



Alachua County Board of County Commissioners

Robert Hutchinson, *Chair*
Mike Byerly, *Vice Chair*
Charles S. Chestnut, IV
Ken Cornell
Marihelen Wheeler

Administration
Michele L. Lieberman
County Manager

May 20, 2020

Secretary Halsey Beshears
Department of Business and Professional Regulations
2601 Blair Stone Road
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1027

Dear Secretary Beshears:

On behalf of the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners, I'm writing to respectfully request that pursuant to Executive Order 20-123, Alachua County's vacation rentals be permitted to reopen with recommended safety measures and best practices in place.

Alachua County's tourism industry welcomed over 2.1 million overnight visitors in 2019, and as a significant economic driver to restaurants, attractions, and venues, we are committed to assisting our community and businesses as we work to recover from the economic crisis created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Alachua County plan was developed with the recommended safety measures provided by the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, the Centers for Disease Control and the Vacation Rental Management Association. It is our aim to ensure that Alachua County participates in the continuity of guidelines across the state to provide safe and clean rental properties for our visitors, and to assist our local business community in their COVID-19 recovery plans.

We are appreciative of the careful thought and consideration you have placed in your decisions regarding the reopening of vacation rentals in Florida. Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Michele L. Lieberman, County Manager

cc: Board of County Commissioners
Sylvia Torres, County Attorney