

**Nick Torrance**

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**From:** Karin Simms <karinsimms@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 15, 2021 9:26 AM  
**To:** Planning and Zoning  
**Subject:** Case number 12544/Peaceful Child LLC Letter of support

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links, open attachments, or reply unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Contact the IT Helpdesk if you need assistance.

Good morning! My name is Karin Laroche and I am writing to you to convey my support of a school called Peaceful Child, LLC (Case # 12544). This school has been instrumental in the development, education and socialization of my young son, Ian. The school is in great need of expansion and the location that they are applying for a "Special Use Exception for Day nurseries or Childcare centers" would be the ideal location for the school. The location meets the needs for a larger indoor space and also outdoor space as well. Many local families have benefited greatly from the education that this school has provided and even more students would be able to be added to the school if Peaceful Child LLC can gain access to this building that fits its needs.

I kindly ask that you take this special use exception into consideration as it will be a great asset to this community in Eastern Sussex County.

Respectfully,  
Karin Simms Laroche

**SUPPORT EXHIBIT**



## Nick Torrance

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**From:** Mark Tomlinson <mjtomlinson24@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 15, 2021 9:21 AM  
**To:** Planning and Zoning  
**Subject:** Case number 12544 - Peaceful Child School Letter of Support

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links, open attachments, or reply unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Contact the IT Helpdesk if you need assistance.

To whom it may concern,

I would like to strongly advocate my support for the Peaceful Child LLC Montessori school (Case number 12544). I have been a Delaware resident a majority of my life and recently in the Sussex County Beach area for the last 4 years since having my daughter.

As a young parent and remote working professional in the Technology industry, having this unique type of education option available is extremely important to my family. My daughter is a very hands on learner and we feel strongly the type of education Montessori schools provide are critical to the growth of not only my child but the many others young families in the area.

Currently the options for this type of youth education in this area is limited and my family feels the community would strongly benefit from having these options extended. Peaceful Child has a great record with their existing school and I look forward to the local government approving their new application.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Mark Tomlinson  
Program Manager  
[ffwagency.com](http://ffwagency.com)

**SUPPORT EXHIBIT**



## Nick Torrance

---

**From:** Karin Simms <karinsimms@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 15, 2021 9:26 AM  
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Good morning! My name is Karin Laroche and I am writing to you to convey my support of a school called Peaceful Child, LLC (Case # 12544). This school has been instrumental in the development, education and socialization of my young son, Ian. The school is in great need of expansion and the location that they are applying for a "Special Use Exception for Day nurseries or Childcare centers" would be the ideal location for the school. The location meets the needs for a larger indoor space and also outdoor space as well. Many local families have benefited greatly from the education that this school has provided and even more students would be able to be added to the school if Peaceful Child LLC can gain access to this building that fits its needs.

I kindly ask that you take this special use exception into consideration as it will be a great asset to this community in Eastern Sussex County.

Respectfully,  
Karin Simms Laroche

**SUPPORT EXHIBIT**



## Nick Torrance

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**From:** Michelle Kitchen <mkitchen22@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 15, 2021 3:46 PM  
**To:** Planning and Zoning  
**Subject:** Peaceful Child School Letter of Support

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links, open attachments, or reply unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Contact the IT Helpdesk if you need assistance.

To whom it may concern,

I would like to strongly advocate my support for the Peaceful Child LLC Montessori school (Case number 12544). I have been a Delaware resident a majority of my life and recently in the Sussex County Beach area for the last 4 years since having our daughter.

As a young parent and current stay at home mom, having this unique type of education option available is extremely important to my family as it is exactly what we were hoping for in her early school years. Our daughter is a very hands on learner and we feel strongly the type of education Montessori schools provide are critical to the growth of not only my child but the many others young families in the area.

Currently the options for this type of youth education in this area is limited and my family feels the community would strongly benefit from having these options extended. Peaceful Child has a great record with their existing school and I look forward to the local government approving their new application.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Michelle Kitchen

**SUPPORT EXHIBIT**





## Nick Torrance

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**From:** Jeffrey Kitchen <jwkitchen3@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 15, 2021 2:17 PM  
**To:** Planning and Zoning  
**Subject:** Peaceful Child School - Case # 12544 Letter of Support

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links, open attachments, or reply unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Contact the IT Helpdesk if you need assistance.

Hi,

I'm in support of the Peaceful Child LLC Montessori School (Case number 12544) using the property at 14904 Coastal Highway, Milton DE 19968. The location is conducive for a learning center such as Montessori. It will be a great place for my granddaughter to learn and grow.

I'm a native Delawareian and have seen how things have changed throughout the state over the past 50+ years; however, utilizing an existing building for a school is a great use of resources. No new construction, no new roads, etc.

Providing a location for this type of education for children is a win-win situation for the county and people in the community.

I'd appreciate approval of their application.

Thank you.

Jeffrey Kitchen  
302-966-0090

**SUPPORT EXHIBIT**



## Nick Torrance

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**From:** Christophe Emmert <christophe@tunnellraysor.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 12:16 PM  
**To:** Planning and Zoning  
**Subject:** In Support of Case Number 12544--Peaceful Child LLC

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links, open attachments, or reply unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Contact the IT Helpdesk if you need assistance.

