

Administration

1769 E. Moody Blvd Bldg 2
Bunnell, FL 32110



www.FlaglerCounty.gov

Phone: (386) 313-4001

September 2, 2025

Mr. Peter Johnson
24 Clinton Court North
Palm Coast, FL 32137
petermicjohnson@gmail.com

Dear Mr. Peter Johnson,

As the designated hearing officer for Flagler County Administration, I have reviewed your appeal of the Notice of Trespass dated July 16, 2025, your comments provided during our meeting of August 22, 2025, supporting evidence you provided, and other statements and documentation related to the incident which occurred on June 20, 2025. My role is to render a fair and impartial decision based on the available evidence, including statements from all parties involved.

Summary of Evidence Reviewed

- *Statements from County Staff and Witnesses:*
 - Debra Morgan, Destination Development & Community Engagement Manager, Tourist Development Department: Ms. Morgan stated that she was at Flagler County Tourism Development Office conference room on June 20, 2025 for a preparatory discussion and described your unexpected entry into the conference room. She reported that you spoke in a "fast-paced loud voice," which escalated to shouting. When she suggested that you lower your tone, she described you as slamming your hand on the table and shouted "No Debra". This conduct triggered a panic attack for her due to past personal trauma, which caused her to leave the room in distress.
 - Courtnee Brokaw, Tourism Marketing Manager, Tourist Development Department: Ms. Brokaw reported hearing angry shouting from the conference room, subsequently observing Ms. Morgan in tears and exhibiting signs of a panic attack. Ms. Brokaw had to console Ms. Morgan. She noted your continued presence in the parking lot, where you appeared agitated and gestured aggressively while speaking to other members of the Flagler County Cultural Council ("FC3"). Ms. Brokaw locked the door of the Flagler County Tourism Development Office for safety. Ms. Brokaw then observed you subsequently attempt to re-enter the building. Ms. Brokaw denied you entry

Andy Dance
District 1

Greg Hansen
District 2

Kim Carney
District 3

Leann Pennington
District 4

Pam Richardson
District 5

due to feeling frightened. Staff contacted administration and law enforcement, resulting in the office having to be cleared and staff sent to other locations to work remotely.

- Jay Scherr, Board Member, Flagler County Cultural Council: Mr. Scherr was present in the conference room during this time and provided a statement corroborating the accounts of Ms. Morgan and Ms. Brokaw. He described your entry into the closed-door discussion, your rapid escalation in volume and tone during the conversation, your use of profanity as described by Ms. Morgan. Mr. Scherr noted his attempt at deescalating the situation, but confirmed that your behavior contributed to the disruptive atmosphere and Ms. Morgan's distress.
 - The statement from Ms. Angelene Davis, Marketing Media Manager, further supports the sequence of events, emphasizing the aggressive gesturing and persistent attempts to re-engage after the initial confrontation, which heightened safety concerns among those present.
- Statement from Peter Johnson: You described arriving early for the meeting and entering a closed-door discussion among Nancy Crouch, Jay Scherr, and Debra Morgan, which you believed violated transparency principles (e.g., Sunshine Law concerns). You admit to expressing frustration about board dysfunction, lack of communication, and other organizational issues, including using the word "bullshit," and emphasizing the need for a grant writer. You stated that your comments were directed at the Board as a whole, not personally at Ms. Morgan, and that you responded to her suggestion about your "tone" by defending your position emphatically. You acknowledged Ms. Morgan's emotional reaction but attributed it to her personal history rather than your actions. You left the room to de-escalate, waited in the parking lot for the scheduled meeting, and later attempted to re-enter but were denied. You also detailed subsequent communications regarding the trespass, your disagreement with its basis, and your resignation from the FC3 Board.

Analysis and Findings:

The key issue for review and analysis is whether your conduct on June 20, 2025, warranted the issuance of a one-year trespass notice from the Flagler County Tourist Development Office. The evidence indicates a consistent consensus among staff and witnesses that your behavior, including loud voice, profanity, hand slamming, aggressive gesturing, and persistent presence created a disruptive and intimidating environment. This led to significant distress for Ms. Morgan, safety concerns for other staff (prompting locked doors and law enforcement involvement), and the cancellation of the scheduled meeting.

While you provide context for your actions, emphasizing organizational critiques and denying any intent to personally attack or threaten anyone, you do not dispute the core behaviors described (e.g., raised voice, profanity, emphatic responses). The statements from multiple witnesses reinforce the impact on those present, describing the events in a manner aligned with the other witnesses and underscoring the perceived threat to a safe working environment. County facilities must maintain a secure environment for employees and

visitors. Aggressive or disruptive conduct, even if unintentional in its effects, can justify restrictions on access.

The Trespass Notice was issued based on observed conduct. Your appeal highlights that you were not initially asked for a statement, but you have now had the opportunity to provide one, which I have fully considered.

Given your resignation from the FC3 Board, effective immediately as stated in your appeal, the practical need for you to access the office may be diminished. However, the Trespass Notice is specific to ensuring no further disruptions at this location, and the expanded evidence supports its original issuance.

Decision:

After careful consideration of all evidence and given that the practical need for you to access the office may be diminished, I reduce the Trespass to three (3) months, expiring automatically on October 16, 2025, unless otherwise modified. This decision is final and is based on the need to protect staff and maintain order in county facilities.

If circumstances change or new evidence emerges, you may contact County Administration for further review. Please direct any questions to Jorge Salinas, Deputy County Administrator.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jorge Salinas', written over a horizontal line.

Jorge Salinas
Deputy County Administrator
Hearing Officer
Flagler County Administration



CERTIFIED MAIL®

Flagler County Board of County
1769 E. Moody Boulevard, Building 2
Bunnell, FL 32110



9489 0178 9820 3027 0837 85

Label 890-QDT, March 2023

Mr. Peter Johnson
24 Clinton Court North
Palm Coast, FL 32137



quadjent
FIRST-CLASS MAIL
IM1
\$008.86⁰
09/03/2025 ZIP 32110
043M31242044
US POSTAGE