
From: Bob Loomis <RLoomis@herrlingclark.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 3:14 PM
To: Comments, BCC Agenda
Cc: sgalloway7141@gmail.com; patty@belloiserealty.com; belloiserealty@gmail.com; Sal Belloise; debbieloomis@yahoo.com
Subject: Pinnelas County Board Meeting - May 19, 2020: Short Term Rental Properties
Attachments: Scan2020-05-18_133427.pdf

Dear Board Members:

Thank you for your considerations concerning Short-Term Rental Properties. Also, thank you for your quick responses to my email from last week. The Governor has stated that each County must propose a plan for re-opening Short-Term Rental Properties in the County. I understand that Pinnelas County is moving on this immediately at this time – which is greatly appreciated!

Attached are various communications that I have sent to the Governor and his office. There has been no response. The Governor will do nothing unless there is a proposal for re-opening Short-Term Rental Properties from our County.

I have received information from one local manager that her Short-Term rental owners in the Clearwater Beach/Clearwater area have lost approximately \$3,000,000.00 to \$6,000,000.00 in rents since the ban. For our own two properties, we have lost about \$80,000.00 so far, and the losses continue into the future.

We are respectfully requesting that Pinnelas County submit a plan to the Governor for the immediate opening of Short-Term Rental Properties in our County.

Thank you.

Bob & Deb Loomis

Robert B. Loomis
President
HERRLING CLARK LAW FIRM LTD.
[800 North Lynndale Drive, Appleton, WI 54914](#)
Phone: [920/739-7366](#) (Appleton), [920/468-7366](#) (Green Bay),
[920/982-9652](#) (New London), [800/559-7366](#) (Toll Free)
Facsimile: [920/739-6352](#)

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800 N. Lyndale Dr.
Appleton, WI 54914
920.730.7306
Fax: 920.730.6352

Green Bay
920.408.7306

New London
920.582.0632

Oakdale
920.383.0940

May 4, 2020

Governor Ron DeSantis
GovernorRon.Desantis@cog.myflorida.com
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Attorney General Ashley Moody
Citizenservices@myfloridalegal.com
Ashley.moody@myfloridalegal.com
State of Florida
The Capital PL-01
400S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1050

RE: Florida Vacation Rental Homes

Dear Governor DeSantis and Attorney General Moody:

My Wife and myself have had vacation rental properties/homes in Florida for over ten (10) years. We have spent substantial money on improving our properties and take great pride in them. We are hands on owners. Also, we have a wonderful support system that helps keep our properties in great shape. These good folks work hard at maintaining our properties, including house cleaning, lawn care, maintaining pools, painting, carpenter repairs, maintenance, improvements, property management, accounting/booking, etc. Our rent pays them money, and they in turn spend the money in our community. We timely pay our real estate taxes and our local tourist/rental taxes. Financially, the closing of rental homes has been devastating for those folks that need the money the most.

Now, however, things have dramatically changed. My wife and I will be able to weather the financial storm. However, we are greatly concerned about those people that may not be able to financially exist. Our housekeepers/cleaners, maintenance folks, etc. Also, we care about the waitresses, bartenders, restaurant owners, etc., that are out of business because of the restrictions on people coming to our community to vacation and spend their money. Every dollar brought to Clearwater Beach is spread throughout the community. We are a part of our

Adam D. BERNANDER
Tyler J. CLARINGBOLE
John D. CLAYPOOL
Greg P. CURTIS
Richard T. ELROD
Paula A. HAMER
Charles J. HARTZHEIM
Kelly S. KELLY
Charles D. KOEHLER
Keen LONERGAN
Robert B. LOOMIS
Andrew J. ROSSMEISL
Kristen S. SCHEUERMAN
Michael S. SIDDALL
Kirk J. THILLEN
OF COUNSEL
Dan R. HERRLING
Roger W. CLARK

community in Clearwater Beach and we deeply care for the people that have helped us be successful over the years.

We primarily rent out our properties to families. These families are already practicing “family social distancing” within their family units. These families want to be safe but they also want to spend time in our beautiful State. They prefer, at this time, to vacation in a home where they are the only people on the property and they are the only people using the pool, the kitchen, the bathrooms, the common grounds, versus a hotel. Our homes provide a safer environment for them than a hotel. They have told us that. Moreover, there is a much higher rate of turnover in a hotel versus a home. *These families feel safer renting a vacation home versus a hotel.*

What is the State of Florida public policy safety logic in allowing people to vacation in a hotel (with much higher people density and higher turnover rate) versus a home (one family)? The answer is obvious. Homes are much safer than a hotel as it relates to “social distancing” and related safety concerns during this coronavirus pandemic.

