## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF CHATHAM COUNTYVED FOR RECORD STATE OF GEORGIA

2017 DEC 12 PH 5:00

THE MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF SAVANNAH,

Plaintiff,

VS.

ARDSLEY PARK SAVANNAH PROPERTIES, LLC and MARK DEWITT,

Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION NO. SPCV17-61215-BA

#### VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND OTHER RELIEF

COMES NOW, the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah (sometimes hereinafter referred to as "Plaintiff" or "the City"), and files this verified complaint against Ardsley Park Savannah Properties, LLC (sometimes hereinafter referred to as "Ardsley") and Mark Dewitt (sometimes hereinafter referred to as "Dewitt") and shows as follows:

#### PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

- 1. This is a proceeding seeking to enjoin Ardsley and Dewitt (sometimes hereinafter referred to collectively as "Defendants") from continued violations of the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance for the City of Savannah (sometimes hereinafter referred to as the "Zoning Ordinance"), as a result of their ownership and management of Short-Term Vacation Rental homes in zoning districts where the use is prohibited.
- 2. Defendants' violations of the Zoning Ordinance, if continued, would cause irreparable injury to the City, and its citizens.

#### PARTIES, JURISDICTION, AND VENUE

- 3. The City is a municipal corporation, situated in Chatham County, organized and existing under the laws of the State of Georgia.
- 4. Defendant Ardsley is a Georgia limited liability company, with a principal office address at PO Box 888633, Dunwoody, Georgia 30356.
- 5. Defendant Ardsley may be served by and through its registered agent, Mark Dewitt, at 32 Montgomery Crossroads, Savannah, Georgia 31406.
- 6. Defendants own several parcels of real property located within the City's corporate limits, on which Short-Term Vacation Rentals are operated in violation of the Zoning Ordinance.
- 7. Defendant Dewitt is a resident of Chatham County, Georgia.
- 8. This Court has jurisdiction over this controversy and venue is proper.

#### FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS

#### Zoning Ordinance / Short-Term Vacation Rental Ordinance

- 9. Pursuant to Article IX, Section 2, Paragraph IV of the Constitution of the State of Georgia (1983), the City is authorized to adopt plans and exercise the power of zoning.
- 10. Consistent with the zoning powers bestowed upon it by the state constitution, the City enacted a Zoning Ordinance, which appears at Part 8, Chapter 3 of the Code of General Ordinances for the City.
- 11. Among the provisions of its Zoning Code are regulations lawfully and properly enacted by the Mayor and Aldermen regarding the land use referred to as Short-Term Vacation Rentals. *See* Part 8, Chapter 11 of the Code of General Ordinances.
- 12. "Short-Term Vacation Rental" is defined as "an accommodation for transient guests where, in exchange for compensation, a residential dwelling unit is provided for lodging for a

period of time not to exceed 30 consecutive days. Such use may or may not include an on-site manager. For the purposes of this definition, a residential dwelling shall include all housing types and shall exclude group living or other lodging uses, as defined in division II, code of general ordinances, part 8, planning and regulation of development, chapter 3, zoning, as amended." Savannah Code of Ordinances, Sec. 8-11011.

- 13. In pertinent part, the City Code confines short term vacation rentals to certain specified districts. More specifically, Section 8-3025(a) of the Zoning Ordinance prohibits Short-Term Vacation Rental in, among others, Zoning Districts R6 and R4. Section 8-3025(b) of the Zoning Ordinance allows Short-Term Vacation Rental in, among others, Zoning District BC. Unless otherwise specified, short term vacation rentals may not be operated outside of those districts.
- 14. The Ordinances of the City prohibit renting or leasing a Short-Term Vacation Rental without first obtaining a business tax certificate. Savannah Code of Ordinances, Sec. 8-11012.
- 15. Each required certificate in non-transferrable and non-assignable, and may only be used at the location for which it is issued. Savannah Code of Ordinances, Sec. 8-11012.
- 16. Where any building is "maintained in violation of [the Zoning Ordinance]...the mayor and aldermen or any owner of real estate within the district in which such building...is situated may...institute injunction, mandamus or other appropriate action or proceeding to prevent such unlawful...use in any court of competent jurisdiction." Savannah Code of Ordinances, Sec. 8-3016.

#### **Defendants' Short-Term Vacation Rental Ownership**

#### R6 Zoning

17. Defendant Ardsley is the owner of record of real property and improvements located at 624 E. 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, Savannah, Georgia, having the PIN 2-0086-19-010, as assigned by the

Chatham County Board of Assessors. Said property is situated within an R6 zone.

