LEHTINEN SCHULTZ SCHULTZ RIEDI

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May 14, 2019

### VIA HAND DELIVERY AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

Josh Martin Director, Planning, Building and Zoning Department 360 S. County Rd. Palm Beach, FL 33480 jmartin@townofpalmbeach.com

Paul Castro Zoning Administrator pcastro@townofpalmbeach.com

> Re: Administrative Appeal: 1236 South Ocean Boulevard

Dear Messrs. Martin and Castro:

This Firm represents 100 Emerald Beach Way LC ("Abutting Neighbor"). Pursuant to Town of Palm Beach Code Section 134-141, et. seq., this is an appeal of a "decision of an administrative official under any section of this chapter."<sup>1</sup> Abutting Neighbor is the immediate neighbor, is an aggrieved person, and is directly affected by the decision of the administrative official.

### The 12 Illegal Tow Away Signs

There are 12 illegal tow away signs on Emerald Beach Way- a 300 foot private street that services a home owned by 100 Emerald Beach Way LC, which is located at 100 Emerald Beach Way (the "Emerald Home").<sup>2</sup> On or about April 18, 2019, the Town (a) made an administrative determination that ARCOM approval would not be required for 12 illegal tow away signs on Emerald Beach Way (Ex. B); and (b) John Lindgren purportedly issued an ARCOM staff approval for the 12 illegal tow away signs. Subsequently, on or about April 23, 2019, Wayne Bergman approved ARCOM/LPC compliance and the Town issued a permit for the 12 illegal tow-away signs, despite the fact that such signs are specifically and absolutely prohibited in the Town of Palm Beach. Ex. C. Abutting Neighbor appeals both of these administrative determinations.

RECEIVED MAY 1 4 2019 **TOWN CLERK** 

<sup>1 134-143.</sup> 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Pictures attached as Ex. A.

These 12 tow away signs were the subject of a code enforcement case that was scheduled to be heard by the Code Enforcement Board on May 16, 2019. Ex. D. Instead, counsel for Abutting Neighbor received an email from Officer Moriarty stating (Ex. E):

Case 19-114 ("Tow Away" signs) has been closed. PZB issued permits for the signs to remain in place.

These actions by the Town violate its own Code. Section 134-2410<sup>3</sup> unambiguously prohibits tow away signs "on private property appurtenant to or obviously part of a single-family residence."

### Sec. 134-2410. - Tow-away signs.

Tow-away signs shall not be allowed on private property appurtenant to or obviously part of a single-family residence. Tow-away signs for two-family, townhouse, multifamily, and institutional uses shall only be on private property and shall not exceed the minimum size, number and location as provided by Florida Statute. In addition, all towaway signs shall be uniform in appearance as approved by the town's Architectural Commission. Tow-away signs on state, county and municipal governmental property shall also meet these requirements. A building permit shall be required for a tow-away sign.

All tow-away signs which become nonconforming as a result of the adoption of this section of the Code shall be removed and replaced to come into compliance with this section of the Code by January 1, 2019, or said sign shall be in violation of the town's Code of Ordinance.

In fact, Paul Castro, John Lindgren, and Josh Martin corresponded in February 2019 and determined that if in theory these signs would be considered, they would require ARCOM approval. Ex. F. Furthermore, no tow away signs are permitted within the right of way lines of any street. Emerald Beach Way, pursuant to PB 45-177, is a "dedicated as a private street." (Ex. G).

# Sec. 134-2373. - General regulations and definitions applicable to permitted signs.

Under this article, the following shall apply to all signs:

(1) Signs of all types addressed herein are defined in <u>section 134-2</u> of this code. All signs visible from a public or private roadway and/or sidewalk shall be classified as signs regardless of whether they are freestanding or attached or painted to or on or in the principal building they are accessory to.

(5) No sign other than an official traffic sign erected by the town, Palm Beach County, the State of Florida, the United States government and/or any agency thereof shall be erected within the right-of-way lines of any street or public way, nor shall any sign or banner be hung on, from, or beneath any canopy, awning or marquee.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See also Sec. 134-2372. - Compliance; substitution, and severability.

<sup>(1)</sup>*Compliance*. Signs may be erected and maintained only as authorized and when in compliance with the provisions of this article and other applicable town ordinances. All signs are subject to the Florida Building Code and Fire Prevention Code. Signs that are not specifically permitted by this division are prohibited.

The 12 illegal tow-away signs are specifically and absolutely prohibited in the Town of Palm Beach. Section 134-2410 states in no uncertain terms that tow-away signs are prohibited, and gives a date for removal and compliance of January 1, 2019, so there can be no nonconforming use argument. Therefore, the Town CANNOT issue a permit for the 12 illegal tow away signs, and certainly cannot issue an administrative ARCOM and zoning approval for the same. Since the determination of the administrative officials with regard to Sections 134-2371, *et. seq.* is *prohibited* by the Town Code, this Appeal must be granted.

### The 13 Illegal Road Stamps

There were also 13 illegal road stamps on Emerald Beach Way- a 300 foot private street servicing the Emerald Home (pictures attached as Ex. H). These painted road signs are a direct violation of Section 134-2372(12) (formerly Section 18-842):

No person shall paint, paste, print or nail any paper sign or any advertisement or notice of any kind whatsoever, or cause the same to be done, on any curbstone, flagstone or other portion of any sidewalk or street or upon any tree, lamppost, hitching post, telephone or telegraph pole, hydrant, bridge, workshop or tool shed, or upon any other structure within the limits of the town except by resolution of the town council.

