

August 15, 2022

To: The Hall of Fame Committee

I am writing this letter in support of Ms. Linda Leaks, whom I have known for over 21 years.

I would like to go on record to say that Ms. Leaks worked tirelessly for 11 years to help us obtain our cooperative that had been promised to us by the DC Housing Authority under the Turnkey 3 program after residing here for two years.

I feel that it was very fortunate for us, the families here at Capital View public housing, when our public housing authority President (now deceased) attended a meeting that Ms. Leaks also attended. She readily took the opportunity and approached Ms. Leaks to talk about our situation and asked her if she would help us.

We had been promised that we would become homeowners after two years, to no avail. It seemed that the promise had fallen through. Ms. Leaks came out and organized a committee of 12 residents to begin our long-time battle with the public housing authority.

She trained us to fight our battles. Her words to us were that she would fight with us, but not for us, and fight we did. We had many meetings with her and the other members of the team that she put in place.

She taught us how to be self-sufficient and as a result we were able to become homeowners of our new cooperative. She also had us choose the name for our property, which is now called Southern Homes and Gardens Cooperative.

It was a real struggle and I know for a fact that had it not been for Linda Leaks, we would not have the opportunity to buy our homes under the cooperative form.

There's so much more that I could say about this hard-working woman. Because of her dedication to humanity, I have had the privilege of staying in, and enjoying my home for 51 and a half years. It was indeed a struggle and I sincerely thank her for helping us through this long-time battle.

I would like to close with saying that Ms. Leaks has been an asset to us, and I know many other communities. I feel that Ms. Linda Leaks is so deserving of having her name put into the Hall of Fame, and so much more.

Respectfully,

*Mrs. Evelyn M. Morse*

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