From: ccschmitt@cox.net
To: MVN Environmental;
Subject: Coconut Beach - Volley Ball Complex
Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2009 11:35:39 AM

Mr. Gib Owen,

I am a 42 year woman, who has been living in New Orleans for the past 25 years. I came from Guatemala City, Central America, grew up playing volley ball, since I was 7 years old. When I found Coconut beach in 1991, I didn't know anybody there, but I love the game, got with a team and since have been playing at Coconut Beach. I have met many people from all over, some that came to school and left, others that came from other countries and stay, and other natives. I met my husband of 6 years 9 years ago, we know many people who have met their better half's while playing at Coconut Beach.

Coconut Beach to me is like a big extended family, most of us have been knowing each other for years, we have seeing our families grow. Some of us have children that now are playing either in our teams or in their own teams, we have seeing these kids grow in front of our eyes. I wish other people would have the chance that we had to focus in doing something good, physically and mentally. Bruce, Mike and the other people had always kept the atmosphere, family oriented, safe and fun.

After Katrina, my husband and I had to relocate to Denham Spring for 8 months. While trying to put our house and our lives together, there was one thing that brought light to our dark days, Coconut Beach was coming back, when everybody else was leaving, Bruce and a group of friends were cleaning, trying to put the complex back together and they were doing it for us - to have some type of normalcy in the midst of the unknown. It most have been hard for them to do it on their own, if we were waiting on somebody else to come and do it, we would still be waiting.

Loosing Coconut Beach would be like loosing part of our lives, please don't take it away!