- 18. Upon information and belief, the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental. *See* <a href="https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/15991975">www.airbnb.com/rooms/15991975</a>. A true and correct copy of the listing as of November 27, 2017 is included as Exhibit A on the electronic materials submitted to the court contemporaneously with this filing.
- 19. Defendant Ardsley also owns real property and improvements located at 212 E. 57<sup>th</sup> Street, Savannah, Georgia, having the PIN 2-0095-02-013, as assigned by the Chatham County Board of Assessors. Said property is situated within an R6 zone.
- 20. Upon information and belief, the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental. *See* <a href="https://www.Airbnb.com/rooms/16650191">www.Airbnb.com/rooms/16650191</a>. A true and correct copy of the listing as of November 27, 2017 is included as Exhibit B on the electronic materials submitted to the court contemporaneously with this filing.
- 21. Defendant Ardsley is record owner of real property and improvements located at 211 E. 57<sup>th</sup> Street, Savannah, Georgia, having the PIN 2-0095-05-006, as assigned by the Chatham County Board of Assessors. Said property is situated within an R6 zone.
- 22. Upon information and belief, the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental at <a href="https://www.Airbnb.com/rooms/14703449">www.Airbnb.com/rooms/14703449</a>. A true and correct copy of the listing as of November 27, 2017 is included as Exhibit C on the electronic materials submitted to the court contemporaneously with this filing.

- 23. Defendant Ardsley is the owner of record of real property and improvements located at 730 E. 58<sup>th</sup> Street, Savannah, Georgia, having the PIN 2-0096-11-008, as assigned by the Chatham County Board of Assessors. Said property is situated within an R6 zone.
- 24. Upon information and belief, the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental at <a href="https://www.Airbnb.com/rooms/16650241">www.Airbnb.com/rooms/16650241</a>. A true and correct copy of the listing as of November 27, 2017 is included as Exhibit D on the electronic materials submitted to the court contemporaneously with this filing.
- 25. Defendant Ardsley is record owner of real property and improvements located at 710 E. 60<sup>th</sup> Street, Savannah, Georgia, having the PIN 2-0096-19-008, as assigned by the Chatham County Board of Assessors. Said property is situated within an R6 zone.
- 26. Upon information and belief, the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental at <a href="https://www.Airbnb.com/rooms/15991538">www.Airbnb.com/rooms/15991538</a>. A true and correct copy of the listing as of November 27, 2017 is included as Exhibit E on the electronic materials submitted to the court contemporaneously with this filing.
- 27. Defendant Ardsley is record owner of real property and improvements located at 317 E. 65<sup>th</sup> Street, Savannah, Georgia, having the PIN 2-0106-19-001, as assigned by the Chatham County Board of Assessors. Said property is situated with an R6 zone.
- 28. Upon information and belief, the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental at <a href="https://www.Airbnb.com/rooms/16650297">www.Airbnb.com/rooms/16650297</a>. A true and correct copy of the listing as of November 27,

- 2017 is included as Exhibit F on the electronic materials submitted to the court contemporaneously with this filing.
- 29. Defendant Ardsley is record owner of real property and improvements located at 1330 E. 39<sup>th</sup> Street, Savannah, Georgia, having the PIN 2-0062-27-026, as assigned by the Chatham County Board of Assessors. Said property is situated with an R6 zone.
- 30. Upon information and belief, the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental at <a href="https://www.Airbnb.com/rooms/16704838">www.Airbnb.com/rooms/16704838</a>. A true and correct copy of the listing as of November 27, 2017 is included as Exhibit G on the electronic materials submitted to the court contemporaneously with this filing.
- 31. Defendant Ardsley is record owner of real property and improvements located at 306 E. 58th Street, Savannah, Georgia, having the PIN 2-0095-04-018, as assigned by the Chatham County Board of Assessors. Said property is situated with an R6 zone.
- 32. Upon information and belief, the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental at <a href="https://www.Airbnb.com/rooms/16588850">www.Airbnb.com/rooms/16588850</a>. A true and correct copy of the listing as of November 27, 2017 is included as Exhibit H on the electronic materials submitted to the court contemporaneously with this filing.
- 33. Defendant Dewitt is record owner of real property and improvements located at 528 E. 52<sup>nd</sup> Street, Savannah, Georgia, having the PIN 2-0086-13-017, as assigned by the Chatham County Board of Assessors. Said property is situated with an R6 zone.
- 34. Upon information and belief, the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental at

www.Airbnb.com/rooms/15283607. A true and correct copy of the listing as of November 27, 2017 is included as Exhibit I on the electronic materials submitted to the court contemporaneously with this filing.

