

**CARROLL COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

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Acting Zoning Administrator  
Gayle Fritz

**Official Decision  
Case ZA-1026  
Permit – 06-2079  
Acting Zoning Administrator  
Carroll County, Maryland**

**APPLICANT:** Craig Messick

**REQUEST:** A variance from the required minimum size of 1 foot by 2 feet for a sign for a home occupation to 2 feet 10 inches by 2 feet

**LOCATION:** 3521 Salem Bottom Rd.  
Westminster, Md. 21157

**MAP/BLOCK/PARCEL:** 62/4/16

**APPLICABLE REGULATIONS:** Code of Public Local Laws and Ordinances, Chapters 223-136A and 181

**HEARING HELD:** August 2, 2006

**FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

Based on the testimony and evidence presented at the hearing, the variance is granted.

Facts, which support the request for relief from the strict terms of the Ordinance, in this case, an enlargement of the minimum size of 1 foot by 2 feet to 2 feet 10 inches by 2 feet for a sign for a home occupation are as follows:

Mr. Messick gave testimony that indicated he made every effort to find out the requirements for a home occupation. When inquiring at the County Office Building it appears he may have been sent to the improper offices to secure the information he needed to comply. The confusion at the various offices may have resulted in Mr. Messick misunderstanding the proper sign sized allowed. In my opinion Mr. Messick was left with improper information which added to the confusion of the process. Once he found out he was in violation he immediately filed an application for a zoning certificate, however by that time the sign was already constructed.

Based on all the testimony and the fact that the sign is not intrusive and that no one was present to oppose the sign, the variance is granted.

This approval is valid for one year from the date of a Zoning Certificate.

**Official Decision**

**ZA-1026**

**Page Two**

**Note:**

An appeal of a Decision made pursuant to Chapter 223-181.2 may be made to the Board of Zoning Appeals within thirty (30) days of the date of the Zoning Administrator's decision in accordance with Chapter 223-182 and 223-188 of the Code of Public Local Laws and Ordinances.

A decision of the Zoning Administrator made pursuant to Chapter 223-181 is final and constitutes a zoning action. Unless timely appealed, parties may not thereafter challenge the Zoning Administrator's decision.

August 14, 2006  
Date

Gayle Fritz  
Gayle Fritz  
Acting Zoning Administrator