## **Fwd: Proposed Sound Ordinance**

1 message

Cheri Smith <csmith@keywestcity.com>
To: Angela Budde <abudde@keywestcity.com>

Mon, Feb 24, 2014 at 8:52 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: KIM WALSH < kim\_walsh2000@yahoo.com >

Date: Sun, Feb 23, 2014 at 10:25 PM Subject: Proposed Sound Ordinance

To: "mrossi@keywestcity.com" <mrossi@keywestcity.com>, "clopez@keywestcity.com" <clopez@keywestcity.com>, "csmith@keywestcity.com" <csmith@keywestcity.com>,

"tyaniz@keywestcity.com" <tyaniz@keywestcity.com>, "tjohnson@keywestcity.com"

<tjohnson@keywestcity.com>, "bwardlow@keywestcity.com" <bwardlow@keywestcity.com>,

"jweekely@keywestcity.com" <jweekely@keywestcity.com>, "ccates@keywestcity.com"

<ccates@keywestcity.com>

Cc: "kimberly.walsh@tax.hrblock.com" <kimberly.walsh@tax.hrblock.com>

February 23. 2014

Dear Mayor Cates and all City Commissioners,

As a former Key West resident (family) with intentions to move back to our island home, and a three time per year visitor, I am writing to you regarding the upcoming proposed sound ordinance changes.

I just read the 22 page draft proposal and honestly, for me, even with a legal background it was difficult to understand.

What I did gather from the proposition is that you are voting on the issue of permissible sound levels in Key West. It is my understanding that in the commercial zones the permissible level would be 75 for dBA and dCB would be 77 dBA between the hours of 4:00pm – 2:59am, dropping even lower at 65 dBA or 75 dBC between the hours of 8am – 8pm.

Please accept this e-mail as a formal opposition to this Proposed Sound Ordinance supported by Mayor Cates and Commissioner Weekely. Although there are four major issues with the new proposed law, the one I say NO to the loudest, pun intended, are the commercial zoned restrictions. The proposed restricted level of 65 dBA, is just a couple of decibels over an audible speaking tone, in fact, the "speaking voice" of most people ranges between 45-75 decibels. An air conditioner registers at 75 dBA, which is above your proposed restriction. The ringing of a phone, the whistling of a tea kettle and the Rum Runners and Pina Coladas in the blenders are all at 80 dBA, well above your proposed restriction. In fact, the typical "ping" bell on a pedal cab rings in at 100 dBA. Please consider the livelihoods of the musicians, restaurant owners and bars, their staff and the rippling effect on the local economy if you turned down the music to just barely above an audible speaking tone, especially on Duval Street.

I read the letters in support of the draft of the proposed sound ordinance and can agree to the people who are being effected in the neighborhood surrounding the Church of God Prophecy, however, Duval Street's surrounding neighbors and their businesses must acknowledge that they are in a commercial zone and a major part of the attraction of Key West is without doubt, the live music.

I respectfully request that on Feb. 25, 2014, each of you vote NO to the proposed sound ordinance and work diligently to find a compromise, a solution by working together as a community to regulate the dB levels, especially in the commercial zones.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I trust that you will pull together as the amazing Key West community I know and love to find a reasonable solution.

Sincerely, Kimberly Walsh ----- Forwarded message ------

From: michelle dravis < thedrave@gmail.com >

Date: Mon, Feb 24, 2014 at 3:20 AM Subject: Oppose new sound Ordinance

To: <a href="mailto:mrossi@keywestcity.com">mrossi@keywestcity.com</a>, <a href="mailto:bwardlow@keywestcity.com">bwardlow@keywestcity.com</a>, <a href="mailto:totalcom">totalcom</a>, <a href="mailto:down.com">totalcom</a>, <a href="mailto:down.com">totalcom</a>, <a href="mailto:down.com">totalcom</a>, <a href="mailto:down.com">down.com</a>, <a href="mailto:down.c

Dear Mayor Cates and all City Commissioners,

As a Key West resident and a local full time musician at Willie T's. I am writing to you regarding the upcoming proposed sound ordinance changes. I just read the 22 page draft proposal. It was difficult to understand.

I understand you are voting on the issue of permissible sound levels in Key West. That in the commercial zones the permissible level would be 75 for dBA and dCB would be 77 dBA between the hours of 4:00pm – 2:59am, dropping even lower at 65 dBA or 75 dBC between the hours of 8am – 8pm.

Please accept this e-mail as a formal opposition to this Proposed Sound Ordinance supported by Mayor Cates and Commissioner Weekely.

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Please consider the livelihoods of the musicians, restaurant owners and bars, their staff and the rippling effect on the local economy if you turned down the music to just barely above an audible speaking tone, especially on Duval Street.

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I respectfully request that on Feb. 25, 2014, each of you vote NO to the proposed sound ordinance and work diligently to find a compromise, a solution by working together as a community to regulate the dB levels, especially in the commercial zones.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I trust that you will pull together as the amazing Key West community I know and love to find a reasonable solution.

Sincerely,

Michelle Dravis

### FYI

----- Forwarded message ------

From: Vivian Lawrence < veve2u@att.net>

Date: Fri, Feb 21, 2014 at 4:56 PM

Subject: Noise

To: "csmith@keywestcity.com" <csmith@keywestcity.com>

Don't stop the music!! It's beautiful to go on vacation to the Keys and hear live music playing! Your Key West is the best of a variety of different musicians playing their songs!! Don't stop the live music!

### Cheri Smith

11:28 AM (4 hours ago)

to me

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Tammy Barcus < reshomes@beachin.net >

Date: Mon, Feb 24, 2014 at 10:31 AM Subject: Oppose the Sound Ordinance

To: <u>iweekley@keywestcity.com</u>, <u>mrossi@keywestcity.com</u>, <u>bwardlow@keywestcity.com</u>, tyaniz@keywestcity.com, tjohnston@keywestcity.com, clopez@keywestcity.com, ccates

@keywestcity.com, sdsmith@keywestcity.com,csmith@keywestcity.com

I oppose the new sound ordinance code in Key West.

Thank you, Darryl Greer ----- Forwarded message -----

From: Ron Barcus <3535raven@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Feb 24, 2014 at 10:34 AM Subject: Oppose New Sound Ordinance

To: <a href="mailto:jweekley@keywestcity.com">jweekley@keywestcity.com</a>, <a href="mailto:jweekley@keywestcity.com">mrossi@keywestcity.com</a>, <a href="mailto:bwardlow@keywestcity.com">bwardlow@keywestcity.com</a>, <a href="mailto:totalcom">tyaniz@keywestcity.com</a>, <a href="mailto:com">clopez@keywestcity.com</a>, <a href="mailto:com">ccates</a> <a href="mailto:@keywestcity.com">@keywestcity.com</a>, <a href="mailto:com">csmith@keywestcity.com</a>, <a href="mailto:com">csmith@keywestcity.com</a>, <a href="mailto:com">csmith@keywestcity.com</a>, <a href="mailto:com">csmith@keywestcity.com</a>, <a href="mailto:com">csmith@keywestcity.com</a>, <a href="mailto:com">csmith@keywestcity.com</a>

I oppose the new sound ordinance code in Key West.

Ron Barcus

----- Forwarded message ------

From: Shoreline Tile Marble <shorelinetilemarble@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Feb 24, 2014 at 10:35 AM

Subject: Oppose New Sound Ordinance Code

To: jweekley@keywestcity.com, mrossi@keywestcity.com,bwardlow@keywestcity.com,tyaniz@keywestcity.com,tjohnston@keywestcity.com, clopez@keywestcity.com,ccates@keywestcity.com,sdsmith@keywestcity.com

I oppose the new sound ordinance code in Key West.

Zach Barcus

----- Forwarded message ------

From: Tammy Barcus <35raven@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Feb 24, 2014 at 10:33 AM Subject: Oppose Sound Ordinance

To: <a href="mailto:jweekley@keywestcity.com">jweekley@keywestcity.com</a>, <a href="mailto:mrossi@keywestcity.com">mrossi@keywestcity.com</a>, <a href="mailto:bwardlow@keywestcity.com">bwardlow@keywestcity.com</a>, <a href="mailto:totalcom">tyaniz@keywestcity.com</a>, <a href="mailto:close-com">clopez@keywestcity.com</a>, <a href="mailto:com">ccates</a> <a href="mailto:@keywestcity.com">@keywestcity.com</a>, <a href="mailto:com">csmith@keywestcity.com</a>, <a href="mailto:

I oppose the new sound ordinance code in Key West.