- 35. Defendant Ardsley is record owner of real property and improvements located at 309 E. 58th Street, Savannah, Georgia, having the PIN 2-0095-08-005, as assigned by the Chatham County Board of Assessors. Said property is situated with an R6 zone.
- 36. Upon information and belief, Defendant Ardsley has the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental on the www.airbnb.com website.
- 37. Defendant Ardsley is record owner of real property and improvements located at 309 ½ E. 58th Street, Savannah, Georgia, having the PIN 2-0095-08-006, as assigned by the Chatham County Board of Assessors. Said property is situated with an R6 zone.
- 38. Upon information and belief, Defendant Ardsley has the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental on the www.airbnb.com website.
- 39. Defendant Ardsley is record owner of real property and improvements located at 705 E. 57<sup>th</sup> Street, Savannah, Georgia, having the PIN 2-0096-11-003, as assigned by the Chatham County Board of Assessors. Said property is situated with an R6 zone.
- 40. Upon information and belief, Defendant Ardsley has the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental on the <a href="https://www.airbnb.com">www.airbnb.com</a> website.

- 41. Defendant Ardsley is record owner of real property and improvements located at 507 E. 57<sup>th</sup> Street, Savannah, Georgia, having the PIN 2-0096-13-003, as assigned by the Chatham County Board of Assessors. Said property is situated with an R6 zone.
- 42. Upon information and belief, Defendant Ardsley has the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental on the <a href="https://www.airbnb.com">www.airbnb.com</a> website.
- 43. Defendant Ardsley is record owner of real property and improvements located at 1428 E. 52<sup>nd</sup> Street, Savannah, Georgia, having the PIN 2-0097-02-009, as assigned by the Chatham County Board of Assessors. Said property is situated with an R6 zone.
- 44. Upon information and belief, Defendant Ardsley has the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental on the <a href="https://www.airbnb.com">www.airbnb.com</a> website.
- 45. Defendant Ardsley is record owner of real property and improvements located at 418 E. 62<sup>nd</sup> Street, Savannah, Georgia, having the PIN 2-0106-02-019, as assigned by the Chatham County Board of Assessors. Said property is situated with an R6 zone.
- 46. Upon information and belief, Defendant Ardsley has the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental on the <a href="https://www.airbnb.com">www.airbnb.com</a> website.
- 47. Defendant Ardsley is record owner of real property and improvements located at 414 E. 61<sup>st</sup> Street, Savannah, Georgia, having the PIN 2-0106-01-003, as assigned by the Chatham County Board of Assessors. Said property is situated with an R6 zone.

- 48. Upon information and belief, Defendant Ardsley has the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental on the <a href="https://www.airbnb.com">www.airbnb.com</a> website.
- 49. Defendant Ardsley is record owner of real property and improvements located at 711 E. 56<sup>th</sup> Street, Savannah, Georgia, having the PIN 2-0096-10-004, as assigned by the Chatham County Board of Assessors. Said property is situated with an R6 zone.
- 50. Upon information and belief, Defendant Ardsley has the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental on the <a href="https://www.airbnb.com">www.airbnb.com</a> website.
- Defendant Ardsley is record owner of real property and improvements located at 1212 Delesseps Avenue, Savannah, Georgia, having the PIN 2-0097-36-010, as assigned by the Chatham County Board of Assessors. Said property is situated with an R6 zone.
- 52. Upon information and belief, Defendant Ardsley has the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental on the www.airbnb.com website.
- 53. Defendant Ardsley is record owner of real property and improvements located at 203 E. 58<sup>th</sup> Street, Savannah, Georgia, having the PIN 2-0095-07-002, as assigned by the Chatham County Board of Assessors. Said property is situated with an R6 zone.
- 54. Upon information and belief, Defendant Ardsley has the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental on the www.airbnb.com website.

