



These accept this as a request for variance for the property located at 12103 Second Avenue, Cincinnati, OH, 45249. This size of our property is 132.5x107.5. We purchased this home from my parents who lived here for eighteen years. They had an existing chain link fence up that actually went all the way past the front of the house, almost to the road. The fence had been there since before my parents even lived there. It was rusty and broken down and unsafe.

We have 2 daughters ages 6 and 2 and a large Golden Retriever. Due to safety we felt we needed to replace the fence with a privacy fence. We were not aware that we needed a permit because we were replacing an existing fence with a better quality one and it was a lot smaller than the fence prior.

We live in a neighborhood that is not the safest area. There is constant drug and illegal activity going on and police in and out all of the time. Last year we even had a van stop outside our house. My mother-in-law lives down the street. She was riding her bike and saw this white van stopped outside our house and she stopped to ask if she could help with anything. The man driving was asking about our daughter's playhouse in the backyard which at that time was visible. There had been a lot of complaints that a white van was driving around trying to pick up kids. There is a registered sex offender 1 street over and over 100 within 5 miles of us per the familywatchdog.com website.

There is also constant traffic going through from School Road to Fields Ertel and with young kids riding bikes in the driveway it was impossible to keep them back away from the road. By putting up the fence and the gate across our driveway, we are able to keep our kids and pet back away from the busy road. We have a large garage in the back of our home that was built prior to us living there. This takes up a large portion of our back yard. We feel that the fence needs to stay where it is in order to have a space for our children and pets in the side yard.

I feel that to provide the safety and security my family needs this fence needs to stay up and in place. We made a large investment to put it up and feel that our kids are much safer when outside. If anyone drives through our neighborhood you will see the reason that we would like this fence to be placed. You will see with the photos that are enclosed, several homes in our neighborhood have privacy fences that come past the corner of their house. Also in the photos you will see several things that are in violation. We take pride in our home and making our yard and the outside of our home look very nice. There are many other privacy fences in the neighborhood that are very broken down and falling apart. We understand that privacy fences need to be maintained every couple of years and we are fully prepared to do that.

Please consider granting this variance for our fence. The fence is not located in our front yard. The old fence went almost to the road; our existing fence sits way back from the front of our home. I feel like as long as we live in this area, we need a fence to protect our family.

Thank you for your consideration,

Nathaniel L. Bush