

Greg & Jason Barroso KWFD Division Chiefs

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9/5/2023

Mayor Terry Johnston & City Commissioners

City of Key West Commission

1300 White Street Key West, Fl. 33040

Dear Mayor Terry Johnston & City Commissioners,

We are writing you to strongly recommend the approval of the resolution to name the Key West Firehouse Museum after Alex Vega. Alex is the founder and current president of our Old Fire House Preservation Board and has been since 1998. Alex started his journey to preserve the Old Key West Fire Department (KWFD) Fire House Station No. 3, twenty-five years ago, and since then he has dedicated his life to preserving the KWFD's history here in Key West. Like Alex's father before him, KWFD Commander Frank Vega, they both shared the love of the KWFD and a desire to preserve this part of Key West history. Key West is truly blessed to have Alex and for his passion to preserve the Old Fire House Museum. We are so proud of Alex for accomplishing his goal of preserving the KWFD's 189-year-old history and now the story of those KWFD's Firefighter past will live on and will be on display at what we hope is the "Alex Vega's Old Fire House Museum".

Alex has been a mentor to us both since we joined the KWFD over 20 years ago and since then he has shared the history of the KWFD with us at almost every conversation we had. Just ask him, and he will tell you a KWFD story that will help you understand how important the KWFD has been in the history of Key West over those past 189 years. His passion to preserve the KWFD's history for future generations is second to none and it is a testament to his over 50 years public service to our community here in Key West.

Basically, what we are trying to remind you all is that Alex Vega is the GOAT! He is The Greatest of All Time" KWFD historian, and we can't think of a better person to continue to preserve this part of Key West history than Alex Vega. We truly believe that he is deserving of this great honor to have his name remembered for history for his accomplishment of restoring the Key West Firehouse Museum and preserving the history of the KWFD.

Sincerely,

Greg & Jason Barroso KWFD Division Chiefs

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Greg Barroso KWFD