To Whom It May Concern,

I write today in support of the above application for the Special Use Exception for Day Nurseries Childcare Centers. We toured the sister school in Lewes, located on the property of St. Jude's Catholic Church, and found the location to be incredibly well run by hands-on owners and teachers, organized, and tidy. Unfortunately, the Lewes location has reached maximum capacity for next year. We were so impressed that we have decided to enroll our youngest child at the proposed Milton location of this Montessori school full time next year, ahead of our full time preschool plans. The area is in dire need of child care centers and preschools, especially with the influx of new residents during the COVID-19 pandemic, such that our youngest child was fourth on the waitlist at the preschool where we sent our older two children. My husband, Will and I previously lived just across Hudson Field, on Hudson Road in Pintail Pointe, when the subject facility was used by a church and then as a yoga studio, and as such, are very familiar with the area. This new special use would be in line with the previous uses and would be a wonderful addition to our area and to the youth of Sussex County. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Best,  
Christophe Emmert

Christophe Clark Emmert, Esquire

TUNNELL & RAYSOR, P.A.  
30 East Pine Street  
Georgetown, DE 19947  
Direct: (302) 854-0536  
Main: (302) 856-7313  
Fax: (302) 856-7329  
Email: christophe@tunnellraysor.com

**SUPPORT EXHIBIT**

Confidentiality Notice: This e-mail communication and any attachments may contain confidential and privileged information for the use of the designated recipients named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you have received this communication in error and that any review, disclosure, dissemination, distribution or copying of its contents is prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify me immediately by replying to this message and deleting it from your computer. Thank you.



## Nick Torrance

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**From:** Hanh Dang <hanhdang03@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 9:43 PM  
**To:** Planning and Zoning  
**Subject:** Case Number 12544

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links, open attachments, or reply unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Contact the IT Helpdesk if you need assistance.

To whom it may concern,

My name is Hanh Dang and I am currently a teacher at Little World International Montessori Academy. I support the opening of the Peaceful Child School (case # 12544). With the large population growth of the Lewes / Rehoboth area, the educational needs of the community grow as well. I feel the Peaceful Child School will serve our community above and beyond in the wonderful tradition of early childhood Montessori education. Personally, I am planning to enroll my children to the school in the near future. Thank you for your consideration.

If you have any concerns or questions, feel free to contact me.

Warm Regards,  
Hanh Dang

(302) 467-0965  
hanhdang03@yahoo.com

**SUPPORT EXHIBIT**



## Nick Torrance

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**From:** Allen Chan <allen.h.chan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 9:58 PM  
**To:** Planning and Zoning  
**Subject:** Case 12544 - Letter of Support

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links, open attachments, or reply unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Contact the IT Helpdesk if you need assistance.

I would like to send a letter of support for Peaceful Child LLC's Special Use Exception to run an additional childcare center. Over the past year, there has been an influx of younger families interested in moving to the area and childcare is a critical part of the community's local infrastructure. Peaceful Child LLC has a great track record in running a high quality Montessori program, and its existing facility already has a rather long waiting list. Young parents in the neighboring area would greatly welcome an additional facility run by this exceptional team. We would encourage the Planning and Zoning Commission to strongly consider this application.

Thank you,

Allen Chan

**SUPPORT EXHIBIT**





## Nick Torrance

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**From:** Chongsi Bi <chongsi.bi@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 10:11 PM  
**To:** Planning and Zoning  
**Subject:** Case number 12544 - Peaceful Child School

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links, open attachments, or reply unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Contact the IT Helpdesk if you need assistance.

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my support for Peaceful Child's application to open a new daycare at the contemplated property (Case number 12544). The team behind Peaceful Child runs a successful Montessori program nearby, but has hit capacity. Allowing them to open up a new facility would be a great use of this facility, and would be extremely beneficial for the local community as families seek to take advantage of this wonderful program.

Many thanks,  
Chongsi Bi

Chongsi Bi  
240-447-0739

**SUPPORT EXHIBIT**



## Russell Warrington

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**From:** Beth Eisenhour <baeisen@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 12, 2021 7:20 PM  
**To:** Planning and Zoning  
**Subject:** In support of the Peaceful Child School (12544 case number)

**Categories:** Ann

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Hello,

I want to voice my support for the approval of Peaceful Child School's application! I think it's a great asset to our community and the proposed location is appropriate for its use.

Thank you so much for taking my opinion into account.

Sincerely,  
Beth Eisenhour



## Russell Warrington

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**From:** Mircea Pinzaru <pinzarumircea@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 12, 2021 9:11 PM  
**To:** Planning and Zoning  
**Subject:** Re: case number 12544

**Categories:** Ann

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links, open attachments, or reply unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Contact the IT Helpdesk if you need assistance.

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in reference to the above mentioned case (12544) regarding the Peaceful Child Initiative.

My name is Mircea Pinzaru, I live in Lewes, DE. My little girl, Olivia Pinzaru has been attending school at Little World International Montessori Academy since she was 4 years old. She will soon turn 8. During these years I've trusted Mrs and Mr Snyder not only with her education but with her care, safety and most importantly ensuring she will grow up being a happy, confident and well integrated child. They have performed outstandingly at Little World and I am sure if given the opportunity they will do the same at the new location. They will bring a lot of much needed inspiring education to the area.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter of support.

If for any reason further communication would be needed feel free to reply to this email or call me at 3022493438.

Appreciatively,  
Mircea A Pinzaru.

Sent from my iPhone



## Russell Warrington

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**From:** Julie Hudson <julie@hudmgt.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 1:05 PM  
**To:** Planning and Zoning  
**Cc:** Julie Hudson  
**Subject:** Case #12544 Special Use Exemption  
**Attachments:** Letter to P&Z Case 12544.pdf

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links, open attachments, or reply unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Contact the IT Helpdesk if you need assistance.

Jamie

Please find the attached letter of support for Case #12544.

Please let us know if you require any additional information

Thanks

Julie





April 13, 2021

Sussex County Planning & Zoning  
Jamie Whitehouse, Director  
PO Box 417  
Georgetown, DE 19947

RE: Case 12544 "Special Use Exemption for Day Nurseries or Childcare Centers"

I am writing in support for the application for a "Special Use Exemption" for Peaceful Child, LLC at the address of 14904 Coastal Highway, Milton, DE 19968 on behalf of Hudson Family 2, LLC which owns the parcel in this application (235-16.00-75.00) as well as most of the adjoining lands surrounding this application as well.

