

Dear Mayor Quinn and Councilors,

I am Norm Armitage, a resident of 2 Pintail Court, and I have been a property owner on Bald Head Island for 19 years. Today I come to you representing my wife, Elyse, and myself, as well as a number of island residents who have signed this letter.

We come to you today because we are extremely concerned about the heightened level and number of incidents on the island that show total disregard for island laws and norms. We look forward to hearing more of the Village plans to curb these issues during Chief Josh Gibbons presentation later today. Although we realize that Mayor Quinn released a statement on July 12, we call for the Council to take more definitive action.

First, we ask that all needed resources are allocated to Public Safety to increase the number of full-time and/or part-time Officers during the summer months. Six officers on a shift cannot possibly cover the entirety of the island and that's even before there is a medical emergency or some other incident that requires an officer to go off island. We greatly appreciate the job our public safety officers do; we are just concerned that each shift needs to be supplemented.

Second, we ask that the Public Safety reports are made public on a weekly basis. We are aware that medical incidents must protect the identity of the person, but we request that all reports to Public Safety are published—whether it is a DUI arrest, an underage driver, or a cart accident—without naming the person(s) involved. We realize that Chief Josh Gibson conveys aggregate data at the monthly Council meeting, and we realize that we do not have a local newspaper that publishes such information on a regular basis. Therefore, we request that weekly data from Public Safety be published on the Village's website.

Third, we are pleased to learn that Public Safety checked in with the Conservancy interns frequently this past weekend. We request that Public Safety increase the frequency of their patrols on beaches at night and attach Polaris lights to their vehicles so that they can safely patrol beaches while at the same time being respectful of any turtles nesting or hatching.

Fourth, we note the total disregard for abiding by the laws of the island, particularly in relation to underage drivers, driving under the influence, and open containers. Public Safety Officers must have a zero-tolerance policy and publicize that widely.

We appreciate your efforts to confront this lawlessness that has gripped our island.

Sincerely,

Norm and Elyse Armitage
2 Pintail Court

Elizabeth (Betsi) Hervey Stephen
25 Sabal Palm Trail

Ann and Jim Nichols
49 Fort Holmes Trail

Anne and Chip Berry
120 Edward Teach Wynd

Sandy Yancey
Ibis Roost #14

Donna Patterson and Rex Cowdry
17 East Beach Drive

Jennifer Russel and Joel Michaels
307 Whale Head Way

Debbie and Robert Drumheller
6 Eilean Way

Gwendolyn Connelly
12 Spikerush Court

Elizabeth Kapil
56 Dowitcher Trail

Elizabeth (Libby) and Lee Farmer
4 Old Baldy Court

Catherine (Cam) McIntyre
20 Seagull Trail

Larry Kirby and Dianne Robinson
21 Three Flipper Trail