



MIAPBC is a not-for-profit organization created to promote and protect the sound growth of the marine industry in Palm Beach County for the benefit and education of its members, the community, and the environment

April 16, 2020

Mr. Todd J. Bonlarron, Assistant County Administrator
Palm Beach County
301 N. Olive Avenue
West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Dear Mr. Bonlarron:

First and foremost, the Marine Industries Association of Palm Beach County ("MIA PBC") would like to thank you, the entire County Administration, and all of your hard-working associates at the County for your unwavering and dedicated effort to keep Palm Beach County residents safe and to keep the essential governmental functions operating. We continue to support your efforts and are willing and ready to assist in any way we can as we continue to fight this pandemic within our County.

We appreciated your call after our correspondence to Ms. Baker on April 3, 2020. We believe now that the time is right to provide the boating community and Palm Beach County dock owners the opportunity to use their docks, vessels, and the waterways of Palm Beach County with the continued adherence to the CDC guidelines and restrictions put in place by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission by FWC Executive Order No. 20-09. This Order limits recreational vessel occupancy to no more than 10 individuals and establishes a minimum distance of 50 feet between recreational vessels and any other vessel. This Order prohibits vessels from congregating or rafting together. MIA PBC recommends that Palm Beach County adopt this Order so it will not only be enforced by the FWC, but also the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office. MIA PBC would not oppose an Order prohibiting anchoring on sandbars throughout the County. I have attached a copy of the FWC Executive Order 20-9 for your consideration. We would also suggest that the public boat ramps be opened with adherence to the same restrictions.

We remain willing and ready to discuss how this could be accomplished and will do our part keeping the boating community aware of the regulations as may be adopted by Palm Beach County to allow us to use the waterways. We will do this through our social media pages, membership newsletters, and emails and will participate in public notifications where and when the County would need our assistance. Please contact me at your earliest opportunity to discuss this issue. The benefits, done correctly, will give some relief and a recreational activity to your constituents.

Thank you in advance for your consideration,

George G. Gentile
President

CC: Dave Kerner, Mayor of Palm Beach County

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

George Gentile,
President
Gentile Glas Holloway
O'Mahoney & Associates

Austin Burkett,
Vice President
E. J. Schrader Mattress
Company, Inc.

Michael Kennedy,
Vice President
Ranger Construction
Industries, Inc.

Raymond Graziotto,
Secretary
Seven Kings Holdings

Mike Samuels,
Treasurer
Viking Yachts Service
Center

Everett Butler
Equiy Lifestyle Properties

Lach Cheatham
Palmdale Oil Company

Tamra Fitzgerald
Venue Marketing Group

Tino Garcia
Ferreira Construction
Company, Inc.

Janet Zimmerman
Florida Inland Navigation
District

STAFF

Alyssa Freeman
Executive Director

Stephanie Brown
Operations Director

Aubrey Fleming
Administrative Manager