The property currently has a Conditional Use (CU 2156) that was approved on June 20, 2019 for Wellness Classes including yoga, massage, meditation, acupuncture, and lectures. Prior to this CU the property was used as a church for religious purposes with the attendant uses by the church of worship services, educational classes, childcare, and other ministries.

As our population continues to grow, both private and public schools need to be built or expanded to accommodate the population growth. This property is particularly well suited for the proposed use as it is very similar to the property's historical uses. The property is also well located with convenient access to Coastal Highway, and access to substantial outdoor recreational facilities at neighboring Hudson Fields. If approved the application would allow the subject property to continue to serve our community for the foreseeable future.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christian Hudson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Christian Hudson

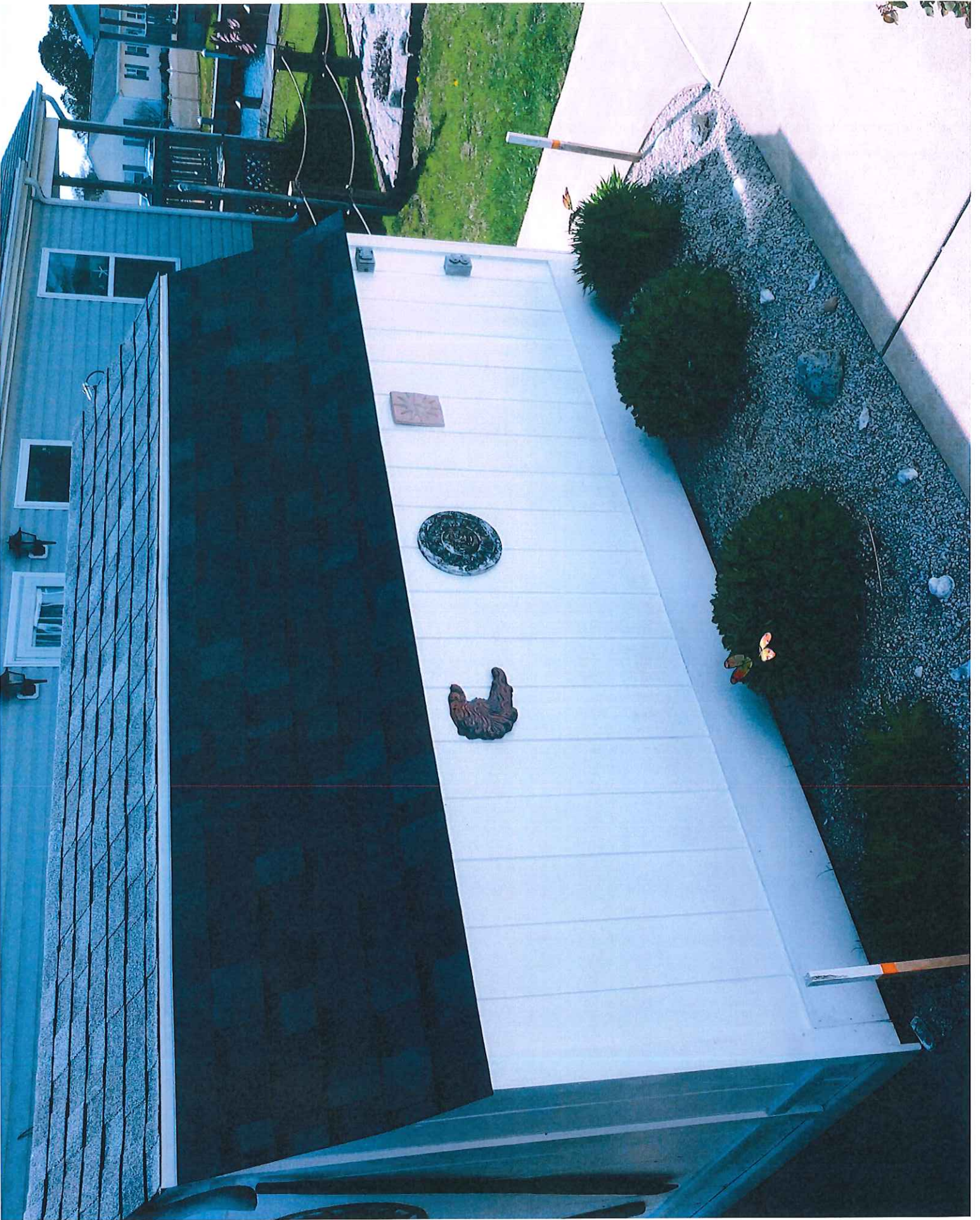


APPLICANT EXHIBIT

VAI - CASE 12545











Jamie Whitehouse

**From:** Leonard Stabile <leonardstab3@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 15, 2021 7:18 PM  
**To:** Jamie Whitehouse  
**Subject:** Statement in opposition to Shooting Range near Gravel Hill Road: Case #12532

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links, open attachments, or reply unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Contact the IT Helpdesk if you need assistance.

I would like to submit a statement in opposition to the following item on the Planning & Zoning agenda, April 19, 2021:

**7:30 p.m.**

**Case No. 12532 – John H. Legg** seeks a special use exception to operate a rifle or pistol range (Sections 115-23 and 115-210 of the Sussex County Code). The property is located on the northeast corner of Gravel Hill Road (Rt. 30) at the intersection of Bennum Switch Road and Gravel Hill Road. 911 Address: 20093 Gravel Hill Road, Georgetown. Zoning District: AR-  
1. Tax Parcel 135-11.00-82.0

**Please let me know that this is getting to the right individuals to process this opposition response. If I need to mail it, I will do so. If I need to deliver it to P&Z offices, I will do so. If I am asked to speak publicly at the commission meeting, I will not. I am concerned about retribution by the gun range owners and occupiers given their language and threats and will not go public with this response.**

To the Planning & Zoning Commission:

I am responding to the request by Mr. John H. Legg and Mr. Ron Hagan to use and expand use of the location near Gravel Hill Road and Bennum Switch Road for a shooting range and training facility. I am representing myself and my wife Denise with this statement. We are residents of the Hawthorne Community just across the road and have joined a petition with several neighbors in opposition to the use of and expansion of the shooting range.

