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Commissioners of the City of Key West, Florida  
1300 White Street  
Key West, FL 33040

Dear Sirs and Madam:

I have recently read about the issue with the Key West Housing Authority. I felt a need to speak out on this issue.

First, I should advise that I have known each and every member of the present Housing Authority all of my life. I cannot think of a more conscientious group of people. I have worked with them on a professional and personal basis. Second, I am aware of the appointment of the new Housing Director, Mr. Randy Sterling. I also have known him his entire life.

I would strongly suggest that any issue regarding the Housing Authority be put on hold until an opportunity is given to the new director to correct any problems with the Authority and the housing. Obviously, I heartily endorse Mr. Sterling and his endeavors with the Authority. I grew up in Key West constantly and intimately involved with the housing projects controlled by the Authority. I can state unequivocally that those housing projects are in better shape than when I was growing up. Also, it is my belief that the Housing Authority during my adulthood has done an excellent job in attending to in need citizens. I am unaware of any exercise of self interest by the board members and, in fact, believe that each and every one of them to be incapable of acting in any manner other than serving the best interests of the citizens of Key West.

I would point out that the Housing Authority board has been and is one of the manifestly apolitical bodies in city government. I clearly hold to the idea *if it isn't broke don't fix it*. A knee jerk reaction to a problem which has not been verified to exist is always unwise. I advise keeping politics of any nature out of the Housing Authority venue. I do not and cannot believe, knowing as I do the personages involved, that any one of them would be unresponsive or inattentive to the needs of the Authority and its clients.

Finally, I would note the appointment of Peter Batty to his recent position. He should be given the opportunity to function before perhaps unnecessary actions be undertaken.

Sincerely,

***/s/ Nathan E. Eden***

NATHAN E. EDEN