Moreover, the suggestion in the various Executive Orders that the “out of state people” are more apt to stay in vacation rental homes versus hotel/motels makes no sense and has no validity whatsoever. There is zero evidence that this is true. In fact, many of our renters are local. If vacation rental homes are being closed down, then hotels/motels should also be closed down.

Everything I have mentioned, above, is about people and our economy. However, there is a very real legal aspect to this matter. The discriminatory unequal taking of property without just compensation is illegal and in violation of the United States Constitution. It is discriminatory and unconstitutional. Threats of criminal prosecution, license forfeiture, etc., are not legal. Moreover, the discriminatory taking of property, as the State of Florida has done with vacation rental homes, is offensive and contrary to business development in our community and the State.

Hotels, motels, inns, resorts, AND VACATION RENTAL HOMES, should all be treated the same. There should be no illegal discrimination between them. We support Florida hotels/motels and hope they are successful and thrive. Vacation homes should be treated the same. We all provide great housing in the State of Florida for visitors!

Our vacation properties have stringent, monitored cleaning that is equal to or greater than hotel/motel cleaning. We have always taken cleaning very seriously and will continue to do so.

We appreciate the good work your office has done to “flatten and lower the curve”. This has been great news; and the Governor’s office and staff are to be complimented.

For social, economic, and legal reasons, we are respectfully requesting that the ban/restrictions on home rental properties should be lifted in all respects. This should be done now!

May 4, 2020
Page 3

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. B. Loomis". The signature is stylized with overlapping loops and a prominent initial "R".

Robert B. Loomis
Herrling Clark Law Firm
President
800 N. Lynndale Drive
Appleton, WI 54914
rloomis@herrlingclark.com
Direct Phone: 920-882-3231
RBL:mjm

Bob Loomis

From: Bob Loomis
Sent: Thursday, May 7, 2020 8:49 PM
To: 'GovernorRon.Desantis@eog.myflorida.com'
Cc: 'Ashley.moody@myfloridalegal.com'
Subject: Florida Vacation Rental Homes
Attachments: 06258756.PDF

Dear Governor DeSantis and Attorney General Moody:

Reference my attached letter dated May 4, 2020, as of this evening (3 days later), I have not received a response. No call. No email. No letter. I am asking for a response. The professional courtesy of a response is appreciated.

If no response is forth coming soon, then we will pursue appropriate legal action and damages. We will seek reimbursement from the State of Florida for the discriminatory, unconstitutional, and illegal conduct of the Governor's unilateral Orders concerning our Florida legal short-term rental properties.

Also, there are many, many good folks (voters and taxpayers) that are being denied their constitutional rights concerning their short term-rental properties. They are understandably very upset!

Please respond.

Thank you.

Bob Loomis

Robert B. Loomis
HERRLING CLARK LAW FIRM LTD.
800 North Lynndale Drive, Appleton, WI 54914
Phone: 920/739-7366
Facsimile: 920/739-6352
Email: rloomis@herrlingclark.com

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Bob Loomis

From: Bob Loomis
Sent: Saturday, May 9, 2020 8:54 AM
To: 'GovernorRon.Desantis@eog.myflorida.com'
Cc: 'Ashley.moody@myfloridalegal.com'
Subject: RE: Florida Vacation Rental Homes

Governor DeSantis and Attorney General Moody:

Please see the below email. We have received no response.

Now, Barbershops, Hair Salons, Restaurants, other businesses, etc., may all be open. These are good establishments that should be open because they provide valuable services for people. However, these businesses provide services for people that are not family. Their customers are not families.

However, short term rental homes remain closed. 90% of our short term rental homes are rented to families. We have received requests from families to rent our homes because they do not want to go to hotels/motels, etc., where there are strangers and common areas. We have had to decline those requests.

Three Questions:

- a. Why are short term rental homes not allowed to open?
- b. What is the public policy and safety considerations when hotels/motels, etc. are able to be open but short term rental homes remain closed?
- c. Why are you not responding to my emails/letters?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you!

Bob Loomis

PS: I am now contacting various media sources to express our frustrations!

From: Bob Loomis <RLoomis@herrlingclark.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 7, 2020 8:49 PM
To: 'GovernorRon.Desantis@eog.myflorida.com' <GovernorRon.Desantis@eog.myflorida.com>
Cc: 'Ashley.moody@myfloridalegal.com' <Ashley.moody@myfloridalegal.com>
Subject: Florida Vacation Rental Homes

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Bob Loomis

From: Bob Loomis
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 1:17 PM
To: GovernorRon.Desantis@eog.myflorida.com
Subject: Short-Term Rental Property Ban - NO RESPONSE
Attachments: Scan2020-05-18_130552.pdf

Dear Governor DeSantis:

Enclosed please find the various communications I have sent to you over the past two (2) weeks. I have also called and left voice mail messages with your office. I have received NO RESPONSE!