My wife and I have been very involved with Planning & Zoning on behalf of Hawthorne residents along the Alcott Pond – working to ensure that the tree replanting “Landscape Plan” is implemented appropriately and monitored by Planning & Zoning. We have found our interactions with Planning & Zoning, in particular Jamie Whitehouse, to be helpful and beneficial. When we learned about the application for continued use and expansion of the shooting range nearby (Bennum Switch Road, near Gravel Hill Road) it concerned us greatly. I will provide a few simple reasons for our opposition:

1. **Safety concerns:** Reading through the documents and understanding the potential for stray bullets, ricochets and accidents, we feel this is a serious issue particularly because of proximity to the streets, and to the Georgetown-Lewes trail currently in progress. There are pedestrians on this road – we and others use Bennum Switch as a street for riding our bicycles. We have heard gunshots even when we ride, but those gunshots will now be significantly greater – hence we and others like us would not be able to use this road for biking safely. The existing Georgetown-Lewes trail (rails to trails) to our east is also extensively used by bikes, runners and walkers – many with small children and pets. When the extension of this trail is completed right in our backyard (within the next year) the “foot and bike traffic” will be significant. Who will assure patrons that they and their families will be safe while using the trails? The proximity is too close.



2. **Environmental Concerns:** Despite claims to the contrary, there is no evidence that the bullet and lead containment will be adequate and not impact the grounds and groundwater.
3. **Noise issues:** We can hear the shooting now – but with the expanded use and timeframes which are being suggested, the noise would be significant and far more intrusive. There are those in our community who have indicated they and their pets would suffer from the excessive noise and the trauma associated with it. Many here are elderly and their only opportunity for exercise and socialization is a comfortable walk around out community. This opportunity would be eliminated for some who cannot handle the shooting and limited for others who would rather stay inside.
4. **Property Values:** Having an extensive and expanding shooting range nearby will impact the values of our homes, and the many residents who invested to live here. And our residents enhance the economy of Sussex County Delaware – through our property taxes and support of local businesses, community organizations etc. *We spend money here* and deserve the respect of being recognized as contributing members of the state of Delaware and county of Sussex.

This final point is key – Delaware opened its arms to us as potential new residents of the state – we moved here either from within the state, or from other states outside of Delaware including New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland and several others – to become a part of the community. We strengthen the community and state, yet some of the language referenced by the applicants seem to indicate there should be a preference for those who were here first -- even if they were operating their shooting range without proper permits. We are Delaware residents too – and deserve to be treated as such.

I personally found some of the Facebook posts and other communications by the applicants and their friends/families to be offensive and threatening. They indicate they will make our lives tough by extensive use of ATVs etc. As a result, my perception is that these are a form of threat, I will not be making a public statement in the Planning & Zoning Commission meeting on April 19 – I would not want the applicants to know who I am or my address. I don't own a gun and do not want to be on guard against those who may disagree with my stance on the matter.

Thank you for your consideration of these points in opposition to Mr. Legg's request.

Leonard William Stabile & spouse Denise  
Hawthorne Community  
Georgetown DE 19947

2. **Environmental Concerns:** Despite claims to the contrary, there is no evidence that the bullet and lead containment will be adequate and not impact the grounds and groundwater.
3. **Noise issues:** We can hear the shooting now – but with the expanded use and timeframes which are being suggested, the noise would be significant and far more intrusive. There are those in our community who have indicated they and their pets would suffer from the excessive noise and the trauma associated with it. Many here are elderly and their only opportunity for exercise and socialization is a comfortable walk around out community. This opportunity would be eliminated for some who cannot handle the shooting and limited for others who would rather stay inside.
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This final point is key – Delaware opened its arms to us as potential new residents of the state – we moved here either from within the state, or from other states outside of Delaware including New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland and several others – to become a part of the community. We strengthen the community and state, yet some of the language referenced by the applicants seem to indicate there should be a preference for those who were here first -- even if they were operating their shooting range without proper permits. We are Delaware residents too – and deserve to be treated as such.

I personally found some of the Facebook posts and other communications by the applicants and their friends/families to be offensive and threatening. They indicate they will make our lives tough by extensive use of ATVs etc. As a result, my perception is that these are a form of threat, I will not be making a public statement in the Planning & Zoning Commission meeting on April 19 – I would not want the applicants to know who I am or my address. I don't own a gun and do not want to be on guard against those who may disagree with my stance on the matter.

Thank you for your consideration of these points in opposition to Mr. Legg's request.

Leonard William Stabile & spouse Denise  
Hawthorne Community  
Georgetown DE 19947



## Russell Warrington

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**From:** S0NDM4N <s0ndm4n@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 9:34 PM  
**To:** Planning and Zoning  
**Subject:** Case # 12532 - Opposition  
**Attachments:** ranges.jpg; gunrange distance.jpg

**Categories:** Ann

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April 13, 2021

0.1 miles from Range

I am a local resident down Bennum Switch Rd and I believe the outdoor range falls under the legal definition of unreasonable noise. The area is zoned rural residential/agricultural to preserve the country style living that the area is known for. The fact that there are already a handful of world class gun ranges less than 15 minutes from this location that offer private gun instructors and provide proper gun safety measures. The proposed range site has multiple businesses that operate and is not regulated when it comes to who is shooting or if they're taking the right safety measures around local residents as the trained gun instructor isn't always the one shooting there or is even present. So the chance of wildly discharged high powered rifles or even uncontained led shots can not be promised and may poison local residents' water wells when the tax ditch floods to our ditches near the range. This has only been going on the last few years, not something that regularly happens down Bennum Switch Rd and so close. Lived in Sussex county my whole life around occasional shooting but being 0.1 miles is simply too close to the mini sonic boom. The mini sonic boom happens with the explosion of the gunpowder & resultant gas from the barrel of the gun after the bullet leaves. I would love a resolution and would not be opposed if they could have a proper first class indoor range it would make me personally feel safer about the range and not deal with the mini sonic booms that come being so close especially the neighbors across street/woods that are only at 400ft. NO to Outdoor Range.