Don't ruin Key West and why people like myself go there every year and spend a lot of money in that town.

Thank you, Tammy Barcus ----- Forwarded message -----

From: Chuck Davis < <a href="mailto:chuck.davis.cd.19@gmail.com">chuck.davis.cd.19@gmail.com</a>>

Date: Mon, Feb 24, 2014 at 10:36 AM Subject: Oppose Sound Ordinance

To: <u>jweekley@keywestcity.com</u>, <u>mrossi@keywestcity.com</u>, <u>bwardlow@keywestcity.com</u>, <u>tyaniz@keywestcity.com</u>, <u>tiphnston@keywestcity.com</u>, <u>clopez@keywestcity.com</u>, <u>ccates</u>

@keywestcity.com, sdsmith@keywestcity.com,csmith@keywestcity.com

I oppose the new sound ordinance code in Key West.

Chuck Davis

From: <<u>clopez@keywestcity.com</u>>
Date: Tue, Jan 7, 2014 at 4:01 PM
Subject: Fw: Proposed Noise Ordinance
To: Cheri Smith <<u>csmith@keywestcity.com</u>>

Sent on the Sprint® Now Network from my BlackBerry®

From: mfjlaw@aol.com

Date: Tue, 7 Jan 2014 15:22:33 -0500 (EST)

To: <iweekley@keywestcity.com>; <mrossi@keywestcity.com>;

<<u>bwardlow@keywestcity.com</u>>; <<u>tyaniz@keywestcity.com</u>>; <<u>tjohnston@keywestcity.com</u>>;

<<u>clopez@keywestcity.com</u>>; <<u>ccates@keywestcity.com</u>>

Subject: Proposed Noise Ordinance

Dear Mr. Mayor and Commissioners,

Please accept this e-mail as a formal request to respectfully Vote NO on the Proposed Sound Ordinance.

There are four major issues with the new proposed law:

- 1. the 2:59 am to 4:00 pm 65 dbA restriction;
- 2. the determination of a violation from the property line;
- 3. responding official can make a determination of a violation using his/her human ear rather than a decibel reader; and
- 4. measurement (or determination of violation) decided between 10 to 20 second time frame (that could be a cheer for a winning team, an applause or a crying baby for example) rather than from the current 5 minute sampling currently set forth in the existing ordinance.

Proposed legislation should be accompanied by favorable publicity so the public will view it as a means to improve the community and not as an interference with their freedom of action. Specifically, the existing decibel restrictions are already fairly strict, but enforcement has been sporadic and inconsistent solely based upon actual complainants rather than straight across the board regulation. Instead of finding a way to apply equal enforcement of the law for uniform compliance, the answer is not to propose a new law that will impose even stricter limitations which will make compliance extremely difficult, if not impossible. More unfairness will also follow, because enforcement officials will have newer, wider and subjective discretion regarding enforcement and can theoretically cherry-pick which venues they choose to enforce the new law upon (Please see: <a href="http://uptownmessenger.com/2013/12/owen-courreges-cutting-through-the-noise-of-the-newest-noise-ordinance/">https://uptownmessenger.com/2013/12/owen-courreges-cutting-through-the-noise-of-the-newest-noise-ordinance/</a>).

If you are in favor of changing the current Noise Ordinance, then I implore you to first research sound levels, sound measurements, emission noise laws vs immission noise laws (measuring sound output from the receiving land use or some other distance rather than property lines or at the actual source, because sound dissipates at a rate of 6 decibels each time the distance from the source doubles), the impact on existing businesses to comply with an overly strict mandate as well as the probability that this proposed ordinance will not be held as constitutionally valid, because the actual regulation will be deemed overly broad. Courts have consistently held that while governments have a legitimate interest in restricting excessive noise, the law must be narrowly tailored to comport with the First Amendment (Please see: <a href="http://uptownmessenger.com/2013/12/owen-courreges-cutting-through-the-noise-of-the-newest-noise-ordinance/">http://uptownmessenger.com/2013/12/owen-courreges-cutting-through-the-noise-of-the-newest-noise-ordinance/</a>).

Law abiding business owners will be unable to protect themselves from unreasonable practices by law enforcement if use of a compliance device such as a Noise Measurement device is replaced with a subjective opinion (ie., the human ear) and such a law would be without merit. Also, changing the dwell time of any measurement (currently set at 5 minutes) to any dwell time such as 10 or 20 seconds is inconsistent with ISO 1996/1: 2003 which is the standard for sound measurement (Please see: http://www.iso.org/iso/catalogue\_detail?csnumber=28633).

Moreover, changing to a new lower db level is inconsistent with local norms, specifically in the business/commercial district of the main street of a tourism industry where certain concessions are reasonably expected, and puts outside music as well as outside restaurants and bars out of business. People's reaction (even by a single person) to TV sports can well exceed the lower proposed db levels. These restrictive codes will force all outside establishments out of business. In fact, the proposed restricted level is just a couple of decibels over an audible speaking tone. A mere laugh from a customer would create noncompliance of the proposed law (Please see: http://www.industrialnoisecontrol.com/comparative-noise-examples.htm).

Businesses have certain rights and expectations after investing huge funding and peoples' livelihoods as well as time and energies are dependent upon that. Local government has a basic responsibility to those law abiding businesses to which licenses have been granted to foster regulations and codes which promote their well being. Proposing codes which are deleterious to their success is suspect for an ulterior motive and is fundamentally flawed and should be considered illegal, malfeasant and subject to corrective measures.

If this proposed noise ordinance is passed, perhaps an investigation into the real underlying reason for such changes to the existing code should be forwarded to Florida's Attorney General for investigative hearings and possible action. Perhaps a Civil Class Action would then also become necessary.

Please Vote NO on the proposed noise ordinance and let's find new ways by working together as a community to regulate our noise levels on Duval Street rather than trying to slip in an unreasonable ordinance that appears on its face to have a hidden agenda which would wipe out many businesses within the district.

Sincerely, Maureen Johnson, General Manager Willie T's Restaurant and Bar 525 Duval Street Key West, FL 33040 (305) 294-7674 ----- Forwarded message

From: Ray West < raywestmusic@gmail.com >

Date: Mon, Feb 24, 2014 at 6:47 PM Subject: noise ordinance opposition

To: mrossi@keywestcity.com, clopez@keywestcity.com, "csmith@keywestcity.com"

<csmith@keywestcity.com>, "tyaniz@keywestcity.com"

<tyaniz@keywestcity.com> tjohnson@keywestcity.com, "bwardlow@keywestcity.com"

<bwardlow@keywestcity.com>, "jweekely@keywestcity.com"

<jweekely@keywestcity.com>

from Ray West February 24, 2014

### To Mayor Cates and all City Commissioners

Let this letter represent this taxpayers opposition to the proposed noise ordinance as pertaining to COMMERCIALLY ZONED areas..

Let me begin by saying that to state that there are adverse effects on human beings when it comes to 'noise' without proper scientific research on the authors part would not fly well if I were to say the same in support of some more controversial topics..

And please define "excessive" and especially "unnecessary"... i dare say bar owners and service industry workers in this city would define "unnecessary" quite differently then some others.. and seems like a valid point of legal contention..

..and to begin and to base this entire ordinance on that ambiguous statement seems hasty..

have the effects of a lack of 'noise' in commercially zoned areas been taken into account?..the effects on businesses, the good people who work there.. the people who moved to that area because the lifestyle they choose includes 'noise', the quality of the tourist experience without the 'noise' they have heard so much about..or remember from there last visit..the sounds of "noise' drifting into the street has been described in many a glorious story of travels to exotic places..

to my next point ...'noise' please define what this is exactly...no sound that comes from my instrument...as i have worked my craft for over 20 years..is 'noise' and to that end a definition is in order..if you hear the strains of my music drifting into the street..i have been told that it actually causes a curiosity based reaction sometimes causing people to enter the establishment in which i play, enjoy themselves drop me a little in the tip jar, and spend their money..supporting not only myself but many souls down the line.. that's what we do for each other in order to enjoy ourselves here when we can..

We can never please all the people ...but neither can we be courting individuals who perhaps did not engage in enough research when they moved so close to a commercially zoned area known the world over as the place to have fun..KEY WEST!

Ray West resident

----- Forwarded message ------

From: Jeff Hazen < ishazen@pacifier.com >

Date: Tue, Feb 25, 2014 at 1:13 AM Subject: New Sound Ordinance

Cc: bvitas@keywestcity.com

Honorable Mayor Cates and distinguished Commissioners:

My name is Jeff Hazen and my wife and I reside in Hammond, Oregon. I am writing in regards to the proposed new sound ordinance that will have its first reading this week.