My law firm represents various municipalities in the State of Wisconsin, and responses to people who inquire about their governmental representatives is important and imperative in a democracy. However, for some reason either you or your office fails to even acknowledge my communications. It is frustrating that your office fails/refuses to respond.

The ban on short-term rental properties is literally costing people many millions of dollars. Tax revenue is being lost every day.

This is very frustrating and concerning. Would you please provide the professional courtesy of a response concerning my inquiries about the ban on Short-Term Rental Properties in the State of Florida.

Thank you.

Bob Loomis

Robert B. Loomis

PRESIDENT
HERRLING CLARK LAW FIRM LTD.
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Facsimile: 920/739-6352

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RECEIVED
MAY 18 2020

2020 MAY 18 PM 1:56

BO. COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS
PINELLAS COUNTY FLORIDA

From: Comments, BCC Agenda
Subject: FW:

From: Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller [mailto:noreply@mypinellasclerk.org]
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 12:56 PM
To: Comments, BCC Agenda <bccagendacomment@co.pinellas.fl.us>
Subject:

Live Form

Topic	PLEASE SUPPORT THE SAFE RE-OPENING OF VACATION RENTALS
BCC Agenda Date	5-19-2020
Your Stand on the Issue	Support

Comments

I am writing to you today to gain your support for the safe reopening of vacation rentals in Pinellas County. As you may know, Governor Ron Desantis is now asking counties to submit their safety plans to the Department of Business and Professional Regulation for approval allowing vacation rentals to reopen. As a small business owner in Pinellas County the vacation rental ban has adversely affected us. In the last two months we have lost nearly 100% of our revenue and income stream due to the ban. As with many small businesses we were put out of business by the State mandates. Unfortunately, the ban unfairly targets vacation rentals while allowing hotels and motels to operate. There is no doubt we are a safer alternative to hotels and motels. As a vital contributor to the local economy, Pinellas County tax revenues and commerce we ask that you support us. We bring money to this county and should be allowed to open and operate safely! We know the opening of vacation rentals can be done in a safe and efficient manner. We will be following the Vacation Rental Housekeeping Professionals and Vacation Rental Management Association guidelines for cleanings. (I have attached a copy for your review). We will not allow guests coming from hotspots (NY, NJ, CT, LA) and will have discussions with our guests regarding local conditions and rules, social distancing and adhering to CDC guidelines while in our community. We ask that this topic be added to the County Board of Commissioners meeting scheduled for tomorrow May 19, 2020 at 2:00 PM and that you submit your safety plan to the Department for approval as soon as possible for the safe reopening of vacation rentals.

Citizen Name

Brian McGonagill

Address

1825 Sutherland Dr W
Palm Harbor, Florida 34683
United States

Phone

727-8311326

Email

brian@floridasunvacationrentals.com

RECEIVED

2020 MAY 18 PM 1:56

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
PINELLAS COUNTY FLORIDA

From: Comments, BCC Agenda
Subject: FW:

From: Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller [mailto:noreply@mypinellasclerk.org]
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 10:36 AM
To: Comments, BCC Agenda <bccagendacomment@co.pinellas.fl.us>
Subject:

Live Form

Topic **Paint & Sip Studios**

BCC Agenda Date

Your Stand on the Issue

Comments

Now that gyms and salons are allowed to open and every other county in the state is permitting Paint & Sips to open - will Pinellas now allow Paint & Sips to open while accommodating the 6 ft separation rule & sanitation requirements. We bleach tables & easels between classes, wash brushes in disinfectant and limit class sizes. Is there a reason to keep us closed? We don't touch people and we don't sweat on our equipment. Our studio is 2777 square feet which provides plenty of area for social distancing. Thank you for your consideration.

Citizen Name **Jeanne Donnelly**

Address 13801 Walsingham Rd
Largo, Florida 33774
United States

Phone 732-7576007

Email Largo@PinotsPalette.com

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2020 MAY 18 PM 1:56

BOARDS COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS
PINELLAS COUNTY FLORIDA

From: Comments, BCC Agenda
Subject: FW:

From: Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller [mailto:noreply@mypinellasclerk.org]
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 10:55 AM
To: Comments, BCC Agenda <bccagendacomments@co.pinellas.fl.us>
Subject:

Live Form

Topic County Plan for lifting Short Term Rentals
BCC Agenda Date 5-19-2020
Your Stand on the Issue Support

Comments As a resident of AND vacation property owner in Pinellas County, I urge the Commission to expedite any action that will allow for the lifting of the current ban on Short term vacation rentals imposed by the Governors executive order. Many building have adopted a disinfection plan in anticipation of the ban being lifted. If timeshares are allowed to open, there is absolutely no reason for condos to not be able to rent. Thank You, Rajan Kaul

