

KEITH RIVERA, AIA

C17499

August 21, 2012

Mayor Helene Schneider
City Hall
735 Anacapa Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101-1990

Dear Mayor Schneider:

As a member of the ABR at the July 23rd consent review hearing I stepped down from the Review After Final of the 3707 State Street application because I felt the controversy and unprecedented media publicity associated with the applicant at that time could affect my objectivity on the matter before me. The ethics training the board received earlier this year emphasized that if we had *any* doubt about a potential conflict of interest we should step down from the item and so I did.

On August 6th I then abstained from the approval of the minutes of the subsequent consent approval of this item because of my previous action to step down from it. I had no prior communications with any of my fellow board members regarding this vote.

I agree with members of the community, City Council and design profession that personal beliefs have no part in the evaluation of a design review application. My actions above as an ABR member were to assure that was the case for this applicant.

Regretfully I hereby resign my position on the Santa Barbara Architectural Board of Review, effective immediately. I do not want to have my continued presence on the board become a distraction to its work or proceedings and I apologize that my decision in this isolated instance may have done just that. The integrity of the City's outstanding design review process is too important for that.

I want to thank you and the City Council for allowing me the opportunity to serve on the ABR these past three and a half years. I also want to commend my fellow ABR members, both past and present, and city staff for all the excellent work they do to improve and enhance the quality of the built environment of our city.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith Rivera', written in a cursive style.

Keith Rivera

Cc: Bettie Weiss