

Comments from Public
Susan Baker

Susan Baker
1577 Thumb Point Dr.
Ft Pierce, FL 34949

April 19, 2021


Dear Commissioner's,

I am writing this letter as a concerned citizen. I have lived in Florida for most of my life. I am a widow of veteran who died in active duty serving in the United States Air Force. Last year during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic I managed to achieve my dream which was the purchase of my home located at 1577 Thumb Point Drive, on Hutchinson Island. I was very excited to move in my new residency. Few weeks after I moved in, a neighbor gave a family member a welcome basket of bananas. It was very unsettling because we never had any introduction. It dawned on me that it was an incident of possible racial intimidation.

I applied for a conditional use permit December 17, 2020 to host short-term renters for additional household income. I appointed Michelle Longarzo as my property manager and agreed to all the conditions that were set in place by the City of Fort Pierce. The residents of Thumb Point have expressed their concerns. Unfortunately some residents have used intimidation tactics in which I am frightened and concerned about my family safety. After the planning board hearing that took place on February 9, 2020, a resident approached me on my property and stated "no one wants you people here". We are the only black family on Thumb Point Drive. In fact, I am worried that this will lead to further harassment given the state of our society heighten racial discrimination and unfair treatment from those in high authority position. My family and I should not have to walk around the Thumb Point neighborhood in fear and anxiety feeling like we do not belong.

I only hope that my property rights will not be violated, or be discriminated against. I kindly ask to be treated equally and protected by the Florida state laws.

Sincerely,



Susan Baker