



ONE CITY. ONE
JACKSONVILLE.

City of Jacksonville, Florida

Lenny Curry, Mayor

City Hall at St. James
117 W. Duval St.
Jacksonville, FL 32202
(904) 630-CITY
www.coj.net

February 21, 2018

Department of Business and Professional Regulation
Florida Building Commission
1940 North Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida, 32399-0772

**Re: 843 West Monroe Street, Jacksonville, Florida
Request to Waive Elevator Installation**

Dear Sir or Madam:

Please accept this letter in support of the application being submitted by the Downtown Investment Authority on behalf of the City of Jacksonville, seeking to waive the requirement for an elevator to serve the second floor of the historic structure at 843 West Monroe Street, Jacksonville, Florida 32202.

Built circa 1885, the building – known as Brewster’s Hospital - is a locally designated historic landmark and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Originally constructed as a residence, the building was converted circa 1901 to the first African American hospital (Brewster Hospital and School of Nurse Training) in the United States. The building is located on a prominent corner within the LaVilla neighborhood of Downtown Jacksonville. An external elevator would have significant visibility from the public street and require irreparable modifications to the structure. Likewise, an internal elevator would permanently alter the interior layout and functionality of the building, while the construction of an elevator tower would add a very visible addition that is incompatible with the size, scale and design of the historic structure.

Being that the first and second floors of this two-story structure are essentially mirror images, the first floor will be ADA accessible and provide the same accommodations as would the second floor. Your kind consideration of this request to waive the installation of an elevator is greatly appreciated.

Kind Regards,

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