



To: Ileana Barbara, President, Hammock Oaks Homeowners Association

From: Craig E. Leen, City Attorney for the City of Coral Gables

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "C. Leen", is written over the end of the "From:" line.

RE: Coral Gables Approves New Safety Protocol for Guardhouse Operators - Hammock Oaks

Date: November 9, 2015

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In answer to your inquiry, the City ordinance is the law in Coral Gables and was adopted pursuant to the City's Home Rule powers in order to protect public safety. It is my interpretation, on behalf of the City, that the ordinance is intended to apply and does apply to all guardhouses on public roads located within Coral Gables, including the one in Hammock Oaks. This opinion is consistent with section 6.02 of the Miami-Dade County Charter, which expressly authorizes the City to have "higher standards of zoning, service, and regulation than those provided by the Board of County Commissioners in order that its individual character and standards may be preserved for its citizens." I am hopeful the County will reconsider its position in light of the clear wording of the ordinance, as well as this City Attorney Opinion, which is issued pursuant to my authority under section 2-201(e)(1) and (8) of the City Code.

**From:** [Leen, Craig](#)  
**To:** [Paulk, Enga](#)  
**Cc:** [Ramos, Miriam](#); [Figueroa, Yanneris](#); [Chen, Brigette](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Coral Gables approves new safety protocol for guardhouse operators - Hammock Oaks  
**Date:** Monday, November 02, 2015 10:43:39 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Please publish this on instead.

**Craig E. Leen, City Attorney**

*Board Certified by the Florida Bar in  
City, County and Local Government Law*  
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**From:** Leen, Craig  
**Sent:** Monday, November 02, 2015 10:43 PM  
**To:** 'Ileana Barbara'; Ramos, Miriam  
**Cc:** [dzenov@bellsouth.net](mailto:dzenov@bellsouth.net); [NASposato@aol.com](mailto:NASposato@aol.com); [peterzubi@gmail.com](mailto:peterzubi@gmail.com); [raulsa@bellsouth.net](mailto:raulsa@bellsouth.net); [orlando.cordoves@yahoo.com](mailto:orlando.cordoves@yahoo.com); Carolina; [dyavagal@gmail.com](mailto:dyavagal@gmail.com); [drjlpowell@aol.com](mailto:drjlpowell@aol.com); [zakfam375@aol.com](mailto:zakfam375@aol.com); [daniel.gonzalez@hoganlovells.com](mailto:daniel.gonzalez@hoganlovells.com)  
**Subject:** RE: Coral Gables approves new safety protocol for guardhouse operators - Hammock Oaks

Good evening, Ileana. In answer to your inquiry, the City ordinance is the law in Coral Gables and was adopted pursuant to the City's Home Rule powers in order to protect public safety. It is my interpretation, on behalf of the City, that the ordinance is intended to apply and does apply to all guardhouses on public roads located within Coral Gables, including the one in Hammock Oaks. This opinion is consistent with section 6.02 of the Miami-Dade County Charter, which expressly authorizes the City to have "higher standards of zoning, service, and regulation than those provided by the Board of County Commissioners in order that its individual character and standards may be preserved for its citizens." I am hopeful the County will reconsider its position in light of the clear wording of the ordinance, as well as this City Attorney Opinion, which is issued pursuant to my authority under section 2-201(e)(1) and (8) of the City Code.

**Craig E. Leen, City Attorney**

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**From:** Ileana Barbara [<mailto:ileanabarbara@aol.com>]

**Sent:** Friday, October 30, 2015 5:38 PM

**To:** Leen, Craig; Ramos, Miriam

**Cc:** [dzenov@bellsouth.net](mailto:dzenov@bellsouth.net); [NASposato@aol.com](mailto:NASposato@aol.com); [peterzubi@gmail.com](mailto:peterzubi@gmail.com); [raulsa@bellsouth.net](mailto:raulsa@bellsouth.net); [orlando.cordoves@yahoo.com](mailto:orlando.cordoves@yahoo.com); Carolina; [dyavagal@gmail.com](mailto:dyavagal@gmail.com); [drjlpowell@aol.com](mailto:drjlpowell@aol.com); [zakfam375@aol.com](mailto:zakfam375@aol.com); [daniel.gonzalez@hoganlovells.com](mailto:daniel.gonzalez@hoganlovells.com)

**Subject:** Coral Gables approves new safety protocol for guardhouse operators - Hammock Oaks

Hello Mr. Leen and Ms. Ramos,

I hope this finds you well.

