3.C.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (“BCZR”), to permit a proposed addition to side and rear of the dwelling with a side yard setback of 17.5 ft. and a sum of both side yards of 31.5 ft. in lieu of the required 25 ft. and a sum side yards of 40 ft., respectively. 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 submitted by any of the County reviewing agencies.

The Petitioner having filed a Petition for Administrative Variance and the subject property having been posted on December 6, 2019, 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 (“BCC”). 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 BCZR. Furthermore, strict compliance with the BCZR would result in practical difficulty and/or unreasonable hardship upon the Petitioner.

Pursuant to the posting of the property and the provisions of both the BCC and the BCZR, and for the reasons given above, the requested variance should be granted.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, this 30<sup>th</sup> day of **December, 2019**, by the Administrative Law Judge for Baltimore County, that the Petition for Variance relief from Section 1B02.3.C.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (“BCZR”), to permit a proposed addition to side and rear of the dwelling with a side yard setback of 17.5 ft. and a sum of both side yards of 31.5 ft. in lieu of the required 25 ft. and a sum side yards of 40 ft., respectively, be and is hereby GRANTED.

The relief granted herein shall be subject to the following:

- 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.

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

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
LAWRENCE M. STAHL  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Baltimore County

LMS:dlw