I am a former Mayor of the City of Warrenton, Oregon and the former Chairman of the Clatsop County Board of Commissioners and understand the difficult decisions that you have to make during your tenure of serving the community. I have always prided myself in each decision by listening to all those concerned with pending actions and by carefully researching all relevant facts before making my decision. As you well know, it is impossible to make everyone happy. As long as you do your due diligence by researching both sides of the argument, your decision can be based on facts rather than emotions.

My wife and I just returned from our vacation in Key West. This is our second time visiting your city and we had a fantastic time. You can be very proud of the community and how well we were received by the local businesses that we visited. We live in a tourist oriented area on the north coast of Oregon and understand the value that tourism brings to the community. The money spent by visitors is crucial to the success of not only the small businesses, but also to the operation for the city through tax revenues. One of the things that we enjoyed the most when we were shopping on Duval Street, was taking a break and sitting down to listen to the music in the morning at one of the restaurants that had an open area. It was wonderful to sit outside to enjoy the great weather you have along with listening to some fantastic musicians performing. I believe that this type of atmosphere is what brings people to Key West. I know that is true in our case.

In reading some of the written comments of those in support of the new ordinance, I gather that this ordinance stems from an issue with a local church. I can understand that people in the neighborhood of the church are not happy with the noise emanating from the church. We live across the street from a church and we often hear the music that comes from the church but we know that it is only going to last for an hour or so and we can live with that. We also have a school across the street and the noise from the kids playing outside is extremely loud as well. I would hate to think that because of this ordinance a school would have to prevent the kids from being outside on recess because a neighbor is unhappy about the playground noise. Most churches are located in residential neighborhoods and I believe that your community would be better

served by amending the ordinance to cover the residential neighborhoods and not have the commercial district on Duval be affected by it. Residents that purchase homes near Duval Street should have known what they could expect as far as sounds go. It is the same with people that buy homes near airports, there is going to be noise and a lot of it.

The businesses that provide outdoor entertainment have invested a considerable amount of money in their operation. They employ a tremendous amount of people that would be severely impacted by this proposed ordinance as it is written. I implore you to consider the financial effect it will have on not only the businesses, but also the people that are employed at them. Please consider the information that Kimberly Walsh provided in her email about sound levels of common items used.

I am sorry that we had to return home prior to your meeting this week; I would have preferred to share my thoughts in person. We want to return to Key West for more vacations, but we want to experience the eclectic nature of Duval Street as it is today.

Sincerely,

Jeff Hazen PO Box 118 Hammond, OR 97121 Subject: Sound ordinance

To: "csmith@keywestcity.com" <csmith@keywestcity.com>
Cc: "jweekley@keywestcity.com" <jweekley@keywestcity.com>

I Oppose the new sound ordinance code for Key West's old town toursi district. I am Key West resident & taxpayer who owns a home here.

Thank you, Chris Thomas Guastelle ----- Forwarded message -----

From: Mitch Cohen <mitch.cohen@comcast.net>

Date: Tue, Feb 25, 2014 at 10:34 AM

Subject: Sound Ordinance
To: <a href="mailto:csmith@keywestcity.com">csmith@keywestcity.com</a>

I oppose the new sound ordinance proposed for Key West. I am a regular vacationer and visit Key West primarily for the music. Any changes to the world class music would make me reconsider my vacation options.

# Sincerely

Mitch Cohen Hudson, NH mitch.cohen@comcast.net

### FYI

----- Forwarded message ------

From: John LaMere <soloband@aol.com>
Date: Mon, Feb 24, 2014 at 12:32 PM

Subject: Sound ordinance

To: "csmith@keywestcity.com" <csmith@keywestcity.com>

Please note that I wish to be recognized as opposed to the sound ordinance proposal as it stands. There are far too many restrictions that are subjective at the least. As an experienced musician with extensive sound knowledge, 75db is just unenforceable. Normal conversation is 75db.

I respect people wanting normal quality of life levels, but there are more acceptable levels to be investigated that are mutually beneficial.

I urge my neighbors and those in support of the proposal to look further into exactly what these new levels represent. I would imagine that people will be surprised at just how quiet 75db can be represented.

With best regards,

John LaMere 3716 Northside Dr Key West FL 33040 From: faith schulz <keywestmama52@hotmail.com>

Date: Tue, Feb 25, 2014 at 11:57 AM

To: "csmith@keywestcity.com" <csmith@keywestcity.com>

Dear Mr. Mayor and Commissioners,

First a little background information for you to consider. I am a transplant from Erie, PA, and have lived in Old Town for over 11 years, mostly on Thomas and Petronia Streets. I began visiting Key West in July of 1998 and visited twelve more times before moving here. Tourists will ask me why I decided to come to Key West, and my answer is always the same: "Key West is a magical place! There are flowers and trees and music everywhere you go!" It's unbelievable how many people are dreaming of making the same move I did for the same reasons.

I have several issues with the proposed noise ordinance that will be the topic of discussion at the special meeting on Tuesday.

First, the idea that sound levels should be reduced until 4 PM is ridiculous. So many tourists come here for the party! The first time I stepped into Sloppy Joe's was only to find out who was performing. How could I not have been pulled in by the glorious voice of Robert Albury!

Music plays a very important part in our Key West culture and is a major reason why so many people want to visit here. Think of the Songwriters Festival, Put-in-Bay Days, the Parrot Heads, and Goombay. Music! And money in the pockets of our locals who rely on these visitors to pay their rent.

Then remember our thousands of cruise ship visitors who are only here for a few hours. Some ships leave as early as 1:30 or 2:00 PM. But even if they're here until 5 or 6, they won't have much of an opportunity to enjoy our local entertainers if volume restrictions aren't lifted until 4 PM. If folks can't hear the music, they'll move on. They'll plan their next cruise around an itinerary that doesn't include Key West. And this will be a direct hit to our tourism workers' incomes.

My second objection to the proposal is that I find it inconceivable that the ordinance could or would be fairly enforced. Basically, enforcement would be difficult at best in the 200 block of Duval Street. How could any enforcement officer sort out whether the volume is from the music, the voices of the crowds, or a combination of the two. And tell me that any of Mr. Rossi's establishments would ever be cited. So that means other establishments in Old Town would likely be unfairly targeted for enforcement.

I certainly understand that noise is a problem for some residents. I have made complaints in the past about loud neighbors who are fighting and disrupting my sleep. But I don't think the proposed ordinance is the correct answer. Common courtesy is the issue, and we would be farther ahead to have involved parties come to a mutual agreement about what level of volume is acceptable.

Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Sincerely, Faith Schulz 323-B Petronia Street Key West, FL 33040

# PRESIDENT Sheldon Suga Hawk's Cay Resort

VICE RESIDENT/RESTAURANTS

Art Levin

Hogs Breath Saloon

# VICE PRESIDENT/LODGING Matt Babich

Southernmost Hotel Collection

# VICE PRESIDENT/UPPER KEYS Kara Lundgren

The Islamorada Resort

TREASURER Charlie Baner

Smokin Tuna & Fury Adventures

REGIONAL DIRECTOR

Lynne Hernandez

#### 2014 MONROE DIRECTORS

Joel Bunde

Hyatt Key West Resort & Spa

JP Doepke

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Key West Chamber of Commerce

Mickey Perez

Conch Republic Seafood Company

Matt Ttahan

Ocean Key Resort/Little Palm Island

John Vagnoni

The Green Parrot

Kevin Zuelch

Zuelch & Zuelch



Dear Honorable Mayor Cates and City Commissioners:

Representing more than 200 members in the Key West business community, the Monroe Chapter of the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association is opposed to the recently proposed sound ordinance that would create new decibel level limits.

After thoroughly reviewing the draft proposal and listening to our members, that embody thousands of your constituents, we feel there is not sufficient information to warrant action at this time.

We are especially concerned with the restrictions that would apply to commercial zones. The proposed 65 decibel limit is barely more than an audible speaking tone. In fact, the normal speaking voice ranges between 45 and 75 decibels. Everyday appliances such as telephones, air conditioners and tea kettles are all between 75 and 100 decibels.

We urge you to consider the crippling impact this could have on the restaurants, bars, hotels and the staff they employ. These businesses are the backbone of our tourism industry here in Key West, an industry that is the primary economic driver in our community and ensures thousands of jobs for Florida families. We anticipate another record tourism year in 2014 and it would be devastating to put unnecessary restrictions on the businesses that help generate significant dollars in tax revenue for the city and continue to create job opportunities for the people of Key West.

