

## Bermudez, Ernesto

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**From:** Zac Soto <zacsoto@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 14, 2019 10:40 PM  
**To:** Bermudez, Ernesto  
**Cc:** Gregory Neville; Gregory Neville; Samantha Soto  
**Subject:** Re: Column Permit Assistance (CASE # CE286634-053119)

Thank you all for your help with this!

Best regards,

Zac Soto

On Mon, Oct 14, 2019 at 8:06 PM Bermudez, Ernesto <[ebermudez1@coralgables.com](mailto:ebermudez1@coralgables.com)> wrote:

Mr. Soto,

Your case has been continued to the next meeting. I will let the clerk know to move you over to next month, pending you acquire the permit before next month's hearing. Have a good evening.

Ernesto Bermudez  
Code Enforcement Officer  
Code Enforcement Division  
Development Services

On Oct 14, 2019, at 4:52 PM, Spain, Dona <[dspain@coralgables.com](mailto:dspain@coralgables.com)> wrote:

Sorry for the delay in answering this. Yes, I'm OK with continuing it to next month.

Dona M. Spain

Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director

City of Coral Gables, Florida 33134

(305) 460-5095

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**From:** Bermudez, Ernesto <[ebermudez1@coralgables.com](mailto:ebermudez1@coralgables.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 14, 2019 12:17 PM  
**To:** Zac Soto <[zacsoto@gmail.com](mailto:zacsoto@gmail.com)>

**Cc:** Mindreau, Carlos A. <[cmindreau@coralgables.com](mailto:cmindreau@coralgables.com)>; Spain, Dona <[dspain@coralgables.com](mailto:dspain@coralgables.com)>; Gregory Neville <[gnevillefl@yahoo.com](mailto:gnevillefl@yahoo.com)>; Gregory Neville <[nvlarchitecture@gmail.com](mailto:nvlarchitecture@gmail.com)>; Samantha Soto <[samantha.w.soto@gmail.com](mailto:samantha.w.soto@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: Column Permit Assistance (CASE # CE286634-053119)

Mr. Soto,

Thank you for your diligence in the matter. I would need an "ok" from the historical department for a continuance. Dona are you ok with continuing this case to next month hearing?

Ernesto Bermudez

Code Enforcement Officer

Code Enforcement Division

Development Services

On Oct 14, 2019, at 11:47 AM, Zac Soto <[zacsoto@gmail.com](mailto:zacsoto@gmail.com)> wrote:

Dona, Carlos and Ernesto,

Thanks for taking the time to speak to me over this past week. As we discussed, I am currently working with our architect, Greg Neville, who has indicated he will be submitting plans regarding the bringing of the columns at issue into compliance within the next 24 hours. He has been liaising with Carlos Mindreau to this end.

In light of this submission of plans, and the clear intent to continue making substantive progress (in addition to the substantive commitments of time and money already made) to correcting this compliance issue, **Ernesto, per our conversation, would it be possible to preemptively delay our planned hearing on this matter (currently scheduled for October 16th) to a later date, at which time we will be able to show clear construction progress regarding this issue and will have plans submitted and finally approved?** As discussed, we have taken steps per the instructions and advice of each of the Code Enforcement, Architecture and Historical Resources departments, and in the interest of time and efficiency believe that this delay will allow us to show continued progress at an appropriate time.

Thank you, and best regards,

Zac Soto

305-582-3326

[zacsoto@gmail.com](mailto:zacsoto@gmail.com)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Gregory Neville** <[nvlarchitecture@gmail.com](mailto:nvlarchitecture@gmail.com)>

Date: Thu, Oct 3, 2019 at 3:59 PM

Subject: Re: Column Permit Assistance (CASE # CE286634-053119)

To: Zac Soto <[zacsoto@gmail.com](mailto:zacsoto@gmail.com)>

Cc: Gregory Neville <[gnevillefl@yahoo.com](mailto:gnevillefl@yahoo.com)>, Samantha Soto  
<[samantha.w.soto@gmail.com](mailto:samantha.w.soto@gmail.com)>

Yes. I'll finish up the drawings early next week and get them submitted. In the meantime you should contact code enforcement and let them know that you have hired an architect and permit drawings will be submitted next week and you will forward the permit number as soon as it becomes available. I will come by your house and measure the columns so that they can be accurately drawn over the weekend or Monday, depending on my mobility.

