



Fwd: Code Enforcement Vioation - Health Complaint - 1319 Castile Ave.



**Perez, Tomas**

To You

1:55 PM



Tomas Perez  
Mechanical Inspector  
City of Coral Gables

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**From:** Cabrera, Suramy <[scabrera@coralgables.com](mailto:scabrera@coralgables.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 11:35:24 AM

**To:** Arthur Humphrey <[afh143@aol.com](mailto:afh143@aol.com)>; Posada, Jhonathan <[jposada@coralgables.com](mailto:jposada@coralgables.com)>;  
Perez, Jan Pierre <[jperez2@coralgables.com](mailto:jperez2@coralgables.com)>; Perez, Tomas <[tperez@coralgables.com](mailto:tperez@coralgables.com)>

**Cc:** Loar, Antoine <[aloar@coralgables.com](mailto:aloar@coralgables.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Code Enforcement Vioation - Health Complaint - [1319 Castile Ave.](#)

Tomas, please pass by the property and investigate was is going on. Contact Mr. Humphrey to gain access to his backyard and then report back to JP and me.

Thank you,  
Suramy

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**From:** Arthur Humphrey <[afh143@aol.com](mailto:afh143@aol.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 11:32 AM

**To:** Posada, Jhonathan <[jposada@coralgables.com](mailto:jposada@coralgables.com)>

**Cc:** Cabrera, Suramy <[scabrera@coralgables.com](mailto:scabrera@coralgables.com)>; Loar, Antoine <[aloar@coralgables.com](mailto:aloar@coralgables.com)>

**Subject:** Code Enforcement Vioation - Health Complaint - [1319 Castile Ave.](#)

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Jonathan,

I am highly disappointed that I haven't heard back from you since my visit to your office on Feb. 6. It has been more than 10 days since I met with you in person, and I have been anxiously awaiting a visit from a Code Enforcement Officer to investigate my complaint - which I understood you to say could occur that very week.



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**02-16-2023 01:57 PM**



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## Inbox



Jonathan,

I am highly disappointed that I haven't heard back from you since my visit to your office on Feb. 6. It has been more than 10 days since I met with you in person, and I have been anxiously awaiting a visit from a Code Enforcement Officer to investigate my complaint - which I understood you to say could occur that very week.

I made this visit as after having made three phone calls to Code Enforcement's telephone number [305-441-5777](tel:305-441-5777) beginning last November 2022, not being able to speak with anyone and leaving only messages (the last asking that CE kindly have the "courtesy" to call me back). Not a one of these calls was ever returned - and when I visited you, you told me you are the one who answers the phone there. Is Code Enforcement so very overwhelmed it can't respond to complaints lodged by citizens of Coral Gables. Or is it that CE simply doesn't care?

The request made during that visit was that you kindly investigate my complaint about a **serious health risk to me and my family** being caused by an industrial-sized barbecue grill with a 4 fan extractor positioned facing my property and installed inside an *illegally-constructed 18ft. x 10ft. pergola* (without a permit) the neighbors who live on the property behind me at [1319 Castile St.](#)

This grill spews heavy clouds of wood smoke directly onto my property and is now setting off the smoke detectors in my house every time they burn wood in it (I now have video evidence that documents this offense). Smoke now permeates my house when windows are open or the A/C on, my furniture now reeks of smoke. It also crosses over my house onto Asturia Ave. and well beyond every time they burn (down to the corner of Asturia and North Greenway Drive in fact). These neighbors (Amanada Pizarro and Andres Rodriguez) are very young (under 30) and ostentatiously wealthy. When I complained to them directly the first time it occurred [on Wed. Nov. 16](#) they refused to turn it off and asked me to get off their property.

At that point I reported the smoke violation to Coral Gables Police, who witnessed the smoke on Asturia Ave. itself (on the north side of my house), They came, asked the neighbors to put the fire out, and gave me Case Event [#20221346388](#). Asking me to further my complaint with Code Enforcement, the process of which I began on Nov. 17, 2022.

These neighbors have little regard for the neighborly nuisance they are perpetrating by burning wood to cook nearly 3x every week, but more importantly, they care little about how they are damaging the neighbor's health (not to mention theirs from such frequent inhalation of carcinogens). Unlike gas grills, wood takes hours to burn out.

According to the Code Enforcement and Neighbor Dispute Policy published on the Coral Gables website, a Neighbor Dispute is defined as 3 or more **code enforcement complaints** between the same set of neighbors .....and that concern life-safety violations: including:



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I certainly think my multiple unanswered complaints qualifies for consideration based on the above statute.

I have another complaint about major tree removal conducted by these same neighbors (**they removed all the trees on their property** last September )- well after their "landscaping permit" issued on Nov. 17, 2021 expired on may 15, 2022 (without any inspections of "finalization" according to city records I found online). Amanda Pizarro told me she had all the necessary permits to remove these trees but she also claimed that "avocados and mango trees" can be removed without any permits at all.

I highly doubt this, and have lived here for 33 years. What was once a pristine environment in my backyard without views of any neighboring houses has now been destroyed, and Coral Gables's canopy is slowly being eliminated without any supervision by the City. I can document both the absence of the barbecue pergola and the existence of multiple ancient trees on her property with photographic evidence should an officer wish to inspect these.

**BUT MY MAIN CONCERN now (I can do little about the missing trees, Coral Gables's and the wildlife's loss) is that these neighbors "cease and desist: with venting this wood-burning grill directly onto my property with immediate effect. Remove the vent that is less than 5 feet from my property, and if allowed to keep it, vent their BBQ grill in another direction altogether.** Lastly, I would appreciate it if Coral Gables would issue me with a CASE NUMBER and if possible cite them for illegal construction of their pergola and ask them to remove it. None has been issued to me yet. All these violations greatly lower the value of my property.

In closing, I would like to point out that my roommate who lives in my guest house - just 26 feet from their smoke extractor - is suffering from lung cancer. He has just completed six months of chemotherapy and is in stable condition now. But neither he nor I can tolerate this repeated subjugation to smoke inhalation any longer. While I await assistance from Code Enforcement, I have had to resort to positioning 3 outdoor fans to try to eliminate smoke coming onto my property, but so far to little effect.

I need your help and need it now. You are welcome to visit my property to inspect this any day, however I will be out of town and not returning [until March 3](#). To visit, simply give a call to my roommate Juan Gonzalez (el habla espanol solamente) at [786-231-8548](tel:786-231-8548) to coordinate with him and have you view the offending installation.

Sincerely,

Arthur Humphrey

[1318 Asturia Ave.](#)

[Coral Gables, FL 33134-4738](#)

p.s. - I tried phoning Code Enforcement [305-441-5777](tel:305-441-5777) again today but hung up after waiting more than 10 minutes on hold waiting for a person to answer the phone. I also tried your direct phone number [305-460-5226](tel:305-460-5226) but again gave up after 15 minutes on hold. I got the same "hold" message on both numbers.



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