

Rent Abatement

I have run charter out of Charter Boat Row for over 30 years. Currently I have two slips at the bight, the charter boat Windy Day and Compass Rose. I have never been late or fallen behind on rent. Even when the city closed our business I continued to fish for charity. I started a program called Fish for Families where I took my daughters out fishing with me to provide fresh fish for people who were having a tough time making ends meet. When the city informed us that we were not allowed to run charters when I had locals who would have chartered me to support the cause and my family. Other boats then began to fish for SOS to feed the needy. So all along I guess charter boats were a required service. The closure of our charter boats by your edict only made the financial burden worse. I have had to dig into my retirement account to stay current with all the bills associated with a charter boat. It is a small margin business and I believe many will struggle to come back with off season right around the corner. Charter fishing has been one of the backbones of tourism in the Florida Keys and it a shame that many will likely not survive. The closure of my business was mandated by the City while charter boats in the county continued to run. The city placed an undue burden on charter boats at the City Marina now they must Ante up and take responsibility for their decisions.

Captain Mike Weinhofer

305-395-3474