Gregory Neville

On Oct 3, 2019, at 3:44 PM, Zac Soto <[zacsoto@gmail.com](mailto:zacsoto@gmail.com)> wrote:

Greg,

Please see below. In light of this, and your issues regarding your knee surgery, are you able to assist with this permit application process?

Please advise.

Thank you,

Zac Soto

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Mindreau, Carlos A.** <[cmindreau@coralgables.com](mailto:cmindreau@coralgables.com)>

Date: Thu, Oct 3, 2019 at 3:42 PM

Subject: RE: Column Permit Assistance (CASE # CE286634-053119)

To: Zac Soto <[zacsoto@gmail.com](mailto:zacsoto@gmail.com)>, Samantha Soto

<[samantha.w.soto@gmail.com](mailto:samantha.w.soto@gmail.com)>, Gregory Neville

<[nvlarchitecture@gmail.com](mailto:nvlarchitecture@gmail.com)>, Gregory Neville

<[gnevillefl@yahoo.com](mailto:gnevillefl@yahoo.com)>

*Mr. Soto,*

*I recall something regarding your "column" project; however, I'm sure I indicated at the time that you needed to make an application for permit with the appropriate drawings explaining your proposed construction (Plans, Site Plan, Elevation of the front of the house to show the columns, Details of construction, survey, etc.). Once you make the application for permit, you can show that application receipt to the officer that issued the summons and they will issue an extension of time to allow time to get the permit. Without an actual application for permit, there's little that I can do.*

*Thank you,*

*Carlos A. Mindreau - City Architect*

*427 Biltmore Way*

*Coral Gables, Florida 33134*

*Cellular – 786.255.9610*

*E-mail – [cmindreau@coralgables.com](mailto:cmindreau@coralgables.com)*

**From:** Zac Soto <[zacsoto@gmail.com](mailto:zacsoto@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 03, 2019 1:31 PM  
**To:** Mindreau, Carlos A. <[cmindreau@coralgables.com](mailto:cmindreau@coralgables.com)>; Samantha Soto <[samantha.w.soto@gmail.com](mailto:samantha.w.soto@gmail.com)>; Gregory Neville <[nvlarchitecture@gmail.com](mailto:nvlarchitecture@gmail.com)>; Gregory Neville <[gnevillefl@yahoo.com](mailto:gnevillefl@yahoo.com)>  
**Subject:** Column Permit Assistance (CASE # CE286634-053119)

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Carlos,

Good afternoon. My name is Zac Soto, and I was put in touch with you by **Greg Neville**, an architect who is working with my wife Samantha (CCed here) and I. **We live at 445 Alhambra Circle, Coral Gables, FL 33134.** We have hired Greg to construct a fence for our home and bring columns that were constructed on our front porch into compliance with the Coral Gables Code Enforcement division. These wood columns have previously been determined to be out of code compliance with the city of Coral Gables, and therefore were required to be taken down and replaced with construction conforming to applicable city codes. All of this is referenced in **Case # CE286634-053119.** Recently, despite having hired Greg to do the above-mentioned work to bring these columns into compliance, we received a summons from the City of Coral Gables Code Enforcement Division to appear regarding these columns.

Greg indicated to me via email that he had been in touch with you regarding this matter, that he had shown you drawings and photographs of these columns, and that these columns were acceptable to you as constructed. **I am reaching out because Greg has**

**also indicated that you may be able to contact code enforcement to advise them that (i) the Board of Architects supports the columns as currently constructed, (ii) that we have retained an architect to permit the work subjected to the violation, and (iii) that work has been submitted for a permit. My wife and I are working in good faith to complete the project to bring these columns into compliance, and we have committed funds and contracted with Greg to fix this problem, but will not be able to do so before October 16<sup>th</sup>. Would you be able to assist us with Code Enforcement by mentioning your interactions with Greg Neville on this matter? Additionally, can you please advise how we can request additional times to submit the plans and permit application for this work?**

Obviously, we greatly appreciate your time and assistance in this matter.

**I am available at this email address or on my phone at 305-582-3326. I will also call your offices regarding this matter.**

Thank you,

Zac Soto