

Docket Item #7  
BAR CASE #2004-0188

BAR Meeting  
September 23, 2004

**ISSUE:** After-the-fact sign

**APPLICANT:** Yong Il Kim

**LOCATION:** 632 South Fairfax Street

**ZONE:** CL/Commercial

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## STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the application as submitted.

### I. Issue:

The applicant is requesting after-the-fact approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness for a new sign for the dry cleaning business at 632 S Fairfax Street. According to the applicant the sign measures 3' by 6'. The sign reads "Riverside Cleaners" in black and red lettering on a white background. The MDO sign also includes a simple black border. The wall sign is located above the business entrance.

### II. History

The one story stucco commercial structure was constructed between 1921 and 1941 according to the Sanborn Insurance maps.

Staff was unable to locate any previous sign approvals for this building.

### III. Analysis

The proposed sign complies with zoning ordinance requirements.

At the September 1, 2004 hearing, the Board approved a similar case for after-the-fact signs at the adjacent deli at 634 South Fairfax Street (BAR CASE #2004-0179, 9/1/04). The Board approved the existing signs with the condition that the telephone numbers be removed.

In the September 1, 2004 Staff report for the signs at 634 South Fairfax Street, Staff recommended deferral of the sign for a more appropriately sized hanging sign. In the opinion of Staff, the existing wall signs (for both the deli and dry cleaner) are overly large and overwhelm the existing one story building. However, the Board had no objections to the size of the wall sign at 634 South Fairfax Street.

Staff believes that the existing sign is acceptable.

### IV. Staff Recommendation

Therefore, Staff recommends approval of the application as submitted.

## CITY DEPARTMENT COMMENTS

Legend: C - code requirement R - recommendation S - suggestion F - finding

### Code Enforcement:

C-1 A construction permit is required for the proposed project

C-2 Wall letters / signs must comply with USBC [H103-H111].

### Historic Alexandria:

“This sign appears to be too large for the building.”