These road stamps were also the subject of a code enforcement violation- CE 19-364 that was scheduled for the May 16, 2019 code enforcement board hearing. Instead, on May 14, 2019, counsel for Abutting Neighbor received the following email from Officer John Moriarty:

Case 19-364 ("No Parking" painted on the road surface) has been closed. The letters have been removed.

*That is in fact, not true.* The pictures attached as Ex. I show that you can still read the "No Parking" stamps on the road. The case cannot be closed where the violation still clearly exists. The administrative decision of the Town to close code enforcement case 19-364 is in direct contravention of Section 134-2372(12) and therefore, this Appeal must be granted.

### The Town's Egregious Conduct and Public Records Violations

The Town issued the permits for the 12 illegal tow away signs and deliberately misled counsel for Abutting Neighbor to thwart a potential appeal. Specifically, Josh Martin, Paul Castro, and John Lindgren previously determined that ARCOM approval would be required if the tow-away signs could be approved in theory (which they could not, because they are specifically prohibited by Section 134-2410.) (Ex. F).

Counsel for abutting neighbor submitted a public records request on April 23, 2019 (Ex. J), which is attached and includes the following:

3. All correspondence related to 100 Emerald Beach Way from March 18, 2019 to the date of the response, including, but not limited to, CE 18-1550.

4. All correspondence related to 1236 South Ocean Boulevard and/or 200 Emerald Beach Way from March 18, 2019 to the date of the response, including, but not limited to B-046-2017 and/or CE 19-114.

On May 8, 2019, counsel for Abutting Neighbor requested an update on the request. Ex. K. On May 10, 2019 at 5:02 pm, counsel received a response indicating that responsive records were attached. Counsel for Abutting Neighbor reviewed the records over the weekend and determined that the records did not include anything related to 1236 South Ocean Boulevard or CE 19-114. On May 13, 2019, Ms. Dominguez responded and said she would follow up to obtain the correct records. Ex. L. The correspondence and permits regarding the 12 illegal tow-away signs, including a purported and still undisclosed email of April 17, 2019 by the PZB director approving the signs – was undeniably within the scope of the public records request for "all correspondence related to 1236 South Ocean Boulevard" and specifically including "CE 19-114." However, **NO RECORDS HAVE BEEN PRODUCED IN RESPONSE**.

This fact is extremely important because at the same time that the Town was approving and issuing permits for the 12 illegal tow away signs, Abutting Neighbor was being told something completely different by the Town. On April 23, 2019, counsel for Abutting Neighbor sent an email to Paul Castro (Zoning Administrator), John Moriarty (Code Enforcement), Skip Randolph (Legal Counsel to the Town), Benjamin Alma (Code Enforcement) and Carla Marcote (Code Enforcement) asking whether the 12 illegal tow-away signs was confirmed for the May 16 Code Enforcement Board hearing. Ms. Marcote responded on April 24, 2019 "Yes, unless they come into compliance before then." Ex. M. *This statement was untrue*.

Unbeknownst to counsel for Abutting Neighbor, the Town had already issued a permit for the 12 illegal tow-away signs the *DAY BEFORE* counsel was advised the matter was proceeding to the May 16 code enforcement board hearing. The Town intentionally misled counsel – who copied Paul Castro, Skip Randolph on her email – in advising her that the hearing would be going forward KNOWING THAT A PERMIT HAD ALREADY BEEN ISSUED.<sup>4</sup>

To date, neither the Planning Zoning and Building Department nor the Town's Legal Counsel have given written notice to the Abutting Neighbor that the Town approved and issued permits for the 12 illegal tow away signs.

When counsel for Abutting Neighbor received the email from Officer Moriarty that the CE 19-114 and CE 19-264 were closed and the May 16, 2019 hearing would not be proceeding forward, counsel immediately asked Paul Castro and Skip Randolph for a copy of the referenced PZB permit, and also the written determination that the 12 illegal tow-away signs would not have to go to ARCOM. As of the time of the filing of this appeal, counsel has not received a response.

Counsel for Abutting Neighbor submitted a public records request which scope included all records related to 1236 South Ocean Boulevard and specifically including CE 19-114, however, those records were intentionally not provided to thwart a potential appeal. Counsel for Abutting Neighbor asked a DIRECT QUESTION on the very day the permit for the 12 illegal tow-away signs was issued as to whether the matter would be proceeding to code enforcement board May 16, and the response was **YES**. This conduct is egregious and is done for the specific purpose of eliminating Abutting Neighbor's due process rights.

Abutting Neighbor submits this appeal pursuant to Town Code Section 134-141, *et. seq.* However, Abutting Neighbor reserves all rights and remedies, and specifically reserves the right to supplement this appeal because the Town has failed to produce records in response to pending public records requests in order to intentionally interfere with Abutting Neighbor's due process rights.

Please govern yourselves accordingly.

### LEHTINEN SCHULTZ PLLC

By:<u>/s/ Amanda Quirke Hand</u> Amanda Quirke Hand, P.A.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The Town also advised the same day that the code enforcement proceeding on the road stamps would be proceeding. See also Ex. M.















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Actions

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ARCOM- INSTALL TEN TOW AWAY SIGNS AROUND BOUNDARIES OF EMERALD BEACH WAY.			Applicant ALLEY MAASS ROOM			GERS AND LINDSAY PA Owner N				
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BA-ARCOM STAFF APPROVAL	PLAN REVIEW - ARCOM/LPC COMPLIANCE	lindgren		04/18/2019		9 Approved	Approval of tow away signs per PZB Director approval in 4/17/19 e-mail string and stamped application form with the condition that: "All signs associated with this permit shall be located in the private street area."			