We respectfully request that you vote NO to the proposed sound ordinance and are hopeful that we can work together to seek a compromise and favorable solution for the betterment of the community we love and serve.

In Hospitality,

The Board of Directors of the FRLA Monroe Chapter and Lynne Hernandez FRLA Regional Director, South Florida 305-598-FRLA (3752) Lhernandez@frla.org

Florida Restaurant & Lodging Assn. S. Florida office. P O Box 566263, Miami, FL 33256 (305) 598-FRLA (3752) Fax (305) 598-3753 <a href="mailto:Lhernandez@frla.org"><u>Lhernandez@frla.org</u></a> <a href="mailto:www.frla.org">www.frla.org</a>

February 25, 2014

John Paul Castro

2301 Seidenberg Ave.

Key West, FL 33040

### **Sound Ordinance Concerning Churches**

Dear Mayor and Commissioners,

As a Key West resident I have followed this issue closely as it has evolved. One of things I have noticed is that most of the noise complaints concerning churches have been from the downtown area. I have also heard statistics about the amount of noise complaints concerning churches, which in my opinion, are inaccurate.

Since I build my house on the corner of Seidenberg Ave. and 5<sup>th</sup> Street in 2007 the Key West SDA Church has been a major issue at times. It seems it must have changed hands at some points and is now used by different groups anywhere from 3 to 6 times a week.

A few years back the noise at night got so bad I contacted the owner of the building and asked for the user groups of the church to respect the neighborhood and lower the noise. While the kind gentlemen seemingly requested this of the users the noise only improved for a short period of time.

Shortly after I went to visit the Code Compliance office to find out what I could do. In short I was told I could do nothing. The ordinance protects the church and gives them unrestricted noise, any time of the day or night. I certainly would have made dozens of complaints in the past few years if it made any sense to. But why would I complain about an issue to Code Compliance I know they can do nothing about?

As of now the church still has meetings many nights of the week. They play music, have live bands, etc. all inside the building. They leave the doors and windows wide open which face only to, and directly to my house. In the winter when the weather is nice I cannot open the window and read a book at night. A matter of fact, I cannot even hear my TV, sometimes with the windows closed. I have walked over and asked them close the doors on numerous occasions. They cooperate but then it's another group there the next night.

I see no reason churches which should be a gathering place for peaceful reflection and neighborhood unity should need to have unrestricted noise levels and times protected by code. In the center of a residential area, churches should have respect for the neighborhood, and should the need arise to exceed those limits, I see no reason they should not have to contact those who may be affected in the area and/or get a noise exception just like everyone else.

Sincerely,

John Paul Castro



Gerd Rube, Key West, FL 33040

02/22/2014

Dear Mayor and City Commissioners,

I am a local musician/songwriter and have been performing on Duval Street for over 20 years. I am also a home owner in New Town as well. I support a stricter sound control in residential areas and an ACCEPTABLE sound control in business areas. However, the proposed ordinance before the Commission this Tuesday night does not meet those objectives, and therefore I ask that you please vote NO on this issue.

The noise ordinance must apply to ALL AND EVERYBODY in the SAME WAY differentiating only between business and residential areas. This has not been the fact. Duval Street is a business district. If somebody decides to live or work on Duval Street, then he/she should accept it to what it always has been. Music entertainment has been there for a long, long time and is one of the main attractions why people come to KW. Understanding that fact, that is why my wife and I chose to purchase a home away from the commercial area.

The affected KW musicians have already been taking huge compromises in lowering our performance volume by downsizing equipment, rearranging speaker settings, and even adjusting our repertoire over the last several months when code enforcement started cracking down on the existing sound ordinance. Most drummers lost their jobs since there is no way to play drums at the same volume as a toilet flushing: 75 dBa.

However, if a new sound ordinance will be set up, it needs to be in a way that there's no differential as to what the noise source is. Means: No matter what bar, business or other residential property it is coming from or what event is causing it: Bike week, boat parade's, trucks honking (that almost give you a heart attack), street drummers, cars blasting their music, motorcycles howling their motors just for attention),dogs barking. Living in New Town, most times I can't sleep without earplugs due to neighbors' everyday ongoing noise such as barking dogs, door slamming, traffic, garbage pickup, kids yelling & screaming...

Let's find a COMPROMISE that works for all or at least most.

With best regards,

Gerd Rube

P.S. To help to understand noise levels please see the attached NOISE LEVEL CHART. This explains why I think that the suggested noise levels of 65 dBa / 75 dBa are not acceptable.

www.gerdrube.com

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相關和	Example	Home & Yard Appliances	Workshop & Construction
0	healthy hearing threshold		
10	a pin dropping		
20	rustling leaves		
30	whisper		
40	babbling brook	computer	
50	light traffic	refrigerator	
60	conversational speech	air conditioner	
70	shower	dishwasher	
75	toilet flushing	vacuum cleaner	
80	alarm clock	garbage disposal	
85	passing diesel truck	snow blower	
90	squeeze toy	lawn mower	arc welder
95	inside subway car	food processor	belt sander
100	motorcycle (riding)		handheld drill
105	sporting event		table saw
110	rock band		jackhammer
115	emergency vehicle siren		riveter
120	thunderclap		axygen torch
125	balloon popping		
130	peak stadium crowd noise		
135	air raid siren		
647	jet engine at takeoff		
144	firecracker		

To the commissioners and mayor of Key West

I have lived in Key West for almost 20 years, and am a resident in New Town. I respectfully vote NO to the pre-posed noise ordinance.

From what I have observed over the past years the uniqueness of Duval Street is slowly fading away. The strip is bombarded with:

- ice cream shops
- T-shirt shops (of varying price ranges)
- cosmetic shops with barkers bombarding you as you pass by
- 'chain' stores and 'chain' restaurants

People come to Key West to get away from their 'regular' lives. To unwind, kick back and have fun that this unique Island that we have to offer. That involves drinking/partying and celebrating as they enjoying being in the indoor/outdoor bars. Follow your ears .... As the saying goes.

But now, with this per-posed noise ordinance, if musicians in the bars can not be heard over the 'bar noise' (singing along to their favorite song, cheering, clapping, expressing that they are enjoying themselves & having a good time) created by the audience. You will lose the crowd, they have been accustomed to the way things have been over the past years (that is why they keep coming back) and do not understand why the musicians have been made to turn the sound down due to a possible Code violation.

The bars are outdoor and yes the sound will travel, but we have to come up with a reasonable compromise, that is agreeable to all. Both, the business owners and as an Island that values its tourists. Without that we will have the domino effect. Less customers, less income for the business, fewer employees required. And so on, eventually shutting one of our most valued 'attractions' (we have left) down.

So please be careful what you wish for & consider the lively hood of ALL those involved. We have long been compared to New Orleans as far as our live music talent and feeling that Key West has to offer... We may want to take a page out of what has happened there.

For all the above reasons, I would ask that we vote NO to this pre-posed ordinance.

Respectfully,

Sandy Rube

From: cobramongoose@fuse.net

Date: February 26, 2014 at 3:59:40 PM EST

To: csmith@keywestcity.com

Subject: proposed sound ordinance

#### Good afternoon-

I am not a resident of Key West, but I have been visiting your island since 1972. I visit several times a year for several weeks at a time. Many things have changed since my first visit, some good some bad. I feel that a sound ordinance would be a detriment to Key West and it's thriving musical scene. While I am in Key West I make it a point to listen to several local musicians. It is one of the best cultural offerings of Key West. Please don't ruin this for me and thousands of others that make it a point to vacation in Key West. I was just recently in Key West, about 10 days ago, and I was talking to various residents about this proposed ordinance and no one could give me reasons to support the sound ordinance. I think it would be a grave mistake for this to pass, I think it would seriously hurt Key West tourism. I know it would give me pause, possibly look for somewhere else to vacation. Please give more thought to this, and strike it down.

Respectfully,

Laurie Hanauer Cincinnati, Oh 45230 From: Astrid James <a href="mailto:sastridjames@ymail.com">sastridjames@ymail.com</a> Date: February 26, 2014 at 9:26:22 AM EST

To: "csmith@keywestcity.com" <csmith@keywestcity.com>

Subject: sound ordinance

Reply-To: Astrid James <a href="mailto:astridjames@ymail.com">astridjames@ymail.com</a>>

# To whom it may concern,

Please Vote NO on the upcoming sound ordinance. We like our Key West the way it is, with Live Music all day long. This is what makes the Keys lifely and loveable. We are coming down any chance we get, even thinking of moving to Key West, because we love it. So again Vote NO!!!!

