

Docket Item # 4
BAR CASE #2006-0096

BAR Meeting
June 7, 2006

ISSUE: Signage
APPLICANT: American Correctional Association
LOCATION: 206 North Washington Street
ZONE: CD/Commercial

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of the application as submitted.

(Insert sketch here)

I. ISSUE:

The applicant is requesting approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness for a pin-mounted wall sign to be located on the north end of the Washington Street facade of the 5 ½ story brick building, between the second and third stories. The sign will be composed of 11 ½" and 9" tall acrylic letters with gold anodized aluminum faces reading: "American Correctional Association." In addition, a logo composed of a gold eagle with the association's initials, "ACA," in blue, will be located on the left side of the sign. The total sign area will be approximately 44 square feet. The building frontage on Washington Street is 106.5' in length.

Currently, there are no other signs on the building.

II. HISTORY:

The 5 ½ story, brick faced concrete block office building at 200-206 North Washington Street was constructed in 1966 in a Colonial Revival Style. Over the years, the Board has approved numerous wall and hanging signs for this building, including: Citizen's Bank (BAR Case #94-0134, 11/2/1994); F & M Bank (BAR Case #97-226, 11/19/1997); Virginia Tech (BAR Case #99-28, 3/17/1999); and, Office Depot (BAR Case #2002-0311, 2/5/2003).

III. ANALYSIS:

The proposed wall sign complies with zoning ordinance requirements.

Staff believes the proposed sign of pin-mounted letters complies with the Design Guidelines and is appropriate for the late 20th century office building and the surrounding historic district. Staff believes the signage, which is not overly large and is not lit, is respectful of the memorial character of Washington Street. Staff notes that the building is not fully leased and that other sign requests can be expected. As there is no sign plan for the building, any subsequent signs will have to be compatible with this sign and will have to fit within the remaining square footage allowed for signs (approximately 62 square feet).

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

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 must comply with USBC .

Historic Alexandria

No comment.