

## PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

February 13, 2009

Jerleen Justus 2334 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street Apartment #4 Cleveland, Ohio 44113

Ms. Justus:

This correspondence is in response to your letter addressed to me and delivered to the TWDC office on February 9, 2009.

Your opening statement is factually correct – you are in fact a "bona fide" member of the Tremont West Development Corporation (TWDC), and as such are entitled the benefits thereof. However, you have on past occasions presented yourself as an interested TWDC member requesting service, but instead utilized the data/correspondence to benefit your journalistic pursuits. For instance, you presented yourself as an "active member" in our email correspondence between December 13, 2008 to December 16, 2008, and I responded to you as such. However, you chose to remove language from my responses and cite them as quotes in a succeeding Plain Press article. At no point did you communicate that I was on the record, nor did you pay me/TWDC the courtesy of informing that portions of this dialog would be utilized in forthcoming printed media. Further, this also says nothing of your repeated postings of our past correspondence online, utilizing web blogs.

I find your methods to be dishonest, reprehensible, and generally I believe that your peer journalist should be disgusted. Consequently, as TWDC Executive Director, I have grave concerns in responding to any of your requests. Further, under state law governing non-profits, members must have demonstrated a reasonable purpose for requests of information/documentation. No where in your letter is there a reference to your intended use.

TWDC attempts to provide the general public with current information including minutes and program reports through our website, our monthly newsletter (Inside Tremont) and our Annual Report. Our website provides links to the past three years of Board of Director minutes. These minutes serve as the official record of the Board of Directors. You may also download archived copies of Inside Tremont via our website – <a href="https://www.tremontwest.org">www.tremontwest.org</a>.

Please see my responses to each of your requests below:



Item #1 - 2008/2009 Membership List – as you may recall from our past email correspondence, TWDC has historically not shared personal contact information as the information had been collected in confidence. I will readdress this practice with our legal consul and Board of Directors and notify you and the rest of our membership of any change.

Item #2 - 2009 Annual Meeting Sign-In Sheets – the same rationale would apply as above. TWDC had not informed those signing in that their information would be shared. Further, sign-in sheets are not audited – so consequently, I have concerns of TWDC being held accountable for their accuracy. It certainly is possible that an attendee chose not to sign in and it is equally possible that an attendee gave false information. For these reasons, I am denying this request.

Items #3, 4, 5 - 2008/2009 Nomination Report submitted to the Board of Trustees, Nomination Committee Report submitted to the Board of Trustees, Nomination Committee Report Minutes (including sign-in) sheets. I believe what you are requesting here is the official record of this committee. If that is the case, I suggest that you review the minutes of the Board of Directors posted at <a href="https://www.tremontwest.org">www.tremontwest.org</a>. All committee chairs make their respective reports to the Board, which is documented by our Board Secretary.

Item #6 - Copy of Unofficial Minutes of February 5, 2009 Special Board Meeting (adjournment and second Special Meeting called to order February 5, 2009). These minutes have not been approved by the Board of Directors and consequently are not official. Once the minutes have been approved, they will be posted on our website <a href="https://www.tremontwest.org">www.tremontwest.org</a> and available for public review. Before then, I will not be able to provide you with any record of the meeting – official or otherwise.

Item #7 – Copy of Legal Opinion discussed on February 5, 2009. As I would assume your attorney, Mr. Gonzalez (whom you cc: on your original correspondence) is aware, this document is protected under attorney-client privilege. As such I am denying this request.

Ms. Justus, I cannot stress enough that I find your past behavior to be very concerning. It is my responsibility to serve TWDC's interests and as such I am responding to your request with particular skepticism. I will trust that this correspondence will be treated with respect and not be utilized for any purpose other than you own review. To be clear, you do not have my permission to reproduce any portion of this letter in any fashion.

Regards,
Chris Garland
TWDC Executive Director