Citizen Name Rajan Kaul
Address 1109 Pinellas bayway S
Tierra Verde, FL - Florida 33715
United States
Phone 630-235-0730
Email rajankaul@outlook.com

From: Comments, BCC Agenda
Subject: FW:

2020 MAY 18 PM 1:57

BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS
PINELLAS COUNTY FLORIDA

From: Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller [mailto:noreply@mypinellasclerk.org]
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 7:35 PM
To: Comments, BCC Agenda <bccagendacomment@co.pinellas.fl.us>
Subject:

Live Form

Topic STR Vacation Rentals

BCC Agenda Date 5-19-2020

Your Stand on the Issue Support

Comments Please add to the agenda a plan for opening up Short Term Vacation Rentals in Pinellas County. Governor Desantis has asked for a plan from county commissioners to make this happen.

Citizen Name Karen Bickford

Address 530 S Gulfview Blvd 505
Clearwater Beach, FL 33767
United States

Phone 978-333-9065

Email karenb@thecleaningadvantage.com

From: Comments, BCC Agenda
Subject: FW:

2020 MAY 18 PM 1:57

COUNTY CLERK
PINELLAS COUNTY FLORIDA

From: Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller [mailto:noreply@mypinellasclerk.org]

Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 2:38 PM

To: Comments, BCC Agenda <bccagendacomment@co.pinellas.fl.us>

Subject:

Live Form

Topic Vacation Rental Reopenings

BCC Agenda Date 5-19-2020

Your Stand on the Issue Support

Comments

Please add a discussion about opening vacation rentals to the agenda. Gov DeSantis just stated that each county needs to submit a plan for his review to reopen vacation rentals. As vacation rental owners in the county, we request that this plan be addressed as soon as possible. There has been complete and total discrimination between vacation rentals and hotels. Hotels are not safer than vacation rentals due to their shared lobbies, elevators, and daily maid services. Vacation rentals also usually allow for full kitchens, which give guests the option to not eat out, which is safer. How can everything including nail, hair salons and gyms be open/opening and safe but not vacation rentals? Many of us are going bankrupt and as sole proprietors do not qualify for unemployment or any help. We do not have other jobs. This has been a taking of our private property and is unconstitutional. We have abided by this but we can hold on no longer. We don't understand how we can not be safe and allowed to stay open. I am sure you know how much tax revenue we bring to the county. With all due respect, we need this now....this is PRIME SEASON for us and for YOU!! PLEASE HELP US NOW!!! Ken and Ellen Frey Clearwater

Citizen Name Ellen Frey

Address 227 Windward Passage
Clearwater, FL 33767
United States

Phone 563-3436749

Email EFREY12@GMAIL.COM

RECEIVED
MAY 18 2020

From: Comments, BCC Agenda
Subject: FW:

2020 MAY 18 PM 1:57

BO. COUNTY
CLERKS
PINELLAS COUNTY FLORIDA

From: Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller [mailto:noreply@mypinellasclerk.org]
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 8:54 AM
To: Comments, BCC Agenda <bccagendacomment@co.pinellas.fl.us>
Subject:

Live Form

Topic	Playgrounds
BCC Agenda Date	5-14-2020
Your Stand on the Issue	Support

Comments

For the last two weeks, the Village of Woodland Hills has had its playground open despite the county order and enforcement action by the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office. Deputies have visited the scene at least twice and put up tape blocking entrance, but the tape was torn down each time. The HOA and property manager have done nothing to make the park off limits to residents -- no lock, no deactivation of the key card, nothing but a simple sign put up with masking tape that was down within hours as well. Now they have a sign that tells people to adhere to CDC guidelines when in the park. Why does an HOA and property manager get to decide what county orders it follows and what ones it does not follow? Why is there no accountability? You all decided that playgrounds not located at day-care centers should be closed. There should be some enforcement action taken against those who don't follow your orders. When the businessman in Pinellas Park flouted the order, he was arrested. The neighborhood would appreciate it if deputies or other county officials held their feet to the fire and required them to follow the law. They are putting the health and safety of children at risk with their actions, or lack thereof. We appreciate all you have done during this time and we realize you have much more important matters on your plate. But what if one kid gets sick because of their negligence and desire to thumb their nose at your order? (By the way, if you decide to reopen playgrounds today in your meeting, this all becomes moot. But I thought it was important to get this on the record, either way.) Thank you for listening. And thanks to the PCSO deputies who have had to deal with this nonsense. It shouldn't even be an issue if they did what they were supposed to do.

Citizen Name

Rob Shaw

Address

3528 Greenglen Circle
Palm Harbor, FL 34684
United States

Phone

727-5198880

Email

robshawflorida@yahoo.com