- 55. Defendant Ardsley is record owner of real property and improvements located at 304 E. 60<sup>th</sup> Street, Savannah, Georgia, having the PIN 2-0095-09-018, as assigned by the Chatham County Board of Assessors. Said property is situated with an R6 zone.
- 56. Upon information and belief, Defendant Ardsley has the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental on the www.airbnb.com website.
- 57. Defendant Ardsley is record owner of real property and improvements located at 208 E. 60<sup>th</sup> Street, Savannah, Georgia, having the PIN 2-0095-10-016, as assigned by the Chatham County Board of Assessors. Said property is situated with an R6 zone.
- 58. Upon information and belief, Defendant Ardsley has the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental on the <a href="https://www.airbnb.com">www.airbnb.com</a> website.
- 59. Defendant Ardsley is record owner of real property and improvements located at 1107 E. 41<sup>st</sup> Street, Savannah, Georgia, having the PIN 2-0076-03-003, as assigned by the Chatham County Board of Assessors. Said property is situated with an R6 zone.
- 60. Upon information and belief, Defendant Ardsley has the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental on the www.airbnb.com website.

#### R4 Zoning

61. Defendant Ardsley is record owner of real property and improvements located at 645 E. 37<sup>th</sup> Street, Savannah, Georgia, having the PIN 2-0064-37-007, as assigned by the Chatham County Board of Assessors. Said property is situated with an R4 zone.

- 62. Upon information and belief, Defendant Ardsley has the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental on the <a href="https://www.airbnb.com">www.airbnb.com</a> website.
- 63. Defendant Ardsley is record owner of real property and improvements located at 658 E. 38<sup>th</sup> Street, Savannah, Georgia, having the PIN 2-0075-01-014, as assigned by the Chatham County Board of Assessors. Said property is situated with an R4 zone.
- 64. Upon information and belief, the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental at <a href="https://www.Airbnb.com/rooms/17854762">www.Airbnb.com/rooms/17854762</a>. A true and correct copy of the listing as of November 27, 2017 is included as Exhibit J on the electronic materials submitted to the court contemporaneously with this filing.
- 65. Defendant Ardsley is record owner of real property and improvements located at 1013 E. 33<sup>rd</sup> Street, Savannah, Georgia, having the PIN 2-0055-24-004, as assigned by the Chatham County Board of Assessors. Said property is situated with an R4 zone.
- 66. Upon information and belief, the main home portion of the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental at <a href="https://www.Airbnb.com/rooms/17417802">www.Airbnb.com/rooms/17417802</a>. A true and correct copy of the listing as of November 27, 2017 is included as Exhibit K on the electronic materials submitted to the court contemporaneously with this filing.
- 67. Upon information and belief, the garage apartment portion of the property identified in the preceding paragraph is actively marketed and listed as a Short-Term Vacation Rental at <a href="https://www.Airbnb.com/rooms/17445946">www.Airbnb.com/rooms/17445946</a>. A true and correct copy of the listing as of November 27,

2017 is included as Exhibit L on the electronic materials submitted to the court contemporaneously with this filing.

#### Defendants' Short-Term Vacation Rental Listings With No Known Address

- 68. Defendants have listed numerous properties on the <u>www.airbnb.com</u> website without identifying the street address associated with those parcels.
- 69. Each of the specific Airbnb.com sites listed above is hosted by "Matt," with "Renovations by Mark Dewitt."
- 70. The following properties are listed by host "Matt," with "Renovations by Mark Dewitt."
- 71. Upon information and belief, each of the following listings in Paragraphs X through Y *infra* is located in a zoning district where Short-Term Vacation Rentals are prohibited.
- 72. Upon information and belief, the property owned by one or both Defendants is listed for Short-Term Vacation Rental at <a href="https://www.Airbnb.com/rooms/16485517">www.Airbnb.com/rooms/16485517</a>, and a true and correct copy of the listing as of November 27, 2017 is included as Exhibit M on the electronic materials submitted to the court contemporaneously with this filing.
- 73. Upon information and belief, the property owned by one or both Defendants is listed for Short-Term Vacation Rental at <a href="https://www.Airbnb.com/rooms/16468272">www.Airbnb.com/rooms/16468272</a>, and a true and correct copy of the listing as of November 27, 2017 is included as Exhibit N on the electronic materials submitted to the court contemporaneously with this filing.
- 74. Upon information and belief, the property owned by one or both Defendants is listed for Short-Term Vacation Rental at <a href="https://www.Airbnb.com/rooms/16765945">www.Airbnb.com/rooms/16765945</a>, and a true and correct copy of the listing as of November 27, 2017 is included as Exhibit O on the electronic materials submitted to the court contemporaneously with this filing.