Keep the music playing all day long!

Thank you,

Astrid James

Dear Mayor and Commissioners,

I purposely waited until the revised ordinance was drafted before I wrote this letter to be sure I had all the facts correct.

Along with the ordinance, I also read all of the letters both in support and in opposition.

It seems to me that most of the letters in support of the new ordinance all centered around one church near Solares Hill. This makes me wonder if we are reinventing the wheel to correct one situation.

As a DJ, I understand the importance of music to keep people entertained. I also understand that we all have to live together on this small island community.

We have a noise ordinance on the books and from the tone of some of the letters, you would think it was either not being enforced or it was simply too lenient. The problem is that locations on Duval built their businesses based on the current ordinance. Now, due to a few squeaky wheels, the ordinance is being modified. You are asking these businesses to change their business model, the same model that has made Key West successful, without regard to what this will do to them.

When I am playing at an event, I want to be a good neighbor as well and I have personally had code enforcement be called out while I was working a gig. Every time, I have been in compliance yet, I have still turned down the music. This is what neighbors do. I don't want to upset them, but I do want to be entertaining as well. I have even gone so far as to buy a sound meter so that I can check my own levels to be sure I do not violate the ordinance and hopefully, not upset the neighbors.

With that being said, I have some issues with the newest version of the ordinance.

First, the decibel allowances are extremely restrictive. Speech is 60 DBA. If a few people are talking near the property line, it would not be hard to exceed the limit and be in violation.

The next issue I have is the timing in the commercial district. I don't understand why a business will have to wait until4:00 PM to bring up the volume? If that level is acceptable at2:00AM, it certainly should be acceptable at Noon, or 10AM.

The next issue I have is the "audible" noise at 50 feet. I challenge each and every one of you that has access to a 50 foot open area and set up a vacuum cleaner and then walk 50 feet and see if it's "audible.' Walk another 10 and see if it's still audible. Then walk another 10. Once you do this experiment, you will see that a 50 foot test where the sound has to be audible is just not valid. In addition, you are making this a judgment call on the part of the officer. It will be nearly impossible to have any of these violations held up. Just as DUIs are thrown out when there is a question as to the last time the breathalyzer was last calibrated, the

officer's last hearing test could come into play. Does the officer have more sensitive hearing than another officer? Properly calibrated equipment is the only way to enforce this ordinance.

Finally, since the majority of the complaints were about a church, why not just modify Sec, 26-193.2 and leave the remaining ordinance as is?

Up until 2013, I lived in Old Town. I carefully selected a home deep in a private compound as I wanted to be close to the action, but I didn't want the action to be close to me. I can assure you that all of old town is not loud, quite the contrary actually. Noise seems to stay close to Duval. You rarely hear disturbing noise on Simonton or Whitehead Streets. While I empathize with those people that bought a home right on or within a 1/2 block of Duval Street, you have to accept that there will be some noise on the main street going through town. It's no different than buying a house within a block of an airport and complaining about noise.

I strongly recommend that this ordinance not pass as it is written and to punish those that are violating the current ordinance rather than penalize every business in town due to a few bad seeds!

Thank you,

Neil Chamberlain 1609 Josephine Street Key West, FL 33040 From: "Carmen Schillinger" < carmen schillinger@web.de > Date: March 15, 2014 at 11:31:07 AM EDT

To: <<u>csmith@keywestcity.com</u>>
Subject: proposed sound ordinance

I vote "NO" on the proposed sound ordinance.

Kind Regards Carmen Schillinger

From: Barry Olsavsky < barry@cst-entertainment-productions.com>

Date: Mon, Mar 17, 2014 at 9:26 PM

Subject: Letter of Opposition To: csmith@keywestcity.com

Dear Mayor and City Commissioners,

I am writing in opposition to the proposed noise ordinance.

I am a musician who lives in Jacksonville, Florida and have been traveling to Key West to perform for many years. I can certainly understand the complaints from residents who live there regarding noise and sound issues, but I feel they must understand that is a part of what makes Key West such a wonderful getaway for so many tourist year after year. Duval Street is one of the driving forces of Key West as much as Bourbon Street in New Orleans. The live music experience is part of the tropical environment of the Keys, and to diminish that would be harmful to your economy through a loss of business revenue, plus the potential jobs it will cost the local musicians and bar & restaurant workers.

I travel down every year for Meeting of the Minds in November and during that week there are thousands of Parrot Heads strolling up and down Duval Street stopping at places like Willie T's or Margaritaville Cafe to hear their favorite Trop Rock bands. If this noise ordinece passes, it will have a negative impact on MOTM or Fantasy Fest or any of the other wonderful events that occur there each year.

If music was basically removed from Bourdon Street, or Beall Street in Memphis, or on the strip in Vegas via a noise ordinance, those tourist locals would also suffer because it is such a huge part of the attraction.

I do believe a solution can be reached to settle the problem but I don't feel this is the correct one.

Barry Olsavsky Jacksonville, Fl From: Eric Kotowski < erickotowski@yahoo.com >

Date: Tue, Mar 18, 2014 at 9:26 AM

Subject:

To: "jweekley@keywestcity.com" <jweekley@keywestcity.com">, "mrossi@keywestcity.com" <mrossi@keywestcity.com">, "bwardlow@keywestcity.com" <bwordlow@keywestcity.com">, "tyaniz@keywestcity.com">, "tjohnston@keywestcity.com" <tjohnston@keywestcity.com" <cates@keywestcity.com">, "clopez@keywestcity.com" <cates@keywestcity.com">, "clopez@keywestcity.com">, "clopez@keywestcity.com">, "clopez@keywestcity.com">, "clopez@keywestcity.com">, "sdsmith@keywestcity.com"<<sdsmith@keywestcity.com"><sdsmith@keywestcity.com</sdsmith@keywestcity.com</sdsmith@keywestcity.com>

### Dear Mayor and Commissioners.

I am a bartender on Duval Street. I oppose the sound ordinance proposal. Live music at my place of employment is very critical to my income.

Thank you, Eric Kotowski 606 Grinnell St From: Ward Ewing <<u>wardewing@gmail.com</u>> Date: March 27, 2014 at 6:05:27 PM EDT

To: csmith@keywestcity.com

"Sir/Madam,

Please note that I wish to be recognized as opposed to the sound ordinance proposal as it stands. There are far too many restrictions that will cripple businesses in town.

With best regards,"

Thomas Ward Ewing

From: Michelle Harrison < harrisonsonthehill@hotmail.com >

Date: Fri, Mar 28, 2014 at 11:08 AM

Subject:

To: "csmith@keywestcity.com" <csmith@keywestcity.com>

Please note that I wish to be recognized as opposed to the sound ordinance proposal as it stands. There are far too many restrictions that will cripple businesses in town.

From one who loves the vibe of the streets of Key West~

... Michelle Harrison (yearly KW Visitor!)

From: Lara Roehl <gagneofc@gmail.com>

Date: Fri, Mar 28, 2014 at 11:10 AM

Subject: Music

To: csmith@keywestcity.com

To whom it may concern,

I have vacationed the last 2 winters in your lovely city. One of the big draws is the live music that is available all the time.

That being said, please note that I wish to be recognized as opposed to the sound ordinance proposal as it stands. There are far too many restrictions that will cripple businesses in town!

Respectfully,

Lara Roehl Princeton, WI From: JANET GESELL < jjesell 1@gmail.com >

Date: March 28, 2014 Subject: Music ordinance

Please except my letter as a NO for a change of the noise ordinance!!!!

I come to Key West once or twice a year from Southern Illinois and enjoy the activities throughout the day!! We feel changing the noise ordinance would detract from the casual relaxed atmosphere that goes with Key West and our vacation plans.. I don't want to come to a place that looks like it's dead until 4pm.!!

I know if you lived there maybe it would make a difference but being that I am the person that pays for the travel to Key West I expect a certain vacation and when you take that daytime music away that takes away from my traveling experience please keep that ordinance from passing!!

Key West is known for its eclectic music and it's variety of entertainment and I can't see traveling to Key West and it being a dead town like it is 7 AM!'

Thank you very much for reading my email. I hope in some way that I help the community keep what makes Key West the fun place to travel to!!