Exhibit **B** 

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Actions

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	BB- COUNTER	APPLICATION INTAKE - CONSTRUCTION	jmurphy			04/23/2019	Complete		
	BB-CASHIER	PAYMENT PROCESSING - INTAKE	iwebuser			04/23/2019			
	BD-DEVT REVIEW	PLAN REVIEW - ZONING COMPLIANCE	wbergman			04/23/2019	Approved		
	BL-BTR	PLAN REVIEW - BUSINESS LICENSES	wbergman			04/23/2019	Reviewed/Not Applicable		
	BA-ARC/LPC	PLAN REVIEW - ARCOM/LPC COMPLIANCE	wbergman			04/23/2019	Approved w/ conditions		
ALL AND	BA- ARCHAEOL	PLAN REVIEW - ARCHEOLOGIC SITE COMPLIANCE	wbergman			04/23/2019	Reviewed/Not Applicable		
	BB-PZB PL REV	PLAN REVIEW - CONSTRUCTION WITH PLANS	wbergman			04/23/2019	Approved		
	BB- COUNTER	ISSUE PERMIT	cconklin			04/23/2019	Complete		
	BB- INSPECTORS	GRADE BEAM POUR/FOOTER/FOUNDATION							
	BB- INSPECTORS	WALL STEEL/COLUMNS							
	BB- INSPECTORS	FINAL, BUILDING							
	BB- INSPECTORS	RED IRON							
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	BB- INSPECTORS	ROUGH, UNDERGROUND							
	BB- INSPECTORS								
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Exhibit **C** 



# TOWN OF PALM BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT



DEDICATED TO EXCELLENCE

April 1, 2019

John & Margaret Thornton P.O. Box 3163 Palm Beach, FL 33480

John & Margaret Thornton 1236 S. Ocean Blvd. Palm Beach, FL 33480 CERTIFIED MAIL 9314 8699 0430 0057 5274 62

# NOTICE OF CODE VIOLATION AND HEARING1236 S. Ocean Blvd., Palm BeachCase # CE 19-114Property Control Number: 50-43-44-02-09-000-0020

Dear Property Owner(s),

A recent re-inspection of your property found "Tow Away" signs placed along the roadway to 100 Emerald Beach Way.

Chapter 134, Section 134-2410 of the Town of Palm Beach Code of Ordinances, states Tow-away signs shall not be allowed on private property appurtenant to or obviously part of a single-family residence. Tow-away signs for two-family, townhouse, multi-family, and institutional uses shall only be on private property and shall not exceed the minimum size, number and location as provided by Florida Statute. In addition, all tow-away signs shall be uniform in appearance as approved by the town's Architectural Commission. Tow-away signs on state, county and municipal governmental property shall also meet these requirements. A building permit shall be required for a tow-away sign.

Please remove the signs or replace them with the proper signage in a permitted location by April 16, 2019.

Should compliance with the Town Ordinances not be met within this time frame, you are hereby notified there will be a public hearing before the Code Enforcement Board on **May 16, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.** in the second floor Town Council Chambers at City Hall, 360 S. County Road, Palm Beach.

If you decide not to be present, the hearing will be held in your absence. If you are found in violation of the Town Code, the Code Enforcement Board has the power by law to levy fines up to Two Hundred Fifty (\$250.00) Dollars a day against you and your property for every day any violation continues beyond the date set in the order for compliance. An administrative fee of One Hundred Fifty (\$150.00) Dollars for the cost of the hearing may be assessed to you should your case be heard.

John & Margaret Thornton April 1, 2019 Page 2

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (561) 227-6422. Your immediate attention to this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

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John T. Moriarty Code Enforcement Officer

cc: Code Enforcement File Property File

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: John Moriarty <JMoriarty@PalmBeachPolice.com> Tuesday, May 14, 2019 8:34 AM Amanda Quirke Carla Marcote 1236 s ocean blvd, violations

Hello,

Case 19-364 ("No Parking" painted on the road surface) has been closed. The letters have been removed.

Case 19-114 ("Tow Away" signs) has been closed. PZB issued permits for the signs to remain in place.

John Moriarty Town of Palm Beach Police Department Code Enforcement Unit Office: 561-227-6422

Please be advised that under Florida law, e-mails and e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact the Town of Palm Beach by phone at (561) 838-5400, or in writing: 360 S. County RD, Palm Beach, FL 33480.

From:	Joshua Martin
To:	John Lindgren
Cc:	Joshua Martin
Subject:	RE: 1236 S. Ocean Blvd. right-of-way signs
Date:	Thursday, February 21, 2019 6:26:25 PM

Ok thanks for the upate!

### Josh Martin, AICP, CNU-A Director

Town of Palm Beach Planning, Zoning, Building 360 S. County Road Palm Beach, FL 33480 Office: 561-227-6401 Mobile: 843-247-2057 www.townofpalmbeach.com

From: John Lindgren <JLindgren@TownofPalmBeach.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2019 5:05 PM
To: Joshua Martin <jmartin@TownOfPalmBeach.com>
Subject: RE: 1236 S. Ocean Blvd. right-of-way signs

Josh,

Just spoke to Paul, and he told me that the code changed, and ARCOM does have to review tow away signs. So let me look a little more at this before we discuss further with PW. Thanks.

