

Sheriff

KEN J. MASCARA

4700 West Midway Road, Fort Pierce, Florida 34981



Member National Sheriffs' Association  
Member Florida Sheriffs' Association

Telephone: (772) 461-7300 • Fax: (772) 489-5851

May 25, 2010

Ms. Pat Pacitti  
Regency Island Dunes  
President's Council of So. Hutchinson Island  
8640 South Ocean Drive, FL 34957

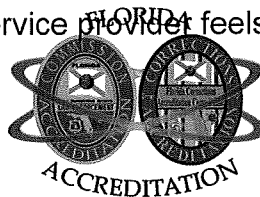
Dear Ms. Pacitti:

We have received inquiries from various condominium associations and management companies requesting immediate access to the beaches after a disaster causes a closure of the type which occurred after the 2004/2005 hurricanes. Previously, a system was established for resident re-entry however service personnel were not included in this system.

After those hurricanes, access to the beaches was closed completely. The closures were a result of extreme damage to buildings and the infrastructures including bridges being washed out, power lines, poles and sand in the roads and flooding. Re-opening access is the responsibility of law enforcement after thorough safety inspections by various components of government and utility service providers.

Upon authorization, association managers and required personnel will be granted access to closed areas upon presentation of a letter from the management company stating the name(s) of the condominiums that they represent. The letter must also include the required service person(s) name and function. They will be required to present photo identification as proof that they are in fact that person. While this may be cumbersome our intent is to limit access to closed areas so that service personnel, be they private, utility, or governmental, are actually able to make the required repairs without multitudes of people sight seeing or attempting burglaries or thefts. In return for allowing access to closed areas we will assume that management companies will only send those persons that are required for life safety issues initially so that access remains limited to closed areas until full access is granted.

After our previous storms, the instructions to law enforcement personnel include allowing legitimate service providers access to homeowner's properties in all areas of the county. To my knowledge those instructions were followed although there may have been isolated incidents where a service provider feels they were questioned unduly. It

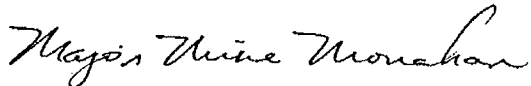


has never been our intent nor that of any entity of government to create any undue hardship on any property owner during or after a disaster.

Very soon, members of our office will begin attending homeowners and association meetings to register residents and issue beach access tags. Those residents unable to register during meetings will be able to register at either the Fort Pierce Police Department or the St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office. While these passes are not mandatory to return to the Islands, they will speed the process for residents, who otherwise will have to prove residency to be allowed access.

The most important thing to remember, whether resident or service personnel is that no one will be granted access until the determination by law enforcement has been made that the area is relatively safe. Another factor to remember is that while we work jointly with the other jurisdictions, if we determine our access points are safe and they determine theirs are unsafe, access will not be granted until they open their access points. We will have no control over when other jurisdictions are ready to open their control points.

Sincerely,



Major Mike Monahan  
Director of Law Enforcement

cl

- c: Major John Pietruszewski, Martin County Sheriff's Office
- Captain Greg Kirk, Fort Pierce Police Department
- Captain Don Smith, Indian River County Sheriff's Office
- Deputy Chief David Currey, Vero Beach Police Department
- Mr. Jack Southard, Director of Public Safety, St. Lucie County
- Mr. Tom Daly, Emergency Operations Coordinator, St. Lucie County