

**CITY OF WILMINGTON
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

APPLICATION FOR A VARIANCE

PURPOSE OF VARIANCE – A Variance is the official allowance of a variation from the dimensional requirements of the City Land Development Code or other development regulations. An applicant for a variance must demonstrate valid reasons which create a need for a Variance. These reasons cannot be strictly economic in nature but must generally involve some physical problem with the subject property which will not allow it to be developed in a reasonable manner if City development regulations are followed literally, such as a lot which is substandard in area or width.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT - The Board of Adjustment, or BOA, is the official City Board that considers requests for variances. The BOA receives sworn testimony at its quasi-judicial hearings and issues decisions on variance requests based on this testimony. It is the responsibility of each applicant for a Variance to attend the BOA meeting and present sworn testimony in support of the request.

REASON FOR VARIANCE REQUEST – Explain in your own words why you are requesting a Variance. Be sure to clearly indicate the problem(s) you will experience in complying with the City development regulations. (Attach additional sheets if needed.)

~~Please see supplemental sheets. We are seeking a variance for:~~
~~(a) signage area increase, (b) quantity of signs/flagpole increase, (c) increase~~
~~in height of flagpoles~~

The BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT is required to make the following four (4) findings before granting a Variance. Write a thorough response to each of these items.

1. Unnecessary hardship would result from the strict application of the ordinance. It shall not be necessary to demonstrate that, in the absence of the variance, no reasonable use can be made of the property;
2. The hardship results from conditions that are peculiar to the property, such as location, size, or topography. Hardships resulting from conditions that are common to the neighborhood or the general public may not be the basis for granting a variance;
3. The hardship did not result from actions taken by the applicant or the property owner. The act of purchasing property with knowledge that circumstances exist that may justify the granting of a variance shall not be regarded as a self-created hardship;
4. The requested variance is consistent with the spirit, purpose, and intent of the ordinance, such that public safety is secured, and substantial justice is achieved.