John

# John Lindgren, AICP Planning Administrator

Town of Palm Beach Planning, Zoning & Building Department 360 S. County Road Palm Beach, FL 33480 Phone: 561-227-6414 www.townofpalmbeach.com

From: Joshua Martin < imartin@TownOfPalmBeach.com>

 Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2019 4:54 PM
 To: Paul Brazil <<u>PBrazil@TownofPalmBeach.com</u>
 Cc: Jay Boodheshwar <<u>JBoodheshwar@TownofPalmBeach.com</u>>; John (Skip) C. Randolph <<u>JRandolph@jonesfoster.com</u>>; John Lindgren <<u>JLindgren@TownofPalmBeach.com</u>>; Wayne
 Bergman <<u>wbergman@TownOfPalmBeach.com</u>>; Joshua Martin <<u>jmartin@TownOfPalmBeach.com</u>>
 Subject: RE: 1236 S. Ocean Blvd. right-of-way signs

If it's private property and can be viewed from the public right-of-way then they need an ARCOM sign approval.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks Paul!!!

Josh

# Josh Martin, AICP, CNU-A Director

Town of Palm Beach Planning, Zoning, Building 360 S. County Road Palm Beach, FL 33480 Office: 561-227-6401 Mobile: 843-247-2057 www.townofpalmbeach.com

From: Paul Brazil <<u>PBrazil@TownofPalmBeach.com</u>>
Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2019 12:29 PM
To: Joshua Martin <<u>jmartin@TownOfPalmBeach.com</u>>
Cc: Jay Boodheshwar <<u>JBoodheshwar@TownofPalmBeach.com</u>>; John (Skip) C. Randolph
<<u>JRandolph@jonesfoster.com</u>>
Subject: FW: 1236 S. Ocean Blvd. right-of-way signs

I want to talk to you before I respond.

If the signs are on private property, PW does not have any authority. Paul Colby most likely should have never been involved and Paul Castro sent them to PW.

Let me know what you think.

### H. Paul Brazil, P.E. Director of Public Works

Town of Palm Beach

Public Works Department 951 Old Okeechobee Road West Palm Beach, FL 33401 Phone: 561-838-5440 www.townofpalmbeach.com

From: Tim Hanlon <<u>tim.hanlon@amrl.com</u>>
Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2019 10:52 AM
To: Paul Castro <<u>PCastro@TownofPalmBeach.com</u>>
Cc: Paul Brazil <<u>PBrazil@TownofPalmBeach.com</u>>; Patricia Strayer
<<u>PStrayer@TownofPalmBeach.com</u>>; Joshua Martin <<u>jmartin@TownOfPalmBeach.com</u>>; Wayne
Bergman <<u>wbergman@TownOfPalmBeach.com</u>>; John (Skip) C. Randolph
<JRandolph@jonesfoster.com>
Subject: RE: 1236 S. Ocean Blvd. right-of-way signs

Thank you Paul Castro.

Paul Brazil and Patricia, I am not sure whether you are familiar with this issue, but the Thorntons (at the recommendation of Paul Colby) installed Tow Away signs on their property at 1236 S. Ocean Blvd. last year.

This is a unique area because Emerald Beach Way is actually part of the Thornton property and just a right of ingress and egress is granted to the two neighbors on the west and the east by Plat. Many vendors and service personnel from 100 Emerald Beach Way have parked on Emerald Beach Way (the portion owned by the Thorntons).

In an effort to stop the unauthorized parking on their property and at the suggestion of the Town, the Thorntons installed Tow Away signs on their property adjacent to Emerald Beach Way. Code Enforcement has now cited the Thorntons and is requiring them to remove the signs.

It appears that the Code allows them to install "No Parking" signs, so we are proposing to remove the Tow Away signs and replace them with No Parking signs, but I want to make sure that the No Parking signs are permitted. As you can understand, the Thorntons don't want to go through the installation and removal yet again.

Because the Thorntons have been cited by Code Enforcement, please confirm at your earliest convenience.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Thanks, Tim

M. Timothy Hanlon Alley, Maass, Rogers & Lindsay P.A. 340 Royal Poinciana Way, Suite 321 Palm Beach, Florida 33480 Phone: (561) 659-1770 Fax: (561) 833-2261 Direct Fax: (561) 804-4617 tim.hanlon@amrl.com

From: Paul Castro <<u>PCastro@TownofPalmBeach.com</u>> Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2019 9:40 AM To: Tim Hanlon <<u>tim.hanlon@amrl.com</u>> Cc: Paul Brazil <<u>PBrazil@TownofPalmBeach.com</u>>; Patricia Strayer <<u>PStrayer@TownofPalmBeach.com</u>>; Joshua Martin <<u>jmartin@TownOfPalmBeach.com</u>>; Wayne Bergman <<u>wbergman@TownOfPalmBeach.com</u>> Subject: RE: 1236 S. Ocean Blvd. right-of-way signs

Tim,

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Street signage in the right-of-way is within the responsibility of the Public Works Department. Please contact Paul Brazil or Patricia Strayer at the email address in the heading.

Thank you,

# Paul Castro, AICP

### **Zoning Administrator**

360 South County Road Palm Beach, FL 33480 561-227-6406 www.pcastro@townofpalmbeach.com

From: Tim Hanlon <<u>tim.hanlon@amrl.com</u>> Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 6:31 PM To: Paul Castro <<u>PCastro@TownofPalmBeach.com</u>> Subject: 1236 S. Ocean Blvd.