JANET GESELL 15332 Lake Point Dr. Benton, IL 62812 Sent from my iPhone From: Carolyn Smith <<u>c57smith@yahoo.com</u>>

Date: Sat, Mar 29, 2014 at 10:45 PM

Subject: Key West proposed sound ordinance

To: "csmith@keywestcity.com" <csmith@keywestcity.com>

I frequently visit your island because i have family that lives there but enjoy the ambiance as i walk down Duval Street and all around old town. I have previously sent emails to the city members- begging not to pass this ordinace. It will not be the same awesome place without the freedom of the music as you walk though you town. Passing this ordinace will ruin the freedom people feel while visiting. It creates a very magic place that many people need to experience in these aweful times.

I would like to submit the different posts from various people that either live in Key West or love to visit.

Karen Surette Johnson I sent an email yesterday. Wish I could be there to attend the meeting Karen

March 27 at 3:59pm -

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Carolyn S Smith I am sending a protest email to the all again this weekend.

March 27 at 4:27pm ·

Freddie McGee Good luck to you all! Fight!

March 27 at 6:49pm ·

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Tammy W. Hayes This is keys west for god sakes!!!

March 27 at 8:27pm ·

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<u>Jeff Hazen</u> My email was sent yesterday and I even emailed Tony to see if it would help if I flew down from Oregon to testify in person. He didn't think it was necessary because of the strong presence at the meetings by owners and entertainers. I'll be watching as much of it as I can online.

March 27 at 8:56pm ·

Kathy Carey Madson This is NO April Fools joke!

March 27 at 9:34pm ·

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Jim Frapp Politicians need to focus on other things don't you think? It's turning into what they depict Russia as on the news! March 27 at 9:48pm ·

Janet Sloan Gesell If I was there I'd attend. That's part of that culture!!! Keep on rocking before 4!!!!!

Yesterday at 7:57am

Mary Clemen n top of the e- mail although I agree that I'd try to fly to KW for the hearing If it would matter. It's difficult to believe the stupidity involved here. So is the city trying to say they don't need tourist revenue. Hell it's not just tourists, I know a lot of locals who love the music. If KW can let chickens run around squeaking at all hours how is the tradition of live & loud music different? I just get very frustrated over all of the silliness.

From: ST DETAILING & DESIGN, INC. < scott@stdetailinganddesign.com >

Date: Sun, Mar 30, 2014 at 11:35 AM Subject: Re: Live Music Orninance

To: "csmith@keywestcity.com" <csmith@keywestcity.com>

ST Detailing & Design, Inc. 615•200•8511

> On Mar 30, 2014, at 11:32 AM, "ST DETAILING & DESIGN, INC." < scott@stdetailinganddesign.com > wrote:

>

> In response to the proposed 4 pm live music restriction ordinance currently being proposed for Key West...I moved a business to Florida, with the intention of locating in the Keys. I currently have property purchased in the lower Keys to facilitate this. Granted, I am one voice, but a very profitable voice. I urge you not to vote "yes" on a referendum that would change why I moved myself...and my business...to the Keys. It will only lead to more business departures.

>

- > ST Detailing & Design, Inc.
- > 615•200•8511

From: Bill Connors <phillybilly@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Mar 30, 2014 at 11:54 AM Subject: Proposed Noise Ordinance

To: "csmith@keywestcity.com" <csmith@keywestcity.com>

## Hello,

I am writing to voice my opposition to the proposed noise ordinance. My wife and I are annual visitors with an eye toward making Key West our winter home in about 4-5 years. Key West is a tourist town. If you pass this ordinance you will in effect have killed a big reason why Key West is such a fun place. If we want quiet we'd move to Sun City Center. The 'noise' presently available is quite pleasant and certainly not too obtrusive. We'll leave this in the hands of the Key West citizens who I will hope makes the right decision for their town but be forewarned that the tourist money will take a hit.

See you next February, Bill & Nancy Connors Philadelphia, PA From: Dan Anderson < DAnderson@floridalawpartners.com >

Date: Sun, Mar 30, 2014 at 6:33 PM

Subject: Noise Ordinance

To: "ccates@keywestcity.com" <ccates@keywestcity.com>, "jweekley@keywestcity.com" <jweekley@keywestcity.com>, "mrossi@keywestcity.com" <mrossi@keywestcity.com" <mrossi@keywestcity.com>, "tyaniz@keywestcity.com" <tyaniz@keywestcity.com>, "tjohnston@keywestcity.com" <tjohnston@keywestcity.com>, "tjohnston@keywestcity.com" <tjohnston@keywestcity.com>, "tjohnston@keywestcity.com" <tjohnston@keywestcity.com>, "tjohnston@keywestcity.com" <tjohnston@keywestcity.com>, "tjohnston@keywestcity.com" <tjohnston@keywestcity.com>, "tjohnston@keywestcity.com" <tjohnston@keywestcity.com

"clopez@keywestcity.com" <clopez@keywestcity.com>
Cc: "csmith@keywestcity.com" <csmith@keywestcity.com>

## Dear Mayor and City Council:

I am writing to you to voice my opposition to the proposed noise ordinance in Key West. As background, I first arrived in Key West on Christmas Eve in 1995. I fell in love with Key West because it was unlike any place I have ever been. The music, the laughter, the friends, and the revelry, all make Key West such a unique place that I instantly fell in love with it. It is because of this unique character that I have been coming back at least twice each year for the past 19 years. It is, for me, the one place I know I can always go whenever I need to be reminded of the more important things in life. And, it is the one place I know I will never be alone.

In a former life, I was a Washington Lobbyist for air tour groups that conducted helicopter and airplane flights over the Grand Canyon and elsewhere. In fact, I was engaged in this work when I first came to Key West. What I learned was that there are some people that will only be satisfied when the entire world around them is completely silent. To point out the absurdity of some of these views, one man even testified at a Congressional hearing that it was not enough to reduce noise impacts on him while he was actually hiking in the wilderness of the Grand Canyon, he wanted to be able to sit in his office in Chicago and *know* that the Grand Canyon was quiet.

I am deeply concerned that in trying to appease those who, like the man in Chicago, will never be satisfied until the world is devoid of sound, Key West will forever and unfavorably alter its unique character. Key West is, like the Grand Canyon, a natural wonder in its own right. And, as silence is one attribute that makes the Grand Canyon what it is, so does music on its streets make Key West what it is. I know that each of you love Key West as I do, and as we all do, and I ask you to vote against the noise ordinance because, in truth, noise to the ears of one man is music to the ears of another.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and for your important work on behalf of the local and long distant citizens of Key West.

Sincerely,

~Dan Anderson

From: Katy Weber < ktweber@optonline.net >

Date: Sun, Mar 30, 2014 at 7:43 PM

Subject: Noise Meeting

To: "csmith@keywestcity.com" <csmith@keywestcity.com>

My husband and I have been visiting beautiful Key West for 10 years. We love everything about the island . We especially enjoy knowing we can pull over on our bikes and hear music from different venues most any time of day! It saddens me to read that someone wants to restrict the "noise". If it is neighbors who are complaining, maybe they should be in another neighborhood. On a similar note, while we were at Schooner Wharf last week I was appalled that I had to hear the sounds of construction over the lovely sounds of Michael Mc. THAT hammering noise should be restricted!

Best wishes to all, Katy Weber From: Kenyatta Arrington < kenyattaarrington@gmail.com >

Date: Wed, Mar 26, 2014 at 5:11 PM

Subject: Fwd: The "double standard" and bias

To: csmith@keywestcity.com

The high court strikes down this law and its a matter of time before someone sues the city of Key West for banning street performers, "right" to have a amp while playing music on the streets of Key West. The city of Key West hasn't got a legal right to ban amps used by street musicians

http://www.miamiherald.com/2012/12/13/3141349/court-upholds-loud-music-from.html?fb\_action\_ids=10152643006994638&fb\_action\_types=og.likes&fb\_source=aggregation&fb\_aggregation\_id=288381481237582

This is a "double standard" and is not only shows, "bias" and discrimination towards the street performers, who has every right provided to them by the supreme law of the land to not be excluded

So what we have here is a miss use of power on the part of the City Commissioners .Simply because if they can ban the poor street performer from having their "right" to use a small amp while others in our community can use amps.

We as street performers should be able by right U.S. Constitution to use amplification. So in all fairness logic dictates that by law if you ban street performer, everyone should be banned as well, that should include any and all city sponsored events, private sponsored events were music is played,(example)like Fantasy Fest, Jimmy Buffet and other events that use amplification

The First Amendment protects effective speech, not merely uttered words, and effective speech sometimes requires that ideas be transformed into musical speech, loud speech, financial speech or other forms of expression that a casual reading of the First Amendment might not reveal as "speech."