- 75. Upon information and belief, the property owned by one or both Defendants is listed for Short-Term Vacation Rental at <a href="https://www.Airbnb.com/rooms/16095508">www.Airbnb.com/rooms/16095508</a>, and a true and correct copy of the listing as of November 27, 2017 is included as Exhibit P on the electronic materials submitted to the court contemporaneously with this filing.
- 76. Upon information and belief, the property owned by one or both Defendants is listed for Short-Term Vacation Rental at <a href="https://www.Airbnb.com/rooms/16100771">www.Airbnb.com/rooms/16100771</a>, and a true and correct copy of the listing as of November 27, 2017 is included as Exhibit Q on the electronic materials submitted to the court contemporaneously with this filing.
- 77. Upon information and belief, the property owned by one or both Defendants is listed for Short-Term Vacation Rental at <a href="https://www.Airbnb.com/rooms/17807348">www.Airbnb.com/rooms/17807348</a>, and a true and correct copy of the listing as of November 27, 2017 is included as Exhibit R on the electronic materials submitted to the court contemporaneously with this filing.
- 78. Upon information and belief, the property owned by one or both Defendants is listed for Short-Term Vacation Rental at <a href="https://www.Airbnb.com/rooms/15656998">www.Airbnb.com/rooms/15656998</a>, and a true and correct copy of the listing as of November 27, 2017 is included as Exhibit S on the electronic materials submitted to the court contemporaneously with this filing.
- 79. Upon information and belief, the property owned by one or both Defendants is listed for Short-Term Vacation Rental at <a href="https://www.Airbnb.com/rooms/12816568">www.Airbnb.com/rooms/12816568</a>, and a true and correct copy of the listing as of November 27, 2017 is included as Exhibit T on the electronic materials submitted to the court contemporaneously with this filing.
- 80. Upon information and belief, the property owned by one or both Defendants is listed for Short-Term Vacation Rental at <a href="https://www.Airbnb.com/rooms/15992435">www.Airbnb.com/rooms/15992435</a>, and a true and correct copy

of the listing as of November 27, 2017 is included as Exhibit U on the electronic materials submitted to the court contemporaneously with this filing.

81. Upon information and belief, the property owned by one or both Defendants is listed for Short-Term Vacation Rental at <a href="https://www.Airbnb.com/rooms/21525141">www.Airbnb.com/rooms/21525141</a>, and a true and correct copy of the listing as of November 27, 2017 is included as Exhibit V on the electronic materials submitted to the court contemporaneously with this filing.

#### Complaints and City's Enforcement Actions

- 82. The City has received numerous complaints from its residents regarding Defendants' illegal operation of Short-Term Vacation Rentals.
- 83. Upon information and belief, Defendants are utilizing one of the properties zoned R6 in a commercial capacity, as the laundry facilities for the above-referenced Short-Term Vacation Rentals, an additional violation of the City's Zoning Code.
- 84. The City provided notice to Defendants, by and through their attorney, of violations at 10 of the properties listed above, including those properties located at (a) 1013 E. 33<sup>rd</sup> Street (main house), (b) 1013 E. 33<sup>rd</sup> Street (garage apartment), (c) 558 E. 38<sup>th</sup> Street, (d) 1330 E. 39<sup>th</sup> Street, (e) 624 E. 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, (f) 211 E. 57<sup>th</sup> Street, (g) 212 E. 57<sup>th</sup> Street, (h) 730 E. 58<sup>th</sup> Street, (i) 710 E. 60<sup>th</sup> Street, and (j) 217 E. 65<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 85. Defendants and the properties identified in the preceding paragraph were cited for violations of the Zoning Ordinance.
- 86. True and correct copies of the citations are collectively attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit W.
- 87. Defendants have ignored the citations, and the lawful actions undertaken by the City to enforce said citations in Recorder's Court.

88. As a part of its investigation of the cited properties, the City discovered additional properties utilized by Defendants as Short-Term Vacation Rental properties.

#### **COUNT I**

#### Violation of Zoning Ordinance – Short-Term Vacation Rentals

#### **Prohibited in Certain Zoning Districts**

- 89. Plaintiff re-incorporates and re-alleges Paragraphs 1 through 88 of this Complaint, as if fully set forth herein.
- 90. Section 8-3025(a) of the Zoning Ordinance prohibits Short-Term Vacation Rental in Zoning District R6.
- 91. Section 8-3025(a) of the Zoning Ordinance prohibits Short-Term Vacation Rental in Zoning District R4.
- 92. Defendants are listing properties zoned R6 and R4 for short-term vacation rental on the <a href="https://www.airbnb.com">www.airbnb.com</a> website.
- 93. Defendants have violated Section 8-3025(a) of the Zoning Ordinance.
- 94. The City and its residents are harmed, and will continue to be harmed by Defendants' violations of the Zoning Ordinance.
- 95. The City is entitled to an Order enjoining Defendants from operating and listing properties owned in zoning districts where Short-Term Vacation Rentals are prohibited, including but not limited to Zoning Districts R6 and R4.

