From: Matherne, Nathaniel
To: MVN Environmental;
Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2009 9:55:21 AM

Mr. Owen,

While you likely are not the final decision maker in the chain of command that is ultimately responsible for the fate of our beloved Coconut Beach, the project manager is a good place to start for me. After all, if it's wrong, it's always our fault. I know. If you would be so kind as to forward my thoughts on the rumored possible fate of this complex, I'd appreciate it. And I'll try to stay brief and as politically neutral as possible... My anger about this is not with you so please don't take it personally.

First, this facility not only serves as a retreat for thousands of locals to gather and be social, stay in shape, and exercise our daily stress by smashing a magical leather ball around, it serves as an area for fund raising activities (case & point being the Children's Hospital Tourney) that support our local citizens and community. No price can be put on helping fellow man, or children, in this case. Advise your superiors to buy a heart if they think otherwise...

Second, this facility, as mentioned above, serves as one of the premier locations for us athletes to exercise, be social, mix business w/ pleasure, etc. You can't put a price on that.

Third, Coconut Beach is a facility that, though its rules and the examples set by the older players, serves as a golden outlet to mentor the local youth in sportsmanship, competing fairly, etc. Perhaps if some of our politicians were raised with Coconut Beach in their lives, corruption might not be so rampant. Just a thought...

I'm sure you'll receive dozens of e-mails other than mine that will express the true passion of the players and their families so I'll let them take care of the more emotional out-pouring. As soon as I complete my assignment here in a few months, I look forward to returning to my 3 day/wk volleyball regimen that I had

to sadly leave behind just to assure myself of stable income in these tough times. Most people have lost enough in the last 4-5 years. Why make them give up something else they love and have cherished for DECADES?

And if there is no alternative, I would challenge the corps and the savior known as our Federal government to make the facility and its players whole by relocating to a near-by area. As I recall, there is massive amounts of empty space to the ENE where the dock restaurants once stood. Use your omnipotent "this land is the government's and there's nothing you can do about it" power to claim that area, bequeath it, and restore the facility. It's not fair that we lose something we love and to replace it have to travel into another STATE to find an equivalent.

Respectfully,

Nathaniel Matherne

Project Engineer

"Issues & problems identified early prevent failure and catastrophe later."