Hi Paul. John Moriarty sent me an email requesting that the Thorntons remove the tow away signs. I will review the Code, but are the Thorntons able to replace the "tow away" signs with "No Parking" signs.

Thanks, Tim

M. Timothy Hanlon Alley, Maass, Rogers & Lindsay P.A. 340 Royal Poinciana Way, Suite 321 Palm Beach, Florida 33480 Phone: (561) 659-1770 Fax: (561) 833-2261 Direct Fax: (561) 804-4617 tim.hanlon@amrl.com

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Please be advised that under Florida law, e-mails and e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact the Town of Palm Beach by phone at (561) 838-5400, or in writing: 360 S. County RD, Palm Beach, FL 33480.



Book45/Page177 Page1 of 1















From:	Amanda Quirke
Sent:	Tuesday, May 14, 2019 10:02 AM
То:	Amanda Quirke
Subject:	FW: Records Request Confirmation

1. From December 2018 to the date of the response, all correspondence by, between, or among Matthew Natale OR Steven Meltzer and Margaret Thornton, M. Timothy Hanlon, Alley Mass Rogers, or anyone acting on behalf of John or Margaret Thornton.

2. From December 1, 2018 to the date of the response, all correspondence by, between, or among Matthew Natale OR Steven Meltzer related to 100 Emerald Beach Way, including, but not limited to, CE 18-1550.

3. All correspondence related to 100 Emerald Beach Way from March 18, 2019 to the date of the response, including, but not limited to, CE 18-1550.

4. All correspondence related to 1236 South Ocean Boulevard and/or 200 Emerald Beach Way from March 18, 2019 to the date of the response, including, but not limited to B-046-2017 and/or CE 19-114.

For purposes of this request, correspondence includes, but is not limited to, letters, faxes, phone messages, Facebook or other social media messages, text messages on public or private phones, and emails on public or private email accounts.

# Amanda Quirke Hand

Of Counsel Board Certified in City, County, and Local Government Law

# Lehtinen Schultz Attorneys

Lehtinen Schultz Riedi de la Fuente Sabadell Financial Center, 1111 Brickell Avenue, Suite 2200, Miami, FL 33131 Direct: 305.733.2800 Fax: 305.356.5720 www.Lehtinen-Schultz.com

<u>Confidentiality Note:</u> The information contained in this message, and any attachments, may contain confidential and/or privileged material. It is intended solely for the person or entity to which it is addressed. Any review, retransmission, dissemination, or taking of any action in reliance upon this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer.

From: JustFOIA Notification <donotreply@request.justfoia.com> Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2019 12:24 PM To: Amanda Quirke <AQuirke@Lehtinen-Schultz.com> Subject: Records Request Confirmation

Thank you for submitting a request for records.

Your request security key is <u>553750</u>. Your request reference number is <u>Request Number: TC-107-2019</u>.

Please have this security key and reference number available when communicating with our staff regarding your request.

Note: This is an automated email notification. Please do not respond to this email.

Exhibit J

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: Amanda Quirke Wednesday, May 8, 2019 12:34 PM John (Skip) C. Randolph; David Donta Amanda Quirke FW: Records Request Confirmation

Skip and David, Can I please get an update on this request?

# Amanda Quirke Hand

Of Counsel Board Certified in City, County, and Local Government Law

# Lehtinen Schultz Attorneys

Lehtinen Schultz Riedi de la Fuente Sabadell Financial Center, 1111 Brickell Avenue, Suite 2200, Miami, FL 33131 Direct: 305.733.2800 Fax: 305.356.5720 www.Lehtinen-Schultz.com

<u>Confidentiality Note:</u> The information contained in this message, and any attachments, may contain confidential and/or privileged material. It is intended solely for the person or entity to which it is addressed. Any review, retransmission, dissemination, or taking of any action in reliance upon this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer.

From: JustFOIA Notification <donotreply@request.justfoia.com> Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2019 12:24 PM To: Amanda Quirke <AQuirke@Lehtinen-Schultz.com> Subject: Records Request Confirmation

Thank you for submitting a request for records.

Your request security key is <u>553750</u>. Your request reference number is <u>Request Number: TC-107-2019</u>.

Please have this security key and reference number available when communicating with our staff regarding your request.

Note: This is an automated email notification. Please do not respond to this email.

From: Sent:	Kathleen Dominguez <kdominguez@townofpalmbeach.com> Friday, May 10, 2019 5:02 PM</kdominguez@townofpalmbeach.com>
То:	Amanda Quirke
Cc:	David Donta; Joshua Martin; John (Skip) C. Randolph
Subject:	Public Records Request - TC-107-2019 Responsive Documents

Dear Ms. Hand,

I am contacting you regarding your records request #TC-107-2019.

Following is a link to our public records tracking portal where you can access the requested records: https://palmbeachfl.justfoia.com/publicportal/home/track

When you get to the portal page, please enter request number: TC-107-2019 and security key#: 553750 and click "track".

A compressed zip folder will appear for downloading all of the records responsive to your request.

Please let us know if you have any issues with accessing the requested information.

Sincerely, Kathleen Dominguez

> From: JustFOIA Notification <<u>donotreply@request.justfoia.com</u>> Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2019 12:24 PM To: Amanda Quirke <<u>AQuirke@Lehtinen-Schultz.com</u>> Subject: Records Request Confirmation

Thank you for submitting a request for records.

