

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

OFFICE OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL

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May 7, 2001

LaVerne F. Law
1331 I Street, N.E.
Washington, DoC. 20002

Re: Request for ANC 6A Audit

Dear Mso Law:

This responds to your letter dated April 13, 2001 wherein you request that this Office audit Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A in relation to the following specific questions:

1. Proof that each ANC Commissioner resides in his or her Single Member District, and resided there at the time of his or her election;
2. If there are any conflict of interest situations in ANC 6A;
3. Why the community has not been able to get good financial records from ANC 6A for several years;
- 40 What can be done to improve the ANC's performance on behalf of the community.

Although this Office is charged by statute with providing advice to ANCs and ANC Commissioners, we have no direct supervisory authority over ANCs, nor do we investigate complaints of the type you describe.

I note that you copied your letter to Councilmember David Catania, as well as the Board of Elections. Your first two questions are properly addressed by the Board of Elections and Ethics and the Office of Campaign Finance. As to the lack of access to financial records, all information dealing with the receipt and expenditure of public funds by ANCs are public records and therefore should be made available by the ANC for public inspection. If you have future problems accessing such records you may take action to secure them under the DoC. Freedom of Information Act. Finally, Councilmember Catania's office may be able to assist you in improving the ANC's performance if the problems are organizational or operational. However, if you feel that your ANC is not serving the interests of your community, you should make your feelings known directly to the ANC or to individual Commissioners. You may also start recall

petitions and/or recruit persons to run for vacant ANC seats who you believe will better represent your interests.

Sincerely,

ROBERT R. RIGSBY
Corporation Counsel by:



Darryl G. Gorman
Senior Deputy Corporation Counsel for
Government Operations

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(AL-01-268)