



**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
THE JOHN A. WILSON BUILDING
1350 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW
ROOM 400
WASHINGTON, DC 20004**



**Letter
April 28, 2011**

Tiffany Brown
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To the Residents of Ward 7,

First let me state that I am in receipt of the complaint filed by Ms. Geraldine Washington and the corresponding letter from the Office of Campaign Finance. The other individuals who are named in the letter are Ms. Jackey Pickney-Hackett, Ms. Lisa Shaw, Mrs. Patricia Chittams, Mr. Ralph Chittams, Mr. Chester Speight, Ms. Willette Seaward and Mr. Ron Moten. For the record, I intend to fully cooperate with the Office of Campaign Finance, as I have done in the past when it periodically reviews all reports.

As you can imagine I have a few comments about the Washington Times article that was recently printed.

First, the comment that I personally benefitted from my constituent service fund is not true and is an unfortunate and baseless attack; though after reviewing the source, not surprising.

Second, the repeated statement regarding legislation that I introduced was done to benefit Mr. H.R. Crawford is also baseless and false. For more than 10 years the Pennsylvania Avenue Task Force, a group of resident leaders working to revitalize Pennsylvania Avenue from the Sousa Bridge to the Maryland border, has been asking for the intersection of Minnesota Avenue and Pennsylvania Avenue to be upgraded with the specific request being to demolish the entire intersection. The bill was withdrawn because as the Skyland development has shown us, eminent domain done wrong can create years of litigation problems.

Third, the casual nature with which my request for an investigation of the Peaceholics is referenced is unfortunate. Over a three year period this organization, for which Ron Moten is the CEO, received in excess of \$12 million from the District of Columbia government. We are all entitled to know how this money was spent. I look forward to seeing the results once the audit report is released.

Fourth, the article references that only five percent of my constituent fund went to the "needy and poor." First, neither I nor Ward 7 residents refer to themselves as "needy and poor," and I do not appreciate it when any reporter regularly demeans Ward 7 residents.

Several weeks ago I hosted my annual State of the Ward Address where I catered dinner. Last week, I attended the Lorraine Whitlock Scholarship Dinner where I bought a table and an ad in the program book; and soon I will walk in the Hillcrest Garden tour where I have taken out an ad in the program book. By The Washington Times definition, this is not a proper use of constituent funds because it is not going to the “needy and poor.” Suffice to say I will keep buying tables at Penn Branch and Fairlawn, I will keep buying ads in program books and I will keep doing the real work of Ward 7.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Yvette M. Alexander
Councilmember – Ward 7