Your request security key is <u>553750</u>. Your request reference number is <u>Request Number: TC-107-2019</u>.

Please have this security key and reference number available when communicating with our staff regarding your request.

Note: This is an automated email notification. Please do not respond to this email.

Please be advised that under Florida law, e-mails and e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact the Town of Palm Beach by phone at (561) 838-5400, or in writing: 360 S. County RD, Palm Beach, FL 33480.

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From:	Amanda Quirke
Sent:	Monday, May 13, 2019 1:28 PM
То:	Kathleen Dominguez
Cc:	David Donta; Joshua Martin; John (Skip) C. Randolph; Amanda Quirke
Subject:	RE: Public Records Request - TC-107-2019 Responsive Documents

Kathleen,

The emails look like they are limited to CE 18-1550, but the request was more broad. Can you please advise?

# Amanda Quirke Hand

Of Counsel Board Certified in City, County, and Local Government Law

### Lehtinen Schultz | Attorneys

Lehtinen Schultz Riedi de la Fuente Sabadell Financial Center, 1111 Brickell Avenue, Suite 2200, Miami, FL 33131 Direct: 305.733.2800 Fax: 305.356.5720 www.Lehtinen-Schultz.com

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From: Kathleen Dominguez <KDominguez@TownofPalmBeach.com>
Sent: Friday, May 10, 2019 5:02 PM
To: Amanda Quirke <AQuirke@Lehtinen-Schultz.com>
Cc: David Donta <jdonta@townofpalmbeach.com>; Joshua Martin <jmartin@TownOfPalmBeach.com>; John (Skip) C.
Randolph <JRandolph@jonesfoster.com>
Subject: Public Records Request - TC-107-2019 Responsive Documents

Dear Ms. Hand,

I am contacting you regarding your records request #TC-107-2019.

Following is a link to our public records tracking portal where you can access the requested records: <u>https://palmbeachfl.justfoia.com/publicportal/home/track</u>

When you get to the portal page, please enter request number: TC-107-2019 and security key#: 553750 and click "track".

A compressed zip folder will appear for downloading all of the records responsive to your request.

Please let us know if you have any issues with accessing the requested information.

Sincerely, Kathleen Dominguez From: JustFOIA Notification <<u>donotreply@request.justfoia.com</u>> Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2019 12:24 PM To: Amanda Quirke <<u>AQuirke@Lehtinen-Schultz.com</u>> Subject: Records Request Confirmation

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From:Carla Marcote <CMarcote@PalmBeachPolice.com>Sent:Wednesday, April 24, 2019 7:38 AMTo:Amanda QuirkeSubject:RE: CE 19-114 Illegal Tow Away signs

Yes, unless they come into compliance before then.

Carla Marcote

### **Code Enforcement Specialist**

Palm Beach Police Department 345 S. County Road Palm Beach, FL 33480

From: Amanda Quirke <AQuirke@Lehtinen-Schultz.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2019 12:55 PM
To: Carla Marcote <CMarcote@PalmBeachPolice.com>; Paul Castro <PCastro@TownofPalmBeach.com>; John Moriarty
<JMoriarty@PalmBeachPolice.com>; John (Skip) C. Randolph <JRandolph@jonesfoster.com>; Benjamin Alma
<BAlma@PalmBeachPolice.com>
Cc: Amanda Quirke <AQuirke@Lehtinen-Schultz.com>
Subject: FW: CE 19-114 Illegal Tow Away signs

### Carla, Is this item confirmed for the May 16 Board hearing?

Begin forwarded message:

From: Carla Marcote <<u>CMarcote@PalmBeachPolice.com</u>> Date: April 8, 2019 at 7:51:41 AM EDT To: Amanda Quirke <<u>AQuirke@Lehtinen-Schultz.com</u>> Subject: RE: CE 19-114 Illegal Tow Away signs

Good Morning Ms. Hand,

Attached is a copy of the letter you requested.

### Carla Marcote Code Enforcement Specialist

Palm Beach Police Department 345 S. County Road From: Amanda Quirke <<u>AQuirke@Lehtinen-Schultz.com</u>> Sent: Monday, April 01, 2019 12:38 PM To: Benjamin Alma <<u>BAlma@PalmBeachPolice.com</u>>; John Moriarty <<u>JMoriarty@PalmBeachPolice.com</u>>; John (Skip) C. Randolph <<u>JRandolph@jonesfoster.com</u>>; Paul Castro <<u>PCastro@TownofPalmBeach.com</u>> Cc: Carla Marcote <<u>CMarcote@PalmBeachPolice.com</u>>; Amanda Quirke <<u>AQuirke@Lehtinen-Schultz.com</u>> Subject: RE: CE 19-114 Illegal Tow Away signs

Officer Alma, Has the notice of violation been issued? If so, can I please get a copy.

### Amanda Quirke Hand

Of Counsel Board Certified in City, County, and Local Government Law

### Lehtinen Schultz Attorneys

Lehtinen Schultz Riedi de la Fuente Sabadell Financial Center, 1111 Brickell Avenue, Suite 2200, Miami, FL 33131 Direct: 305.733.2800 Fax: 305.356.5720 www.Lehtinen-Schultz.com

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From: Benjamin Alma <<u>BAlma@PalmBeachPolice.com</u>> Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 8:47 AM To: Amanda Quirke <<u>AQuirke@Lehtinen-Schultz.com</u>>; John Moriarty <<u>JMoriarty@PalmBeachPolice.com</u>>; John (Skip) C. Randolph <<u>JRandolph@jonesfoster.com</u>>; Paul Castro <<u>PCastro@TownofPalmBeach.com</u>> Cc: Carla Marcote <<u>CMarcote@PalmBeachPolice.com</u>> Subject: RE: CE 19-114 Illegal Tow Away signs

Dear Attorney Hand,

As this matter progresses, you will be updated.