Sincerely,  
Victor Joseph



## Russell Warrington

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**From:** Traci Jewell <tackjewell@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 9:08 PM  
**To:** Planning and Zoning  
**Subject:** Case # 12532-Opposition

**Categories:** Ann

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April 13th, 2021

Reference: Case 12521 - Opposition

I have lived here for 45 years. What was once considered country is now a fast growing residential area. Allot of homes, developments and apartments are being built in Gravel Hill. Allot more vehicle traffic too. The Lewes to Georgetown trail (rails for trails) will soon run along the railroad track. This will bring allot of bike and foot traffic that will go right by the shooting range property. The noise of constant shots being fired is very unsettling. The guns being shot sound like cannons, like a war zone at times. It continues 7 days a week, all hours of the day some weeks. You cant open your windows or be outside in your own yard and carry a conversation. The noise of the constant gunfire is definitely ruining the peace for us. Another concern is the amount of lead possibly going into the tax ditch and could be going into our wells, which we drink from. I have noticed allot of trees dying in the area surrounding the range. My home is on the other side of that hill they are shooting at. I oppose this special use permit for a shooting range. There are more than enough shooting ranges in Sussex County to provide that service for our community.

Sincerely,  
Traci Jewell - (Bennum Switch Rd Resident)  
302-858-9653



CE

CE

Case 12532 Opposition

**Ann Lepore**

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**From:** webmaster@sussexcountyde.gov on behalf of Sussex County DE  
<webmaster@sussexcountyde.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2021 12:48 PM  
**To:** Ann Lepore  
**Subject:** Submission from: Board of Adjustment contact form

RECIPIENTS: Ann Lepore, Jamie Whitehouse

Submitted on Wednesday, February 24, 2021 - 12:47pm

Name: james mitchell

Email address: jamesmitchell68@comcast.net Phone number: 13025421651

Subject: special use permit near rt 9 & rt 30

Message: a special use permit was filed for a shooting range on a property neighboring residents on rt 9 the noise level and duration of this activity is reducing our property values and has diminished our quality of life and limited our time outside since this activity continues till after dark 6-7 days a week . the residents in the area respectfully request a denial with out a strict noise abatement plan to keep it at a safe level as to be below health and safety standards according title 7 delaware code . thank you , James Mitchell rt 9 resident





April 12, 2021

Susan Barra  
18138 Emerson Way  
Georgetown, Delaware 19947  
Hawthorne Community

RECEIVED  
APR 14 2021  
SUSSEX COUNTY  
PLANNING & ZONING

Sussex County Planning and Zoning  
2 The Circle  
P.O. Box 417  
Georgetown, Delaware 19947  
CASE # 12532, April 19, 2021 6:00PM

Dear Planning and Zoning Board,

I am against the proposal for the Exception for a Public Gun and Pistol Range near the corner of Gravel Hill Road and Route 9 in Georgetown, Delaware.

The sound will be 5000 times louder than ambient noise. The sounds are already loud, in our community. The community pool is set to open Memorial Day weekend and eventually our clubhouse. Both are near Route 9, right across the street from this proposal. The noise level will be so hurtful to everyone, especially young children.

On the direct corner of Gravel Hill and Route 9, there are uninhabited homes. They were once occupied. There are homes along Route 9 across from Hawthorne Community and next to us. Another community is being developed on the west side of Gravel Hill Road on Route 9. This includes tall apartment buildings. What will the noise level be there?

What safety measures are planned? How will the barriers be constructed? How long and how high? What about the environmental impacts?

These are two very busy roads, Gravel Hill Road and Route 9. The traffic can be a lot. The developments, all around here, have been approved and are being constructed. This does not seem to be a conducive area for an enlarged Public Gun and Pistol Range.

Sincerely,

Susan Barra




April 12, 2021

Sussex County Hearing-Shooting Range in Gravel Hill near Hawthorne Development  
Case Number #12532

To whom it may concern in Sussex County,

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposed Special Use Exemption for the Shooting Range. This is not conducive for the area. I had purchased my dream retirement home last year with Insight Homes Hawthorne Community, and I do not wish to be near a firing range for several reasons. As I am experienced with ranges due to my previous professions. These are the reasons that I set forth for not having the Special Use Exemption granted. Firstly, there is no way the noise can be controlled unless it is an indoor range. And even then, the range must be built to be soundproof inside and out, which as we know is very costly. This of course will be determined on what type of weapons are also being fired. Will they be large caliber or small caliber? Shotguns, semi-automatics? Secondly, safety concerns. Accidents do happen and sometimes there is no way to avoid them, this is unfortunate, but it does happen. Thirdly, there are environmental concerns. Lead can be detrimental to the environment if proper clean-up protocols are not followed. And last but by no means least, you need to consider the demographics. You have a large retirement population that is growing each day in Sussex County. I do not think you will find a lot of support from this population. I hope you will re-consider your options and take these concerns under advisement. I appreciate your time.

  
Lisa Franchini-Hawthorne Community  
Melville Way, Georgetown, DE 19947



18323 Emerson

Way  
Georgetown, DE

19947

County zoning Bd.  
2 The Circle  
Georgetown, DE 19947

Re: Case # 12532

Dear Members of the Board of  
Adjustment:

We are writing to you to  
strongly oppose the "special  
use exception" sought by  
John H. Legg to operate a rifle  
& pistol range across from  
our neighborhood. We reside  
- the Hawthorne community of  
Anisight Homes off Lewes - Georg  
town Hwy

My husband and I relocate  
to DE last March (2020)



for our retirement. After 40  
years of hard work. We seek  
peace + quiet. We love the  
rural setting of southern  
DE - Sussex County - open  
fields and fresh air.