As you may know Hammock Oaks is a gated community in South Gables. Our residents were informed of the new ordinance relating to the protocol for Guard House operations from 11 pm to 6 am, and they were extremely happy with the City taking added safety measures to protect the residents of Coral Gables.

We are part of Miami Dade County's Special Taxing District ("STD") so I raised the question to Mr. Donald Thompon, who manages our "STD" as to when the new protocol contained in the City of Coral Gables ordinance would be implement. Please see below the response from Dade County. We would like to have your opinion if in fact the ordinance does not apply to a Dade County managed STDs residing in Coral Gables (and paid by Coral Gables homeowners). I am speaking on behalf of the residents to say we would not be happy if the ordinance does not apply to us just because the STD is managed by Dade County.

The Hammock Oaks Homeowners Association Board of Directors is meeting to discuss Security this next Tuesday. If you can come back with your opinion prior to that it would be very helpful, but we understand that you may need more time to respond.

As always, we appreciate everything you do for our homeowners.

Happy Halloween!

Ileana

President, Hammock Oaks Homeowners Association

Ileana C. Barbara

[ileanabarbara@aol.com](mailto:ileanabarbara@aol.com)

(305) 546-6243 Cell

On Oct 28, 2015, at 9:33 AM, Thompson, Donald (PWWM) <[dxt@miamidade.gov](mailto:dxt@miamidade.gov)> wrote:

Good Morning Ileana,

As far as I know, the Coral Gables ordinance does not have any relevance to Security Guard Special Taxing District guardhouses operated by Miami-Dade County. At this time, we are not changing our post orders at any of our guardhouses in the city of Coral Gables.

If you have any further questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

**Donald C. Thompson, Security Supervisor**

Causeways & Special Taxing Districts Division  
Parks Recreation & Open Spaces Department  
Miami-Dade County

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[dxt@miamidade.gov](mailto:dxt@miamidade.gov)

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**From:** Ileana Barbara [<mailto:ileanabarbara@aol.com>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 27, 2015 1:44 PM

**To:** Thompson, Donald (PWWM)

**Cc:** [peter.zubizarreta@ubs.com](mailto:peter.zubizarreta@ubs.com); 'Nancy Sposato'

**Subject:** RE: Coral Gables approves new safety protocol for guardhouse operators - FYI

Hello Don,

Just wanted to see if you have an update on the new Coral Gables ordinance on the security guard. When can we expect to have the guards start implementing the ordinance? Lastly, what will be the protocol when a guard has to use the restroom with the new ordinance? Do they need to put a cone so that visitors wait until they come back to their station?

Our Board/Security Committee is having a meeting next week and I would like to provide an update to them on this topic. Also, we plan to have presentations from the approved STD security companies and I wasn't sure how the ordinance had been communicated to them.

Thanks so much Don.

Ileana  
Ileana C. Barbara  
[ileanabarbara@aol.com](mailto:ileanabarbara@aol.com)  
(305) 546-6243 Cell

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**From:** Ileanabarbara [<mailto:ileanabarbara@aol.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 19, 2015 9:52 AM  
**To:** Donald Thompson  
**Cc:** <[peter.zubizarreta@ubs.com](mailto:peter.zubizarreta@ubs.com)>; Nancy Sposato  
**Subject:** Fwd: Coral Gables approves new safety protocol for guardhouse operators - FYI

Hello Don.

Hope your doing well this Monday morning! The following article appeared in the Miami Herald. Can you please let us know how/when our STD can implement the new protocol?

Thank you in advance.

Ileana

Coral Gables approves new safety protocol for guardhouse operators  
<http://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/community/miami-dade/coral-gables/article39409776.html>

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