I am also adding Carla Marcote to this email tree, she is our Code Board Secretary. Additionally, I am attaching the direct link for public records requests,

<u>https://www.townofpalmbeach.com/905/Police-Records-Request---FOIA</u> in the event, you wish to make and track your requests.

Thank you, Ben

From: Amanda Quirke <<u>AQuirke@Lehtinen-Schultz.com</u>> Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 2:55 PM To: Benjamin Alma <<u>BAlma@PalmBeachPolice.com</u>>; John Moriarty <<u>JMoriarty@PalmBeachPolice.com</u>>; John (Skip) C. Randolph <<u>JRandolph@jonesfoster.com</u>>; Paul Castro <<u>PCastro@TownofPalmBeach.com</u>> Cc: Amanda Quirke <<u>AQuirke@Lehtinen-Schultz.com</u>> Subject: FW: CE 19-114 Illegal Tow Away signs

Dear Officer Moriarty, Officer Alma, Paul, and Skip,

Attached are pictures of the illegal tow away signs on Emerald Beach Way. There are 12 of them on a single street. As you know, these signs are in violation of Section 134-2410:

Tow-away signs shall not be allowed on private property appurtenant to or obviously part of a single-family residence...

All tow-away signs which become nonconforming as a result of the adoption of this section of the Code shall be removed and replaced to come into compliance with this section of the Code by January 1, 2019, or said sign shall be in violation of the town's Code of Ordinances.

As I mentioned, there are 12 illegal signs on Emerald Beach Way, including two that flank the entrance gates to the property located at 100 Emerald Beach Way. It cannot be disputed that these signs are in violation of Section 134-2410. I understand that Tim Hanlon has raised an argument that "the Town" advised him that the signs could be put up. I don't know who at "the Town" would have said this, but it is well settled that a town employee cannot advise a property owner to act in violation of the Town Code. There is no permit or approval for said signs or any other action on which the property owner could possibly rely.

Please send me a copy of the Notice of Violation. Please advise me when this matter will be set for hearing.

# Amanda Quirke Hand

Of Counsel Board Certified in City, County, and Local Government Law

# Lehtinen Schultz Attorneys

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From:	Amanda Quirke
Sent:	Tuesday, April 23, 2019 12:55 PM
То:	Carla Marcote; Paul Castro; John Moriarty; John (Skip) C. Randolph; Benjamin Alma
Cc:	Amanda Quirke
Subject:	FW: CE 19-114 Illegal Tow Away signs
Attachments:	1236 S. Ocean Blvd Tow away signs - Notice - 04-19.pdf

### Carla, Is this item confirmed for the May 16 Board hearing?

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Palm Beach Police Department 345 S. County Road Palm Beach, FL 33480

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Dear Attorney Hand,

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All tow-away signs which become nonconforming as a result of the adoption of this section of the Code shall be removed and replaced to come into compliance with this section of the Code by January 1, 2019, or said sign shall be in violation of the town's Code of Ordinances.

As I mentioned, there are 12 illegal signs on Emerald Beach Way, including two that flank the entrance gates to the property located at 100 Emerald Beach Way. It cannot be disputed that

these signs are in violation of Section 134-2410. I understand that Tim Hanlon has raised an argument that "the Town" advised him that the signs could be put up. I don't know who at "the Town" would have said this, but it is well settled that a town employee cannot advise a property owner to act in violation of the Town Code. There is no permit or approval for said signs or any other action on which the property owner could possibly rely.

Please send me a copy of the Notice of Violation. Please advise me when this matter will be set for hearing.

### Amanda Quirke Hand

Of Counsel Board Certified in City, County, and Local Government Law

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# TOWN OF PALM BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT



DEDICATED TO EXCELLENCE

April 1, 2019

John & Margaret Thornton P.O. Box 3163 Palm Beach, FL 33480

John & Margaret Thornton 1236 S. Ocean Blvd. Palm Beach, FL 33480 CERTIFIED MAIL 9314 8699 0430 0057 5274 62

# NOTICE OF CODE VIOLATION AND HEARING1236 S. Ocean Blvd., Palm BeachCase # CE 19-114Property Control Number: 50-43-44-02-09-000-0020

Dear Property Owner(s),

A recent re-inspection of your property found "Tow Away" signs placed along the roadway to 100 Emerald Beach Way.

Chapter 134, Section 134-2410 of the Town of Palm Beach Code of Ordinances, states Tow-away signs shall not be allowed on private property appurtenant to or obviously part of a single-family residence. Tow-away signs for two-family, townhouse, multi-family, and institutional uses shall only be on private property and shall not exceed the minimum size, number and location as provided by Florida Statute. In addition, all tow-away signs shall be uniform in appearance as approved by the town's Architectural Commission. Tow-away signs on state, county and municipal governmental property shall also meet these requirements. A building permit shall be required for a tow-away sign.

Please remove the signs or replace them with the proper signage in a permitted location by April 16, 2019.

Should compliance with the Town Ordinances not be met within this time frame, you are hereby notified there will be a public hearing before the Code Enforcement Board on **May 16, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.** in the second floor Town Council Chambers at City Hall, 360 S. County Road, Palm Beach.

