

# STAFF REPORT

DATE: December 26, 2018

RE: **611 Grinnell Street #2 (permit application # T2018-0138)**

FROM: Karen DeMaria, City of Key West Urban Forestry Manager

An application was received requesting the removal of **(1) Royal Poinciana tree**. A site inspection was done and documented the following:

Tree Species: Royal Poinciana (Delonix regia)







12/12/2018













12/12/2018





12/12/2018





12/12/2018









12/12/2018

















12/12/2018





12/12/2018









12/12/2018

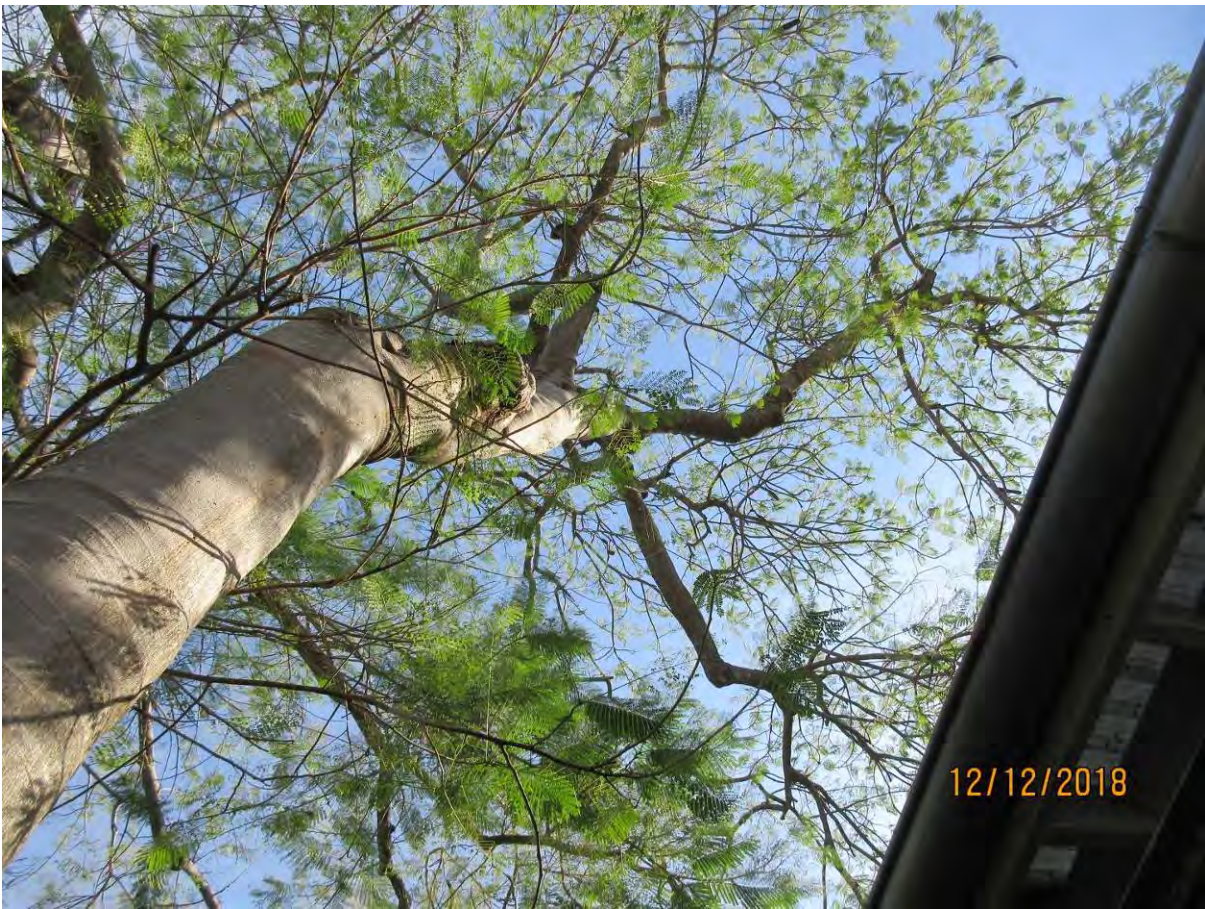




















Diameter: 40.7" (one base with three main trunks)

Location: 40% (growing in between two structures, possible root issues with structures-utilities, foundation)

Species: 100% (on protected tree list)

Condition: 50% (fair, large tree with heavy canopy, decay in old cuts along main branches, some evidence of termite mud in crotch with main trunks, canopy has some storm damage and dead branches)

Total Average Value = 63%

**Value x Diameter = 25.6 replacement caliper inches**

**Additional information (documentation) requested from homeowners of two structures regarding utility issues, termites, and health of canopy.**



# **Additional Information**



December 15, 2018

To the City of Key West Tree Commission

We have a house at 615 Grinnell Street. We have owned our house since August 31, 1998. There is a large Poinciana tree on the adjacent property at 611 Grinnell. In 2011 we found that we had subterranean termites and had to treat the ground around our house. We tented our house for drywood termites in 2010. In 2016 we discovered the termites had returned and we had to tent again. The Poinciana tree appears to be the source for the termites. Termites are a problem for a wood house such as we have. When the termites swarm in our living room, we are unhappy.

