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From: Rene Polda <renep_da@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 11:05 AM
To: Christine Minney; Cindy Wolf; Jamie Stephens; San Juan County Council
Subject: vacation rentals regulations

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Hi Politicians,

You are in a position to alter the fate of many poor and working class in the San Juans. I have lived here all my life. I am almost 60yrs old. I have seen many old islanders sell their homes and move off because they can no longer afford to live here. The new millionaires that buy up all their homes can afford more expenses than us who have to work for a living. When my Mom sold her home to go live in a full time certified nursing care home, she ran out of money in less than 2 years. We had to help pay for her care. We also had kids in college at the time. We worked more that 8 hours per day, 7 days per week, but still could not pay all our expenses. We ended up camping out in a tent in a friends yard while we rented our home out to strangers on weekends. After 3 years, we were able to catch up on our debts for our mom and kid's colleges. I also had very expensive dental work that had to be done. The inconvenience of living in a tent and having strangers use our home greatly helped relieve debts and pay for our responsibilities. The VRBO site which we advertised on posted that our rental was a quite neighborhood rental, not for parties. We only had quiet families stay there and they expressed much appreciation for letting them rent it. Now you want to regulate this option out of our lives completely! We wish you would leave the working class alone! Let us keep more of what our life's energy earns. And we tried long term renting. The long term renters created over \$10,000 worth of damage to our home which their damage deposit did not even begin to cover. We watched as they destroyed our home, yet eviction takes up to 6 months unless it's during Covid. Then you can never get rid of a renter who is slowly destroying your home. With vacation renters, the VRBO and AIR B&B websites ask for ratings on the renters and landlords. This allows for an accountability that long term renting does NOT have. It is just very sad that you are eliminating, regulating and taxing the heck out of every option we have to try to earn our way to live here. VERY SAD indeed! Please consider that the millionaires don't need to rent out their homes and live in a tent a few weekends per Summer. It is us working poor that are affected by your powerful actions! Your vacation rental regulations directly effect the working poor, not the rich!

Thanks for your time and consideration of the other side of this issue.

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