Stokes v City of Madison

United States Court of Appeals Seventh Circuit., 930 F.2d 1163, 59 USLW 2652, (1991)

If one group of people/business/parades in this community can use amps.

We as street performers should be able by right U.S. Constitution to use amplification. So in all fairness logic dictates that by law if you ban street performer, everyone should be banned as well, that should include any and all city Sponsored events were music is played,(example)like Fantasy Fest, Jimmy Buffet and other events that use amplification

The "double standard" and bias toward the street performers while the city sponsored amplified events and parades, large organization amplified demonstrations, mass transportation, construction and other commercial activities such as air conditioners and building ventilation systems which all exceed decibels levels of 80-100db is to be expected. Over 90% of the Federal Judges have been appointed by conservative administrations and they have reversed the previous long standing least restrictive analysis precedents. The political battle can not be won if the street performing community is divided by the few individuals who abuse their amplifiers and if those same individuals are allowed to antagonize the residents and local businesses. How and why would the city bar us and exclude our right to make a living? Is it because we are mostly poor people who can't fight back legally.? Many of us are genuine artist playing music is our life and like myself this is our only income. We are not all here just make a buck its good when we do great. In fact a small amp helps tremendously increasing our income and helps us against all the city street noise which we all know who live here is loud making it harder to be heard from any reasonable distant. In light of the all the fuss once again about the new, "Sound Ordinance" issue ALL THE OUR FREEDOM OF SPEECH IS IN JEOPARDY

From: <u>jzdoit12@yahoo.com</u> < jzdoit12@yahoo.com>

Date: Wed, Mar 26, 2014 at 5:20 PM Subject: Live Music Restriction

To: "CSMITH@KEYWESTCITY.COM" < CSMITH@keywestcity.com >

## To Whom It May Concern,

We are getting married on May 5th in Key West. We will be there for 9 days. We also have 29 other people joining us for our special day and will be staying for 5 to 7 days.

Our wedding ceremony is at 11am. We have plans on walking down Duval St and stopping at our favorite places one of which is Willie Ts. We love this place for the food and most of all the entertainment.

We picked Key West to get married out of all the other places we could have chosen because it's fun and careful life style. We wanted to give Key West our money not any other place.

Please do not pass this 4pm restriction on live music. This will ruin Key West of what it is....

I'm from New Hampshire and moved to Palm Harbor Florida almost 6 years. We plan on looking for house in Key West within a year.

Thank You for your consideration on this matter.

Karen Surette and Tom Long 236 North St Palm Harbor, FL 34683 JZDOIT12@yahoo.com From: <jomccarthy2004@comcast.net>
Date: Wed, Mar 26, 2014 at 8:18 PM

Subject: re: sound ordinance To: <a href="mailto:csmith@keywestcity.com">csmith@keywestcity.com</a>

to whom this concerns ~ please do not pass an ordinance that would put an end to music during the daytime hours prior to 4:00 pm ~ I am an artist, photographer and a huge lover of music ~ I travel to key west often ~ I love strolling along the streets being drawn in to establishments by the talented musician that I hear as I pass by ~ it's a huge part of the charm and vibe that is key west ~ it's a beautiful place for creative souls to express themselves ~ please keep the creativity alive and don't put musicians who play during the day out of work ~ please do not take away the joy of tourist who look forward to hearing these musicians play their songs. key west is an island of love and creativity and a beautiful retreat for creative souls who travel there ~ please keep it that way ~ change isn't always better, sometimes it's just simply change and this change would definitely affect your tourism dollars.

thank you for your time ~ joanne mccartthy

From: Heather Clement < capn.heather@gmail.com >

Date: Fri, Mar 28, 2014 at 5:14 PM

Subject: sound ordinance
To: csmith@keywestcity.com

This is in response to the changes in the sound ordinance of Key West. As a registered voter in Key West I oppose this new ordinance. I believe the owners have accepted the cities challenge and recognize that they can police themselves and have turned the speakers away from the streets and things have quieted on their own.

Giving a small few who have complained, and may or may not, live inside the City of Key West, or live here only part time, is a gross misrepresentation of those who participate in Key West on a daily basis. If this is to reach a Democratic outcome this should be put to a vote.

As per the nudity at Fantasy Fest; if you drive the festival away as well as the tourists you will reap the rewards of a slow October and the monies afforded by this festival. That just would not be prudent. Oh, and the homeless, as said by one of our fabulous police officers here in Key West. "Where would you go if you were homeless?" It's the downside of paradise and becomes our responsibility. Why do people love Key West, move here, and then want to change it to look like their own home town? And I live a block off Duval.

Heather Clement 305-896-9910 From: <ru>yunkinz@aol.com</r>>

Date: Wed, Mar 26, 2014 at 9:27 PM

Subject: noise ordinance
To: csmith@keywestcity.com

As I write this letter in support of the local businesses that play music in Key West, I can't believe it is necessary to do so. I may not live in or around Key West but I visit monthly. Yes, monthly. I drive from Pembroke Pines, Florida every month, stay at local, not chain owned, lodging. I spent over \$15,000 in 2013 eating at restaurants, shopping in the stores all over KW and escaping my high level position in Fort Lauderdale. I am amazed anyone would consider this ordinance seriously. Make no mistake about it, I will not be as attracted to KW without the luxury of sitting at one of the many amazing places to kick back, have a beer, and listen to some of the most talented musicians around. The music is the reason why I am there. When you turn it down, which is turning it off, you are not going to increase my traffic to local shops, you are going to increase my traffic to someplace else. I am your dream tourist. I come to KW for every vacation I have. I appreciate all that I experience. I spend freely because I am blessed with the ability to do so. I promote the island even though I would love to keep it to myself so I can always find a room. I have made a commitment to come to KW every month of every year as long as I can. But, you are causing me to rethink my commitment. Do not make the mistake of fixing something that is not broken. Are the people from the cruise ships so "turned off" by the music they go back to the ship with their money still in the their pockets? Of course not. When I am shopping at Naples Soap Company can I hear any music at all,? Of course not. Is the music at the 10+ t-shirt shops on Duval Street pretty loud when I walk in to buy a souvenir? You know it is. If you pass this ordinance, make sure you take responsibility for the businesses that will close, the people that will be out of work, and the money lost. Do not be the usual politician blaming someone else, avoiding the question and saying "you had no idea the ordinance will kill the local economy." Since I am not a true local, just a monthly local, I will have to wait and see how this plays out. As a business owner for years, I shutter at the control you have over some of these businesses future. Do not use that control like your neighbors 90 miles to the south.

Richard J. Younkins

From: Steve Gerlich < fore687857@sbcglobal.net>

Date: Mon, Mar 31, 2014 at 11:33 AM Subject: Proposed Sound Ordinance

To: "csmith@keywestcity.com" <csmith@keywestcity.com>

## Greetings,

I am not a resident of Key West but do visit every year to enjoy everything that your fine city has to offer. I am aware of the proposed sound ordinance which will, regardless of what Mr. Weekley claims, pretty much put an end to live music on Duval St. until 4PM. Why? What is this ordinance supposed to accomplish? Are you hoping to end tourism to Key West?

Two of my many visits have been on cruises. Both arrived in your port early in the morning and sailed out around 3 or 4 in the afternoon. A lot of the people on the cruise spent a good portion of their time in Key West on Duval, in the bars, spending money and having a good time. Take away the live music during the day and you would, I believe, take away one of the main reasons cruises stop in Key West. Oh well, I'm sure the cruise industry doesn't bring much in the way of revenue to your city.

Do I spend all of my time in Key West on Duval during the day? Of course not, but we do stroll Duval from end to end a couple of afternoons during our visit enjoying the music coming out of the many establishments, stopping in occasionally for a cold beverage, stopping in the shops, spending money. It is part of what makes Duval what it is. I don't know whose dollars are driving this train but I hope they have lots of them because tourist money is going to flow out of Key West like the tide if it passes. The sound of live music coming out of the open bars is what pulls people onto Duval during the day. Those people also visit other businesses along Duval while there. It will be very sad to see Duval St. become a ghost town like that seen in an old western.

Disallowing live music during the day would be a huge mistake. It is not everything that brings the tourist dollar to your city but I believe it is a large part of it. I doubt that I would make the yearly trip if this ordinance were passed. You may as well outlaw the Sunset Celebration while you are at it.

If this ordinance passes I know I will be canceling my planned visit to Key West and will be taking my vacation dollars elsewhere. I'm sure there will be many more doing the same. I'm also pretty certain that all the people that will eventually be put out of work when the tourist business dries up will remember who was on the Commission that passed the ordinance. Oh well, at least they will be remembered for eternity as the Commissioners that killed Key West.