The proposed zoning except  
for this gun range will,  
if allowed, destroy our  
peace + quiet but more  
importantly will negatively  
affect our health and  
safety. The two ponds that  
surround the area plus the  
tax ditch within close range  
will be receptors for the  
shells + bullets causing lead  
runoff into our drinking water  
The berm to catch ricochets  
and bullets is small and  
there are no safety measures  
to protect the people in the  
surrounding houses -





some which have small children!!!

A commercial shooting range is unacceptable in a residential area! This property owner is being irresponsible and inconsiderate of others. He doesn't even live near this property so he won't have to tolerate the consequences he is creating! Shooting ranges need to abide by basic safety and environmental restrictions in order to practice responsible shooting + training.

Please - do not allow this owner to have this except! We are responsible homeowners who would have our quality of life greatly diminished.

Thank you. Sincerely,

Grace McDonald

Michelle McDonald



RECEIVED

APR 16 2021

From the residents of Hawthorne

SUSSEX COUNTY  
PLANNING & ZONING

To Sussex County Planning & Zoning Department

2 The Circle (P O Box 417)

Georgetown, DE 19947

Opposition  
Exhibit

We the residents of Hawthorne, Route 9, Georgetown, DE oppose the granting of a zoning exception for a gun range on Gravel Hill Road, due to concerns of safety, noise, and lead pollution to the area ponds and tax ditches.

Name Address Phone

Name	Address	Phone
Patricia Evens	18145 Emerson Way Georgetown DE	917 324-0055
Debbie Wood	18111 Emerson Way Georgetown DE	518 3011361
MATTHEW + LISA KANE	19362 LODGEPOLE WY GEORGETOWN	619-903-4096
Grace McDonald	18323 Emerson Way Georgetown	774-9666
William McDonald	18323 EMERSON WAY GEORGETOWN	287-948
TOM W. BENDER	18172 EMERSON WAY GEORGETOWN DE	19947 443-336-362
Gayle C. Bender	18172 Emerson Way Georgetown DE	19947 443-336-362
Barry Evens	18145 Emerson Way Georgetown	917 324 0721
GARY POPECK	18131 EMERSON WAY, GEORGETOWN DE	19947; 302 858 4048
SARAH O'DONNELL	18307 EMERSON WAY, GEORGETOWN, DE	19947 - 215 896 7164
Tom O'Donnell	18307 Emerson way Georgetown DE	19947 215-527-4229
James Corcoran	19353 Longfellow Way Georgetown DE	19947 845-762 6917
Dorothy Corcoran	19353 Longfellow Way Georgetown DE	19947 845-542-7355
Mc (Tom) Aufseeser	19215 Alcott Way Georgetown DE	19947 432-610-9134
Mary Aufseeser	19215 ALCOTT WAY GEORGETOWN DE	19947 788-9888
Sarah Ann Longo	18308 Emerson Way " " "	917-650-4351
RHONDA KLEIN	18173 EMERSON WAY, GEORGETOWN	19947 724-430-6355
BILL KLEIN	18173 EMERSON WAY, GEORGETOWN	19947 724-433-3947
STEPHANIE Magid	18321 EMERSON WAY GEORGETOWN DE	19947 410-80-7448
ELAINE PETROWSKI	19148 ALCOTT WAY Georgetown DE	19947 515 1905
JOE PETROWSKI	19148 ALCOTT WAY GEORGETOWN DE	19947 " "

From the residents of Hawthorne

To Sussex County Planning & Zoning Department  
 2 The Circle (P O Box 417)  
 Georgetown, DE 19947

We the residents of Hawthorne, Route 9, Georgetown, DE oppose the granting of a zoning exception for a gun range on Gravel Hill Road, due to concerns of safety, noise, and lead pollution to the area ponds and tax ditches.

Name	Address	Phone
Charles & Joan Strinsky	18080 EMERSON WAY GEORGETOWN	516-729-5849
Deborah & David Davis	18246 Emerson Way Georgetown	732-690-2473
Christine Jurek	18257 EMERSON WAY, GEORGETOWN	302-858-4549
Don Jurek	18257 EMERSON WAY, GEORGETOWN	" "
Steven Hoyt	19128 ALCOIT WAY GEORGETOWN	973-248-7006
KAREN HOYT	19128 ALCOIT WAY GTOWN	201-281-9655
Secelia Jurek	19128 Alcott Way GTOWN	919-606-8225
Ralph Yune	19170 Alcott Way GTOWN	302-569-2966
John YANONIS	18067 EMERSON WAY Georgetown	367-970-0275
DIANE YANONIS	18067 EMERSON WAY GEORGETOWN	610-560-9121
CRAIG + Joan Petrozillo	21120 Dickinson Way Georgetown DE	302-290-4398
Nancy Kramer	19176 Alcott Way GTOWN	240 461 3801
Susan Bang	18138 Emerson Way Georgetown, DE	302-858-4052
Jean Shickman	19256 Alcott Way GTOWN DE	433-286-9940
Judy & David Gray	18745 Melville Way " "	937-241-1485
Susan Cahill	18089 Emerson Way Georgetown DE	410 920-0107
Michael Cahill	18089 Emerson Way Georgetown	302-650-4357
Debbie Russell	18081 Emerson Way, Georgetown	302-515-1915
Brian Russell	18081 Emerson Way, Georgetown	302-515-1915
JOSEPH BARBACCIA	19207 ALCOIT WAY, GEORGETOWN, DE	703-969-8813
Candace Barbaccia	" " " " " "	703-969-0834

