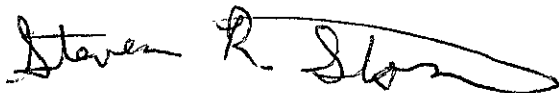


August 19, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to explain the situation with my fence in full detail. When I bought the house six years ago it had a chain link fence all around the property except for directly in front of the house. I have removed some of it over the years in order to do some landscaping work. This spring I bought a dog and wanted to fence part of the yard back in so he would have a place to roam. The portion of the fence in question was not in good shape. Therefore, he was able to crawl out under it in several places so I needed to rebuild it. Since there was already a fence there and I had been informed that there is no permit required to build a fence six feet tall or less, I didn't think that I needed to ask the city about it before building it. I put the new fence in the exact same place as the old one. The only thing I changed was the height and the fencing materials. I decided to put up a six foot screening fence due to the fact that I have seen the way kids walking past pick on the other dogs in the neighborhood. I figured this type of fence would not only protect my dog from them, but also protect the kids from the dog. We all know that any dog can snap and bite someone if they have been picked on enough times. I am also concerned about him getting out of a shorter fence. Australia Shepherds are known to be able to jump quite high. I am very surprised that anyone has a problem with a fence that is falling apart being taken down, and putting up a nice cedar board fence. It took me by surprise to receive a letter notifying me there was a problem after having the fence up for at least three months. There are fences in the right of way throughout the neighborhood, and as far as I know I'm the only one being asked to move it. I have spent a great deal of money on this fence and if I am required to move it and put up a four foot fence I will have no use for the fencing materials that I have. I ask you to please consider all of these facts before you determine whether or not I will be granted a variance. Thank you for giving me the chance to tell my story.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steven R. Storm". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Steven R. Storm