We concur with the opinion of our neighbors that this tree has reached the end of its useful, healthy life and it is time for it to be removed.

Lisa and Mark Laskow  
615 Grinnell St.  
Key West FL 33040  
Email: mark.laskow@outlook.com



## Karen DeMaria

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**From:** Jan-Marten Blinckmann <jmblinckmann@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 17, 2018 4:47 PM  
**To:** Karen DeMaria  
**Cc:** Lisa Laskow; tortugatom@bellsouth.net  
**Subject:** Tree Removal 611 Grinnell St #2  
**Attachments:** Laskow Poinciana tree.docx

Dear Karen DeMaria,

Based on our meeting last Wednesday and in addition to Tom Stroh's arguments for the tree removal,  
here our reasons:

My wife and I have lived at 611 Grinnell St #1 since 2002. Shortly after buying the house it had substantial work done: replacing floor framing, sub floor and installing new hardwood floor. In 2016 we discovered major damage in the hardwood floor, Subterranean termites were eating through our house floors. The colony originated from the Royal Poinciana tree behind our house (611 Grinnell St #2, Tom Stroh). It became necessary to treat the whole house as well as the tree (copies have been provided). We also had to trim the tree of mostly decayed branches. Within the last 6 months, we experienced branches breaking off the trunk, and all of them have been infested with living, active subterranean termites. We have two small children, 8 and 10 years old, and I am very concerned about the risk of a branch falling, or the tree entirely, on our children or our home. The rotted tree puts our family's home at further risk during high winds that may topple the tree in any direction during a tropical storm or hurricane. Let alone the fact that termites will continue to eat our home. Today I met with Truly Nolan, Termite Pest Control. They inspected the tree and confirmed living subterranean termites, again. His name is Cody McCain, email: [cody.mccain@trulymail.net](mailto:cody.mccain@trulymail.net), phone: 305 394 0314, and he is happy to clarify his result. Here his email he send to me:

Today at 10:20 A.M. I observed live subterranean termites in the the poinciana tree at the back right corner of the home located at 611 Grinnell St. unit 1 the tree is located on unit 2's property. If you have any questions please let me know. Thank you and have a great day today.

Sent from my iPad



In addition to Cody McCain's statement, I have attached a letter from Lisa and Mark Laskow, owners of 615 Grinnell Street, who are also concerned with the damage to their property this tree will cause.

Regarding the hearing on January 8, Mark Laskow, their tenant Guadalupe Fuente, Tom Stroh and I will attend the meeting.

Here some photos I took:

































Let me know if you have any question.

Best wishes

Jan-Marten Blinckmann  
611 Grinnell St #1  
Cell: 305 304 6277



# Application



RECEIVED  
NOV 29 2018  
BY: MCM



CANOPY REMOVAL

2018-0138

12-5-18  
need access

12-12-18  
9am  
meet (call) at gate

Date: 11/23/18

### Tree Permit Application

Please Clearly Print All Information unless indicated otherwise.

**Tree Address** 611 Grinnell #2  
**Cross/Corner Street** Southard St  
**List Tree Name(s) and Quantity** Royal Poinciana  
**Species Type(s) check all that apply** ( ) Palm ( ) Flowering ( ) Fruit (X) Shade ( ) Unsure  
**Reason(s) for Application:**

- (X) REMOVE (X) Tree Health (X) Safety ( ) Other/Explain below
- ( ) TRANSPLANT ( ) New Location ( ) Same Property ( ) Other/Explain below
- ( ) HEAVY MAINTENANCE ( ) Branch Removal ( ) Crown Cleaning/Thinning ( ) Crown Reduction

**Additional Information and Explanation** SADLY, THIS TREE IS INFESTED WITH TERMITES (SEE ATTACHMENT FROM TRULY NOLEN) EVEN AFTER TREATMENT AND HEAVY BRANCHES ENDANGERS 3 HOUSES (ALL IN REMOVE SUPPORT) AND ROOTS COMPROMISING FOUNDATIONS OF 2 HOUSES.

**Property Owner Name** TOM STROH  
**Property Owner eMail Address** TORTUGATOM@BELLSOUTH.NET  
**Property Owner Mailing Address** 611 GRINNELL ST. #2  
**Property Owner Mailing City** KEY WEST **State** FL **Zip** 33040  
**Property Owner Phone Number** (305) 304-2633  
**Property Owner Signature** [Signature]

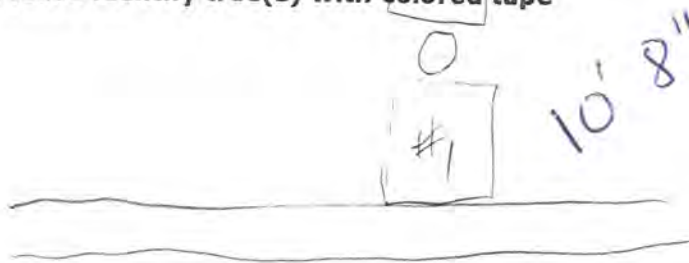
**Representative Name** Treeman, LLC - Sean Creedon  
**Representative eMail Address** Keystreeman@gmail.com  
**Representative Mailing Address** P.O. Box 430209  
**Representative Mailing City** Big Pine Key **State** FL **Zip** 33043  
**Representative Phone Number** (305) 908-8448

NOTE: A Tree Representation Authorization form must accompany this application if someone other than the owner will be representing the owner at a Tree Commission meeting or picking up an issued Tree Permit.