If you decide not to be present, the hearing will be held in your absence. If you are found in violation of the Town Code, the Code Enforcement Board has the power by law to levy fines up to Two Hundred Fifty (\$250.00) Dollars a day against you and your property for every day any violation continues beyond the date set in the order for compliance. An administrative fee of One Hundred Fifty (\$150.00) Dollars for the cost of the hearing may be assessed to you should your case be heard.

John & Margaret Thornton April 1, 2019 Page 2

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (561) 227-6422. Your immediate attention to this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

.

John T. Moriarty Code Enforcement Officer

cc: Code Enforcement File Property File

From:Carla Marcote <CMarcote@PalmBeachPolice.com>Sent:Wednesday, April 24, 2019 7:39 AMTo:Amanda QuirkeSubject:RE: Illegal Road Stamps- Emerald Beach Way

This case is also scheduled for the May Hearing unless compliance is met.

Carla Marcote

#### **Code Enforcement Specialist**

Palm Beach Police Department 345 S. County Road Palm Beach, FL 33480

From: Amanda Quirke <AQuirke@Lehtinen-Schultz.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2019 12:53 PM
To: Benjamin Alma <BAlma@PalmBeachPolice.com>; John Moriarty <JMoriarty@PalmBeachPolice.com>; Paul Castro
<PCastro@TownofPalmBeach.com>; John (Skip) C. Randolph <JRandolph@jonesfoster.com>
Cc: Carla Marcote <CMarcote@PalmBeachPolice.com>; Amanda Quirke <AQuirke@Lehtinen-Schultz.com>
Subject: FW: Illegal Road Stamps- Emerald Beach Way

Officers Alma and Moriarty, What is the status of this complaint?

### Amanda Quirke Hand

Of Counsel Board Certified in City, County, and Local Government Law

### Lehtinen Schultz Attorneys

Lehtinen Schultz Riedi de la Fuente Sabadell Financial Center, 1111 Brickell Avenue, Suite 2200, Miami, FL 33131 Direct: 305.733.2800 Fax: 305.356.5720 www.Lehtinen-Schultz.com

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From: Amanda Quirke Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 2:53 PM To: 'balma@palmbeachpolice.com' <<u>balma@palmbeachpolice.com</u>>; 'jmoriarty@palmbeachpolice.com' <<u>jmoriarty@palmbeachpolice.com</u>>; 'Paul Castro' <<u>PCastro@TownofPalmBeach.com</u>>; 'John (Skip) C. Randolph' <<u>JRandolph@jonesfoster.com</u>>

### **Cc:** Amanda Quirke <<u>AQuirke@Lehtinen-Schultz.com</u>> **Subject:** Illegal Road Stamps- Emerald Beach Way

Dear Officer Alma, Officer Moriarty, Paul, and Skip,

The Thorntons' illegal road stamps should have been included in CE 19-114, but apparently, they were not. Please see the attached pictures of the illegally painted road signs throughout Emerald Beach Way. There are 13 of them on a single residential street that only has 3 residential lots. As you know, these painted road signs are a direct violation of Section 134-2372(12) (formerly Section 18-842):

No person shall paint, paste, print or nail any paper sign or any advertisement or notice of any kind whatsoever, or cause the same to be done, on any curbstone, flagstone or other portion of any sidewalk or street or upon any tree, lamppost, hitching post, telephone or telegraph pole, hydrant, bridge, workshop or tool shed, or upon any other structure within the limits of the town except by resolution of the town council.

Would you please investigate this matter and enforce the violations. In my view, each one is a separate violation. Please send me a copy of the Notice of Violation. Please advise me when the matter is set for hearing.

### Amanda Quirke Hand

Of Counsel Board Certified in City, County, and Local Government Law

### Lehtinen Schultz | Attorneys

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From:	Joshua Martin <jmartin@townofpalmbeach.com></jmartin@townofpalmbeach.com>
Sent:	Tuesday, May 14, 2019 10:08 AM
То:	Amanda Quirke; John (Skip) C. Randolph; Paul Castro
Cc:	John Lindgren; Wayne Bergman; Jay Boodheshwar; Joshua Martin
Subject:	RE: Emerald Beach Way

Amanda:

Good morning. I hope this email finds you well.

I was out of the office yesterday and am in the process of catching up. We will send you this information by close of business today.

Thanks again for your continued cooperation in this matter.

Respectfully, Josh

### Josh Martin, AICP, CNU-A Director

Town of Palm Beach Planning, Zoning, Building 360 S. County Road Palm Beach, FL 33480 Office: 561-227-6401 Mobile: 843-247-2057 www.townofpalmbeach.com

From: Amanda Quirke <AQuirke@Lehtinen-Schultz.com> Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2019 9:53 AM To: John (Skip) C. Randolph <JRandolph@jonesfoster.com>; Paul Castro <PCastro@TownofPalmBeach.com>; Joshua Martin <jmartin@TownOfPalmBeach.com> Cc: Amanda Quirke <AQuirke@Lehtinen-Schultz.com> Subject: Emerald Beach Way

Please send me the written decision that the tow away signs on Emerald Beach Way do not have to go to ARCOM. As you know, there was a previous written communication that the tow away signs would require ARCOM approval.

### Amanda Quirke Hand

Of Counsel Board Certified in City, County, and Local Government Law

### Lehtinen Schultz | Attorneys

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