

August 4, 2003

Michael A. Cardozo  
Corporation Counsel  
100 Church Street  
New York, NY 10007

**Re: Adult Use Zoning**

Dear Mr. Cardozo,

Many residents in Chelsea are deeply concerned about the increasing number of stores in their neighborhood that sell significant amounts of adult material. For example, two such stores have opened recently on Eighth Avenue between West 20<sup>th</sup> and West 21<sup>st</sup> Streets - the Blue Store at 206 8th Avenue and Rainbow Station at 207 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

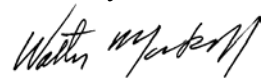
These residents consider the proliferation of such stores uncomfortably reminiscent of the (old) Times Square area. They assumed that stores of this nature were prohibited under the adult use zoning regulations.

We appreciate the help your office has provided to enable us to better understand the adult use zoning law. Apparently, there are competing judicial interpretations of the law. And, as your office pointed out, amendments written in 2001 to close certain loopholes (such as allowing such stores near a school) are currently unenforceable because of litigation.

There is no doubt, however, that this lack of clarity and resolution is confusing and confounding members of our community. This irresolution also may have provided to some businesses opportunities which the law did not intend.

It is our hope that your office will increase its efforts to speed up the process of obtaining clear and constitutional interpretation, and, ultimately, enforcement, of the adult use zoning laws in New York City.

Sincerely,



Walter Mankoff  
Chair  
Manhattan Community Board No. 4

Millie Glaberman  
Co-Chair  
Quality of Life Committee

Jean-Daniel Noland  
Co-Chair  
Quality of Life Committee

CC: Elected officials  
Office of Midtown Enforcement