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February 21, 2017

VIA E-MAIL AND USPS FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

Howard County Council
3430 Courthouse Drive
George Howard Building
Ellicott City MD 21043

2017 FEB 23 PM 1:41
HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL
RECEIVED

Dear Hon. Members of the Howard County Council:

It has come to my attention that the Council Meeting scheduled for this evening will address Resolution Number 27-2017 which deals with the building of a New Circuit Court Building four Howard County. As a Howard County citizen, a Member of the Howard County Bar Association, and Trial Lawyer, I heartily endorse your efforts to build a new courthouse which would guarantee and improve Justice for all citizens of Howard County and others who must avail themselves of the service of the Howard County Circuit Court.

As you know, the present courthouse is over 174 years old, and, while it is a significant historic structure, the current courthouse simply cannot accommodate the services and requirements of a legally bustling Howard County. There are many aspects that a modern Courthouse requires including the capability of E filing with secure computer infrastructure in the clerk's office as well as in each Circuit Judge's office. E filing will be mandated throughout our state in the next several years and will be a mandatory requirement for the Howard County Circuit Court. It is my express understanding that a sixth judge has been approved by the Maryland Legislature However, there is currently no new court room in which a sixth judge would serve, and no space to accommodate that judge's administrative staff.

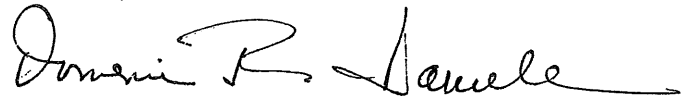
The list of required modernization is a long one. The list includes, but is not limited to, Public Accessibility (ADA required); enhanced security regarding the movement of prisoners to

and from court rooms; additional proximate parking spaces; space for a Settlement Tribunal, which may include several large conference tables that can accommodate many parties and their attorneys; complete WI-FI and/or computer services for the entire judicial complex; a law library to include computerized legal research terminals; space for the amalgamation of services within a new Circuit Court Building such as The Register Of Wills of Howard County, The Land Records Office of Howard County, Sheriff Offices of Howard County, Department of Social Services offices of Howard County, State's Attorneys' Office of Howard County, Office of the Public Defender offices etc. Each of these offices would be required to be both substantial and contained within a New Circuit Court Complex. This Proximity is required in order to ensure the efficiency of Circuit Court business.

Today, legal services affect every Howard County Citizen in some fashion, and it is a must that our citizens benefit from a judicial complex that reflects the demands of our modern society.

I thank you for your kind consideration.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Domenic R. Iamele". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Domenic R Iamele