



TARPON SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM



Robert P. Kochen
CHIEF OF POLICE

"Building a Better Future Through Excellence in Policing"

To: Honorable Mayor and Board of Commissioners
From: Robert P. Kochen, Chief of Police
Thru: Mark G. LeCouris, City Manager
Date: November 30th, 2016
Ref: Enforcement actions regarding Spring Bayou area Hotels
Copies: File

As a follow-up to our presentation before the City Commission on November 1st, 2016 I would like to outline our enforcement and/or other strategies regarding the Bayou area Hotels as follows:

▪ **Current Police/City Actions:**

- Continued Police presence through directed patrols and foot patrol.
- Continued undercover operations to target illegal drug sales, illegal drug possession, and prostitution occurrences on these properties.
- Continued Police initiatives to incorporate Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (C.P.T.E.D.) in these areas. Some this this has already occurred with regard to enhanced lighting.
- Continued Police partnerships with our Crime Watch groups to report crime in these areas.
- Continued Code enforcement action to include the City's Fire Marshall, Building Department, and Planning and Zoning Department.
- Continued outreach to State agencies (such as the D.B.P.R.) to monitor and investigated possible violations.
- Continue communication with Hotel owners to put in measures to eradicate criminal activity on their properties.
- Continue to partner and listen to Community members concerns/ideas regarding these hotels.

Note:

Some progress has been made with regards to the above initiatives and several outstanding code compliance matters are still being pursued. The Police Department along with other City Departments continue to monitor violations and/or activities on these properties that still need improvement.



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▪ **Future Police/City Actions:**

If there continues to be issues at these properties the Police Department along with other City Departments can do the following:

- Utilization of the City's chronic nuisance ordinance on any hotel that is not making progress with eradicating the criminal activity on their properties.
- Asking the City to pursue injunctive relief through the Circuit Court to abate any nuisance condition regarding these hotels.
- The City's Fire Marshall and/or City Building officials may take action to shut down a hotel(s) for serious code violations that pose a public hazard or create a major safety concern.
- The Police Department will continue all of the aforementioned police activities to eradicate criminal activity.
- The Police Department will work with the State and County when necessary to bring possible violations to their attention.