



Virginia Goldstein Director

Russell Kokubun
Deputy Director

# County of Hawaii

## PLANNING DEPARTMENT

CERTIFIED MAIL P 417 370 201 25 Aupuni Street, Room 109 • Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4252 (808) 961-8288 • Fax (808) 961-8742

January 20, 1999

Mr. Klaus D. Conventz P.O. Box 2308 Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96745-2308

Dear Mr. Conventz:

Variance Application WH(VAR 98-074)

Variance No. 981

Applicant: KLAUS D. CONVENTZ

Owners: CARL E. JR. AND MARJORIE ANDERSON Request: Variance From Minimum Side Yard Requirements

Tax Map Key: 7-5-035: 012

After reviewing your application and the additional information submitted, the Planning Director certifies the approval of your variance request to allow an existing two story single family dwelling with a 6.1 to 7.2 feet side yard in lieu of the minimum 7.5 feet side yard, as required by Ordinance 96-160, Chapter 25, Article 6, Division 1, Section 25-6-13 and Ordinance 97-88.

Please accept our sincere apologies for this tardy confirmation of the approval granted to allow the requested variance. We have been working within the department to improve the efficiency of this process which will hopefully result in more timely responses to future applications. Your patience is appreciated.

The subject property is located at Lot 16, as shown on Map 3 of Land Court Application 1793, at Puapuaa 2nd, North Kona, Hawaii, Tax Map Key: 7-5-035: 012.

# SPECIAL AND UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES

1. The subject property consists of 11,414 square feet of land area.

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Mr. Klaus D. Conventz Page 2 January 20, 1999

- 2. The subject property is part of the Alii Point Subdivision. Planned Unit Development (PUD) No. 25 was approved on June 26, 1985 for a 21 lot Single Family Residential Subdivision with (0) Front and 7.5 feet side yard.
- 3. The subject single family dwelling was issued the following building permits:
  - a. Building Permit No. 896547 opened on October 31, 1989 and closed on March 12, 1993 for the construction of a dwelling.
  - b. Building Permit No. 915176 opened on February 14, 1991 for the construction of a swimming pool. The permit remains open.
- 4. A survey map prepared by Wes Thomas Associates on November 12, 1998, shows the existing two story single family dwelling with a 6.1 to 7.2 feet side yard in lieu of the minimum 7.5 feet side yard. As such the dwelling encroaches 3-5/8 inches to 1 foot 4-7/8 inches into the required 7.5 feet side yard.
- 5. When the building permit was approved, the owner received all of the necessary Department of Public Works, Building Division approvals for the dwelling.
- 6. When approved by the Planning Department, the plans would have had to have shown that all minimum required setbacks were going to be adhered to for the dwelling in 1989.
- 7. There appears to have been a construction staking error in the siting of the structure on the property. This occurred in 1989 when the dwelling was constructed. There also appears to have been a very minor siting error made at the time of construction with the encroachment. No other evidence has been found to show otherwise.
- 8. It has been over 9 years since the construction of the existing dwelling was approved by the County, and the applicants are trying to resolve a situation which they had no control over and have honestly conducted a certified survey to ensure the disclosure of all facts concerning the dwelling.
- 9. The variance application was filed with the Planning Department on November 15, 1998.

There were no objections from any adjacent or surrounding property owners.

Therefore, considering the foregoing facts, the Planning Director has determined that there are special or unusual circumstances applying to the subject property which exist either to a degree

Mr. Klaus D. Conventz Page 3 January 20, 1999

which deprives the owner or applicant of substantial property rights that would otherwise be available or to a degree which obviously interferes with the best use or manner of development of the subject property.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

- 1. The owners on their own volition are honestly trying to resolve this long standing problem which was not created by them. The investigation of this particular matter has not revealed any deliberate or intentional grounds in allowing the encroachments to occur.
- 2. Any architectural alterations or design changes to the dwelling to conform with the minimum setbacks would create undue and excessive hardships for the applicant when other more reasonable options are available.

Based on the above cited considerations, there are no reasonable solutions available without excessive demands being placed on the owners when a more reasonable alternative is available by the granting of this variance application.

#### INTENT AND PURPOSE

The intent and purpose of requiring buildings setbacks within a subdivision is to assure that adequate air and light circulation is available between structures and property lines. The existing dwelling encroaches 3-5/8 inches to 1 foot 4-7/8 inches into the required 7.5 feet side yard. This encroachment into the side yard will not diminish the ability for adequate light and air to circulate and will still provide adequate open space. Therefore, while the Zoning Code requires a minimum 7.5 feet side yard in this particular case, the encroachment will not visually or physically impact or be adverse to any adjacent properties or development with the granting of this variance. The rest of the existing dwelling complies with the minimum yard requirements of the Zoning Code.

Based on the foregoing findings, this variance request would be consistent with the general purpose of the zoning district and the intents and purposes of the Zoning Code, Subdivision Code and the County General Plan. Furthermore, this variance will not be materially detrimental to the public's welfare and will not cause substantial adverse impact to the area's character and to adjoining properties.

Mr. Klaus D. Conventz Page 4 January 20, 1999

This variance request is approved, subject to the following conditions:

- 1. The owner, assigns or successors shall be responsible for complying with all stated conditions of approval.
- 2. The approval of this variance shall be included in the conveyance document for the subject property and a copy of the recorded conveyance document shall be submitted to the Planning Department within a year from the effective date of approval of this variance.
- 3. If applicable, approval from the Board of Appeals for all Building Code Violations will be obtained.
- 4. All other applicable State and County rules and regulations shall be complied with

Should any of the foregoing conditions not be complied with, the Planning Director may proceed to declare this Variance Permit null and void.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Royden Yamasato of this department.

Sincerely,

VIRGINIA GOLDSTEIN

Planning Director

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xc: West Hawaii Office