John Castellucci
29 Stratford Rd. Cranston, RI 02905

April 2, 2026

Stanley Pikul
Building Official
City of Cranston

Dear Mr. Pikul:

We are writing to request that the city order the Rhode Island Shriners to remove the LED sign they erected at the beginning of February.

The sign is on the west side of Broad Street, just north of Pawtuxet Village. It's on a landscaped patch alongside the Palestine Shrine Temple, diagonally opposite our house.

Our house at 29 Stratford Rd has an enclosed front porch with 13 windows, nine of which face the Shrine Temple.



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The windows let in sunight, which helps keep the house warm. Unfortunately, the windows also let in light from the sign, which is on from 7 am until 10 pm, and extremely bright.

At night, when the message on the sign changes, it's like a flashbulb going off inside our house.

The sign, like the Palestine Shrine Temple, is in an area zoned residential. It is out of place in the neighborhood and out of keeping with the historic character of Pawtuxet Village, which lies immediately south.



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The sign went into service Feb. 6. In erecting it, the Rhode Island Shriners replaced a sign identifying the Shrine Temple as a meeting place with an electronic billboard advertising upcoming events.



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Despite the severity of the change, there was no community outreach or advance public notice. Had there been, we would have opposed the new sign. As matters now stand, we have no alternative but to demand it be taken down. So we appreciate your attention to this matter and hope you will do whatever is necessary to remove the sign.

Sincerely

John Castellucci
Marion Castellucci

cc: Nicholas Oliver,
Potentate, Rhode Island Shriners
Rhode Island Shrine Center
One Rhodes Place
Cranston, RI 02905

Hon. Bridget R. Graziano
Ward 1 City Councilor
191 Wentworth Ave.
Cranston, RI 02905

Hon. Joseph M.McNamara
District 19 State Representative
State House, Room 08A
82 Smith St
Providence, RI 02903

Hon. Lammis J. Vargas
District 28 State Senator
35 Betsey Williams Drive
Cranston, RI 02905

Gina Capuano
Constituent Affairs Director
Mayor's Office
Cranston City Hall

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