Please do the right thing for the City of Key West and it's economy and vote down this proposal.

Thank you. Sincerely, Steve Gerlich 10904 Fairway Ridge Lane Fishers, IN 46037 From: James Smith < fsimanagers@yahoo.com >

Date: Tue, Apr 1, 2014 at 1:51 PM

Subject: Noise Ordinance

To: "csmith@keywestcity.com" <csmith@keywestcity.com>

Dear Ms. Smith,

As a property owner in Key West, I would like to voice my opinion about the proposed noise ordinance. Although I understand the basis behind it, I do not think the terms and conditions of the current proposed ordinance suit the needs of all those who have an interest in the livelihood of the city of Key West.

Please consider re-writing an ordinance that will not have a lasting negative effect on the restaurants and bars that entertain both tourists and residents with music.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Alan Massengill 3310 Duck Ave. Key West, FL From: **Gregory Gardner** <<u>glg4@mac.com</u>>

Date: Tue, Apr 1, 2014 at 1:15 PM

Subject: Key West Tourism vs Noise Ordinance Changes

To: csmith@keywestcity.com

Dear Mr. Mayor and Commissioners of Key West Florida:

I am one of some 110,000 residents of the Villages, FL. We meet and know thousands of other folks who vacation and visit here from all over the USA.

One of the more favorite past-times is to go on cruises several times a year with many stopping in Key West to enjoy the much celebrated daily open musical activities which attract our attention within the business area as we walk, listen, browse, eat and drink and be merry and buy memorabilia and other things in the area known as Duval Street. Upon return to the ship in the evening, it departs for the next fun location.

Based on info from Key West including newspaper accounts, it looks like Commissioner Weekly is leading the charge of shutting down the daytime music industry with changes focused on impacting daytime music. Seems like sound measurements at the property line deal with just music. Seems like location of amplifiers is being restricted to so many feet from a property line, in addition to the new db levels. Therefore, in the absence of music, the more annoying noises a city produces on a daily basis will be more pronounced, such as: aircraft, vehicles, air hammers, power saws, blowers, pumps, generators, sea going vessels, and so on and so forth.

Please take note, there are no requirements defined for anything other than music amplifiers, to restrict the location of blowers, chain saws, lawn maintenance equipment, trash removal trucks, construction table saws for cutting tiles, pipe, trees and wood etc. We really think the local government must not want our tourist trade.

Be advised, it is no problem for us to travel on the ships and planes which by-pass Key West for locations with daytime music and merriment. After all, most ships travel at night so as to arrive during daytime hours at locations attractive to tourists.

Good grief. Here are some points as may become food for thought ...... you may want to consider ---- Some of us would purchase or lease property

in Key West to open more tourist business, however, reconsideration and uncertainty exists owing to:

Given the fact that businesses were previously issued licenses in business zoned areas by the City of Key West to exist and to practice commerce therein,

under the ordinances and rules at that time, investments and jobs have been created catering to tourism.

The new changes undermine the basis of this segment commerce. As such, it would appear as an unconstitutional abuse of power to apply such

draconian changes to the detriment of existing businesses so dependent on tourism. Isn't is the duty of our government to promote commerce?

One would ask, why is it so vehemently pursued to change the underpinnings of business acumen in Key West. If it is axiomatic that all decisions

are basically financial, what is the motive for being so disruptive to the local economy? There has to be a financial reason not being presented. Perhaps

the State would have an interest in why should one man be allowed to disrupt legitimate businesses. Shouldn't the public-at-large have a say

in such matters. After all, it was the taxation without representation that started action to form our present democratic union.

Worst case, shouldn't existing business be grand-fathered?

Some other considerations worth raising: The collateral impact of the new changes has not even been assessed by the Commissioners. Being

so blinded by unsung ulterior motives, the ripple effect and loss of tourism is not even being measured or estimated by Qualified Commerce

Consultants. Consequently, fear of instant job loss by good people supporting tourism industry businesses such as taxi, hotel, food, trucking,

resort, fishing etc, just to name a few is real. Sadly, it compares to the Obama-care Bill impact. We need to pass it to find out what's in it. Here

we need to pass it to experience the severity of impact on the local economy. Obviously, it is easily seen by the interested observer that the reduced tax

base will ripple through the police, fire, school, infrastructure etc. Did they ever think what would happen if the ships loaded with tourists

wishing to have a good time by-pass Key West? Would the corner grocery store or the souvenir stores survive serving non-tourists?

What would happen if Home Depot or Lowes and so on pulled up stakes joining those who will go elsewhere for better business jobs or vacations.

It would appear that what looks like the remains of the old bridgework to the Keys would be a constant and grim reminder of what can happen to Key

West without a vibrant Tourist Trade. What do you folks think?

Sincerely,

Greg Gardner The Villages Resident Florida From: bonsai07751 < bonsai07751@yahoo.com >

Date: Tue, Apr 1, 2014 at 2:59 PM Subject: Keep the music playing To: csmith@keywestcity.com

We have been coming to Key West for over 20 years. Clearly we love this town, especially the music. Tourists love the fact that they can hear music anytime of the day. This is what brings most of us to your wonderful city. Please keep up the music for the lunch crowd. We can't get enough. Thank You Bonnie Ryder

----- Forwarded message ------

From: Vicky Smith < vicssmith@yahoo.com >

Date: Fri, Apr 11, 2014 at 9:31 AM

Subject: Sound Ordinance

To: "csmith@keywestcity.com" <csmith@keywestcity.com>

I'm so opposed to the sound ordinance being considered. The live music through the day is one of the main reasons why we fell in love with Key West. Since going with friends in 2010, we've returned twice a year bringing family and friends who now love Key West for the same reason. Have you considered the tourist money to be lost or jobs of those musician's? On our visits to Key West talking to other tourist this is also why they like coming to Key West. Please make the right decision.

Sincerely, Vicky Smith "Ohio"

----- Forwarded message ------

From: Barry Olsavsky < barry@cst-entertainment-productions.com >

Date: Fri, Apr 11, 2014 at 8:57 PM

Subject: Noise Ordinance
To: <a href="mailto:csmith@keywestcity.com">csmith@keywestcity.com</a>

Dear Mayor and City Commissioners,

I am writing in opposition to the proposed noise ordinance.

I am a musician who lives in Jacksonville, Florida and have been traveling to Key West to perform for many years. I can certainly understand the complaints from residents who live there regarding noise and sound issues, but I feel they must understand that is a part of what makes Key West such a wonderful getaway for so many tourist year after year. Duval Street is one of the driving forces of Key West as much as Bourbon Street in New Orleans. The live music experience is part of the tropical environment of the Keys, and to diminish that would be harmful to your economy through a loss of business revenue, plus the potential jobs it will cost the local musicians and bar & restaurant workers.

I travel down every year for Meeting of the Minds in November and during that week there are thousands of Parrot Heads strolling up and down Duval Street stopping at places like Willie T's or Margaritaville Cafe to hear their favorite Trop Rock bands. If this noise ordinece passes, it will have a negative impact on MOTM or Fantasy Fest or any of the other wonderful events that occur there each year.

If music was basically removed from Bourdon Street, or Beall Street in Memphis, or on the strip in Vegas via a noise ordinance, those tourist locals would also suffer because it is such a huge part of the attraction.

I do believe a solution can be reached to settle the problem but I don't feel this is the correct one.

Barry Olsavsky Jacksonville, Fl ----- Forwarded message ------

From: **Kenny Smtih** < <u>customboxbilly@yahoo.com</u>>

Date: Sun, Apr 13, 2014 at 2:21 PM Subject: against the sound ordinance

To: "csmith@keywestcity.com" <csmith@keywestcity.com>

As i was reading this ordinance that you folks are wanting to pass i was amazed that this has gotten this far as to do a vote. One of the reasons Keywest is so amazing is because of the live music at about every establishment that has spirits. This is the experience that keeps bringing my wife and i back to this amazing island twice a year and spending around five thousand dollars in the weeks we are there the second week we come down to your amazing island with two other couples and they would spend what we are . Why do we come you ask. The main reason is the live music all day long. There are towns with many nicer beaches than what keywest has, but its the whole experience with keywest that makes it such a great destination.

Further more what about the employment impact it is going to have on your artist that perform during the day. It will make for job shortages if you take the 1st shift away from the performers. Please rethink this. Yoyr Friends from Roseville Ohio Kenny and Vicky Smith We are against the sound ordinance