Tree Representation Authorization form attached ( )

<<<< Sketch location of tree in this area including cross/corner Street >>>>

Please identify tree(s) with colored tape



If this process requires blocking of a City right-of-way, a separate ROW Permit is required. Please contact 305-809-3740.





### Tree Representation Authorization

Date: 11/23/18

Attendance at the Tree Commission meeting on the date when your request will be discussed is necessary in order to expedite the resolution of your application. This Tree Representation Authorization form must accompany the application if the property owner is unable to attend or will have someone else pick up the Tree Permit once issued.

Please Clearly Print All Information unless indicated otherwise.

Tree Address 611 GRINNELL #2

Property Owner Name TOM STROH

Property Owner eMail Address TORTUGATOM@BELLSOUTH.NET

Property Owner Mailing Address 611 GRINNELL ST. #2

Property Owner Mailing City KEY WEST State FL Zip 33040

Property Owner Phone Number (305) 304-2633

Property Owner Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Representative Name Treeman, LLC - Sean Creedon

Representative eMail Address keystreeman@gmail.com

Representative Mailing Address P.O. Box 430204

Representative Mailing City Big Pine Key State FL Zip 33043

Representative Phone Number (305) 900-8448

I TOM STROH, hereby authorize the above listed agent(s) to represent me in the matter of obtaining a Tree Permit from the City of Key West for my property at the tree address above listed. You may contact me at the telephone listed above is there is any questions or need access to my property.

Property Owner Signature [Signature]

The forgoing instrument was acknowledged before me on this 20<sup>th</sup> day November.

By (Print name of Affiant) Tom Stroh who is personally known to me or has produced FL Drivers License as identification and who did take an oath.

#### NOTARY PUBLIC

Sign Name: [Signature] Notary Public - State of Florida (seal)

Print Name: Megan Miller

My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_





7766588

7766588

# Termite Service Ticket



Customer Name Hayes Blackmann  
 Property Address 611 Grinnell St #1  
 City Key West State FL Zip 33040  
 Phone 305-294-1977 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date 9/15/16 Time in \_\_\_\_\_ Time out \_\_\_\_\_

Type - New  Retreat \_\_\_\_\_ Linear Feet 189  
 Type- Barrier  Tru-Guard \_\_\_\_\_ TTP \_\_\_\_\_ Slab type \_\_\_\_\_  
 Injection Size 1/4" or 1/2" Exception Areas \_\_\_\_\_  
 Back Patio \_\_\_\_\_ No Drill Areas \_\_\_\_\_

**GREEN ZONE**

Tree stumps/Dead tree Roots  Mulch Beds \_\_\_\_\_ Wood Piles  Outer Wooden Structures \_\_\_\_\_ Carports (Tornado ) \_\_\_\_\_

**YELLOW ZONE**

Trench foundation areas  Abutting Slabs (down drill) \_\_\_\_\_ Foundation walls (horizontal drill) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Abutting Fences (Trench/treat)  Built up Planter Boxes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Eaves/soffits (Tornado  /HP Mister) \_\_\_\_\_ Exterior Trim \_\_\_\_\_ Exterior wood siding (Tornado  /HP Mister) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Exterior Wall Voids (horizontal drilling) \_\_\_\_\_ Patio overhangs (Tornado ) \_\_\_\_\_ Storage areas \_\_\_\_\_

**RED ZONE**

Active infestations (Tornado  or HP Mister)  Interior walls (HP Mister) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Attic (HP Mister) \_\_\_\_\_ Plumbing/shower pans \_\_\_\_\_ Bath Traps  # 1  
 Exposed stress cracks (drill)  Wood Beams (Tornado )  Window Frames (Tornado ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Doors Frames (Tornado ) \_\_\_\_\_ Built-in Cabinetry (Tornado ) \_\_\_\_\_ Garage \_\_\_\_\_

Comments Initial Order - Barrier w/ Formosan call 305-294-6377  
Unit # 1 only / Tree  
TEA TREE

Premise 75 _____	%	Quantity Used _____	Gal
Timbor/Premise2 Mix _____	%	Quantity Used <u>15</u>	Gal
Premise2 _____	%	Quantity Used _____	Gal
_____	%	Quantity Used _____	Gal

Tech Signature [Signature] Applicator License # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Branch Address 1104 Sycamore St, Homestead FL 33037 Branch Phone # 305-294-6377  
 Customer Signature [Signature]

Follow-up Needed: Yes No Date \_\_\_\_\_

Warning -Pesticides can be harmful. Keep children and pets away from pesticide applications until dry, dissipated or aerated. Truly Nolen of America (Az. License #C4020A)