VERY  
LOUD  
NOW





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 Georgetown, DE 19947

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Name	Address	Phone
Kim Crystal	18316 Emerson Way	572-1688
John Morgan	18316 Emerson Way	244-6912
Rosemary Pogreant	18273 Emerson Way	443-223-7844
Robert Pogreant	18273 Emerson Way 19947	443-223-2203
Michael Briski	18317 Emerson Way	717-592-1748
RONALD CONCHA-FARRA	18317 Emerson Way	718-7554668
John Tedesco	19181 Alcott Way	703-357-0797
Brian Palmer	19181 Alcott Way	302-567-8161
Barbara L. Harlow	18155 Emerson Way	302-858-4028
Wynne P. Harlow	18155 Emerson Way	302-858-4028
Elietez Martinez	19251 Alcott Way	973-953-2608
Maria L. Martinez	19251 Alcott Way	973-454-4632
BEA YURASITS	18194 EMERSON WAY	
DAVID YURASITS	18194 EMERSON WAY	732-300-4104
SHARON BUSH	18062 Emerson Way	443-745-7997
RICHARD BUSH	18062 Emerson Way	443-745-7997
Melissa Skoupe	19329 Longfellow Way	215-385-1885
Kathleen White	18216 Emerson Way	908-500-4263
Alyson Cunn	18241 Emerson Way	516-359-0481
Frank Cunn	18241 Emerson Way	516-359-0481
Karla Diaz	18195 Emerson Way	443-223-9431



# Fundamentals of Noise and Sound

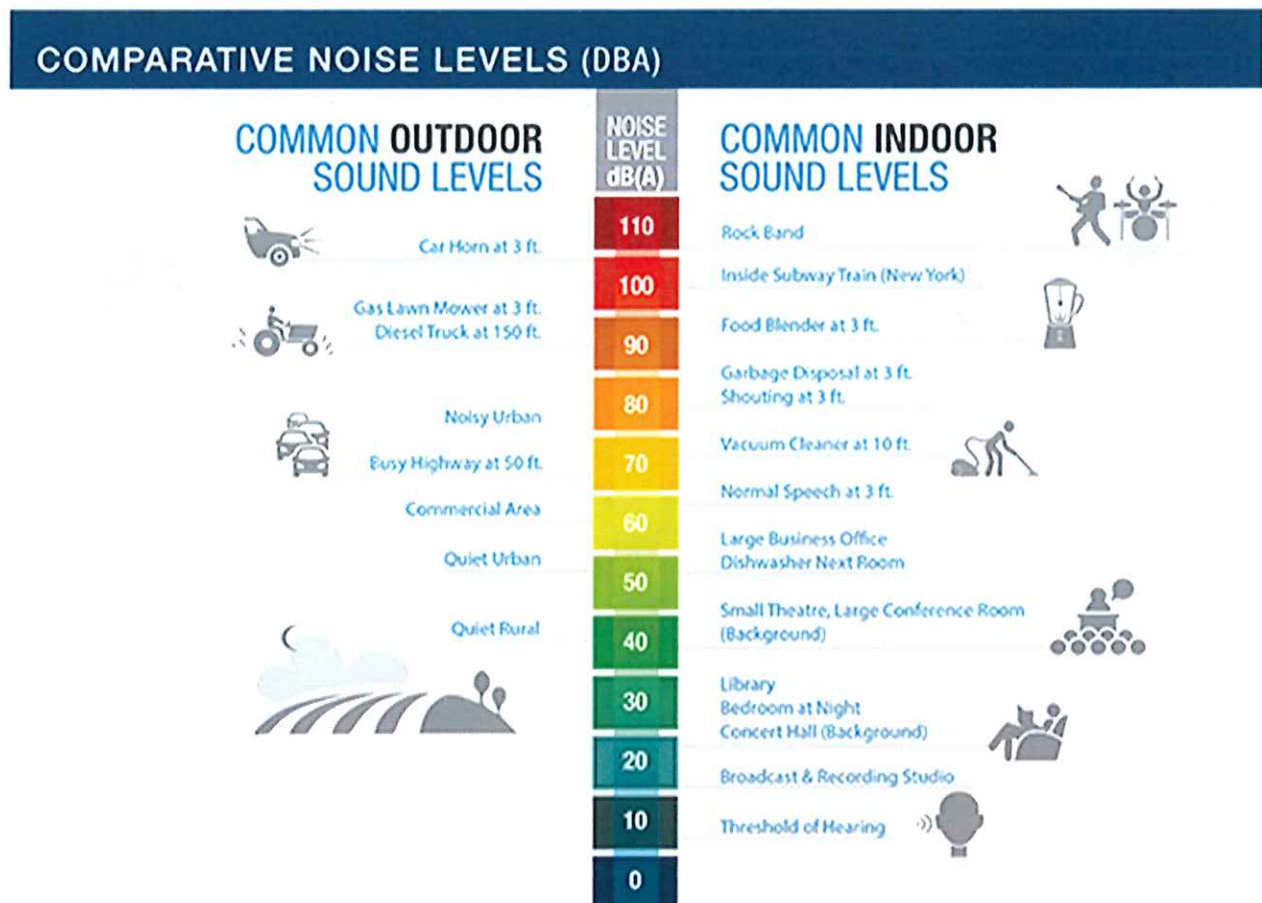
[https://www.faa.gov/regulations\\_policies/policy\\_guidance/noise/basics/](https://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/policy_guidance/noise/basics/)

April 15, 2021

**Sound** is energy transferred through the air that our ears detect as small changes in air pressure. The more energy put into making a sound, the louder it will be. Try whispering. Then yell. You can feel how much more energy goes into yelling.

**Noise** is sound that is **unwanted**. Some sounds, like a distant train whistle, can be a pleasant sound for some, while being considered noise by others. Other sounds, like a neighbor's barking dog in the middle of the night, are more universally found to be annoying. Even sounds that are pleasant at one volume can become noise to us as they get louder. Noise, then, has both an objective, physical component; as well as a subjective component that takes account of a person's individual perception, or reaction, to a sound.

