

## Adam Zack

---

**From:** Lynda Guernsey  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 18, 2021 3:07 PM  
**To:** Vacation Rental Comments  
**Subject:** FW: Vacation Rentals  
**Attachments:** Final Draft SJ Planning.docx

Lynda Guernsey, Administrative Specialist II – Direct Line (360) 370-7579  
**SAN JUAN COUNTY**  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
(360) 378-2354 | 135 Rhone Street | PO Box 947 | Friday Harbor, WA 98250

---

**From:** leslie brennan <paperchase.sanjuan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 18, 2021 1:23 PM  
**To:** Lynda Guernsey <LyndaG@sanjuanco.com>  
**Subject:** Vacation Rentals

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Oops. Here's the attachment.

August 18, 2021

San Juan County Planning Department

Ref. Vacation Rentals

Dear Council Members,

My husband, Scott and I have been islanders since 1986. We raised our child here from preschool until he graduated Friday Harbor High School. We bought our home in 1991 by saving, budgeting and working two full time jobs.

Our main commercial business is tourism and we have thousands of people visiting the islands. Those people stay in hotels, B&B's and Vacation Rentals. Without a place to stay, there wouldn't be the revenue we appreciate these days.

In 2017 Scott and I started hearing talk about a possible Vacation Rental moratorium. As the County had placed a moratorium on Accessory Dwelling Units (which would make great affordable rentals' right now) years before, I knew it was only a matter of time. We had considered using our home as a vacation rental as part of our retirement plan, so we decided to apply for our Vacation Rental Permit.

We didn't have any immediate plans of renting our home out as a vacation rental, but as I have always tried to plan ahead, I realized that we should get one while we could and having a Vacation Rental Permit could add value to our home should we ever decide to sell.

We have never had any intention of renting our home on a month to month basis and if we did, after 30 years of hard work, remodels and upgrades, it would not be considered an "affordable rental" as it has been a discussed.

We are locals. We are homeowners. We have a valid and paid for Vacation Rental Permit. And, whether we are "Active" or "Inactive" permit holders, we jumped through all the County hoops and paid all the money to be able rent our home out. When we decide to rent shouldn't matter.

Do not take away our privilege of owning and deciding what to do with our own property and contributing to our community. We love island life and have been good to our neighbors. Our local government should be rewarding us for it, not attempting to punish us.

Respectfully,

Scott and Leslie Brennan