The **decibel (db)** is the unit used to measure the intensity of a sound. The human ear hears sound pressures over a wide range. Decibels, which are measured on a *logarithmic* scale, correspond to the way our ears interpret sound pressures.



The human ear also responds to different pitches or frequencies of sound differently. We are less able to hear low frequencies like the rumble of thunder but hear high frequencies like the cry of a baby more strongly.

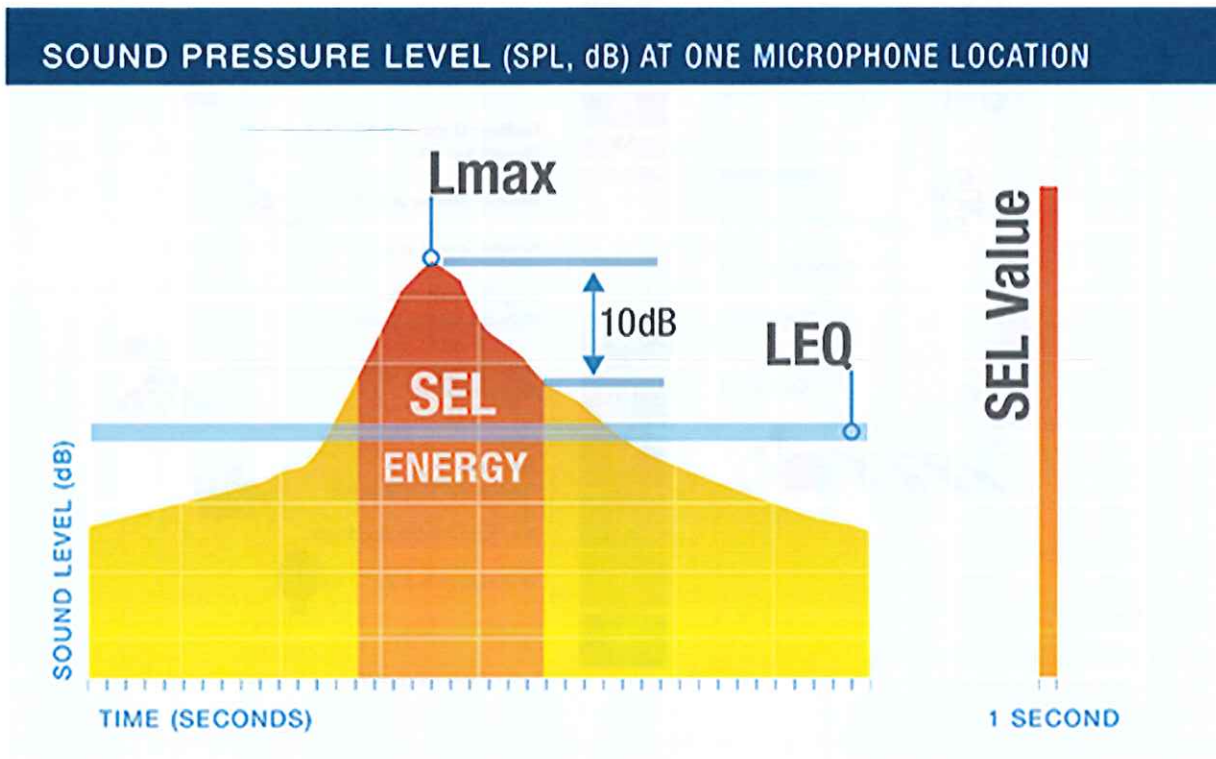
To account for differences in how people respond to sound, the "A-weighted" scale (**dB(A)**) is used. This scale most closely approximates the relative loudness of sounds in air as perceived by the human ear and provides a more useful way to evaluate the effect of noise exposure on humans by focusing on those parts of the frequency spectrum where we hear most. The A weighted noise level has been adopted by the FAA as the accepted measure to consider aircraft noise.

For noise sources in motion, like aircraft, noise levels can change over time. For example, the sound level of a plane increases as it approaches, and then as it flies away the sound level decreases. It can be useful to measure the **maximum sound level**, abbreviated as  $L_{max}$ , of a particular noise "event." While  $L_{max}$  notes the moment of maximum sound level, it does not account for the duration of a sound event. The maximum sound level of a gun firing a bullet is high but very brief; a freight train can have the same maximum sound level, if you are very close to it, but the sound has a long duration.

To account for the differences in duration and loudness of sounds, different metrics are used. These metrics are used to compare individual noise events as well as many events that take place over an extended period of time.

## Noise Metrics

The **Sound Exposure Level (SEL)** metric represents all the acoustic energy (a.k.a. sound pressure) of an individual noise event as if that event had occurred within a one-second time period. SEL captures both the level (magnitude) and the duration of a sound event in a single numerical quantity, by "squeezing" all the noise energy from an event into one second. This provides a uniform way to make comparisons among noise events of various durations.



The **equivalent sound level (LEQ)** measures the average acoustic energy over a period of time to take account of the cumulative effect of multiple noise events. This could, for example, provide a measure of the aggregate sound at a location that has airplane flyovers throughout the day. LEQ is defined as the level of continuous sound over a given time period that would deliver the same amount of energy as the actual, varying sound exposure.

Finally, the **day-night average sound level (DNL)** noise metric is used to reflect a person's cumulative exposure to sound over a 24-hour period, expressed as the noise level for the average day of the year on the basis of annual aircraft operations. The DNL noise metric provides a mechanism to describe the effects of environmental noise in a simple and uniform way. DNL is the standard noise metric used for all FAA studies of aviation noise exposure in airport communities. (For more on DNL, see [FAA History of Noise](#).) DNL and the closely related CNEL metric used in California are both similar to LEQ, but they differ in how noise is treated during the evening and nighttime.

### DNL - DAY-NIGHT AVERAGE SOUND LEVEL

- DNL
- 10-dB Nighttime Penalty
- Hourly LEQ