#### **COUNT II**

#### Violation of Zoning Ordinance and Short-Term Vacation Rental Ordinance -- Fines

96. Plaintiff re-incorporates and re-alleges Paragraphs 1 through 95 of this Complaint, as if fully set forth herein.

- 97. Section 8-3017 of the Zoning Ordinance allows for fines at the discretion of the court for violations of the Zoning Ordinance.
- 98. Section 8-11017 of the Short-Term Vacation Rental Ordinance allows for fines at the discretion of the court for violations of the Short-Term Vacation Rental Ordinance.
- 99. The City, upon a finding by the court that Defendants have violated the Zoning Ordinance and/or the Short-Term Vacation Rental Ordinance as alleged herein, is entitled to an imposition of fines against Defendants for said violations.

#### **COUNT III**

#### Attorneys' Fees And Expenses of Litigation Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 13-6-11

- 100. Plaintiff re-incorporates and re-alleges Paragraphs 1 through 99 of this Complaint, as if fully set forth herein.
- 101. Defendants have acted in bad faith by refusing to comply with the Zoning Ordinance and Short-Term Vacation Rental Ordinance, after notice of violation.
- 102. Defendants' bad faith refusal has caused the City to endure the unnecessary trouble and expense of filing the instant Complaint.
- 103. Because of Defendants' stubbornly litigious actions, the City should be awarded its attorneys' fees and expenses of litigation pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 13-6-11.

#### WHEREFORE, the City respectfully prays that:

- (a) Process issue and the Defendants be served as provided by law;
- (b) The Court find that Defendants have violated the Zoning Ordinance and the Short-Term Vacation Rental Ordinance;
- (c) The Court issue an interlocutory injunction prohibiting Defendants from listing and renting properties as Short-Term Vacation Rentals during the pendency of this action;

- (d) The Court hold a hearing and issue a permanent injunction prohibiting Defendants' Short-Term Vacations Rentals in zoning districts where Short-Term Vacation Rentals are prohibited by the Zoning Ordinance;
- (e) The Court impose fines at its discretion against Defendants for violations of the Zoning Ordinance and the Short-Term Vacation Rental Ordinance:
- (f) Attorneys' fees and expenses of litigation as provided by O.C.G.A. § 13-6-11;
- (g) Judgment be entered in favor of the City and against Defendants:
- (h) All costs of Court be cast upon Defendant; and
- (i) The City be awarded such other and further relief as this Court deems just, proper, and equitable.

This  $2^{4/4}$  day of December, 2017.

City Attorney

Georgia Bar No.: 682500

JENNIFER N. HERMAN, ESO,

Senior Assistant City Attorney

Georgia Bar No.: 327017

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY P.O. Box 1027 Savannah, GA 31402

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Office: (912) 335-4467 Fax: (912) 651-8290

> Attorneys for Plaintiff The Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah

Exhibits A-V are included on the enclosed CD

# SHORT-TERM RESIDENTIAL RENTAL CITATION CITY OF SAVANNAH

TOURISM MANAGEMENT & AMBASSADORSHIP
. 2 LAST DAY STREET, CITY HALL
917-575-1500
Address: 211 East 57 D St. Date: 8/8/17
This structure is in violation of City Code section(s):  O Unpermitted Use: Short-term vacation rental O 8-10011: Failure to obtain a Short-term Residential Rental Certificate O 8-10016: Failure to comply with Short-term Residential Rental Regulations
According to City Code Section Sec. 8-10016, violations are subject to the following fines, which may not be waived or reduced and which may be combined with any other legal remedy available
9 (1) First violation: \$500
0 (2) Second violation within At
O (2) Second violation within the preceding 12 months: \$750
I Provide the preceding 12 months: \$4 and
A total fee of \$ 500 shall be paid to the City of Savannah by August 15, 2017. Payment shall be made at the Tourism Management & Ambassadorship Department located at City Hall, 2 E. Bay Street. Failure to pay the fine will result in a subpoena to court and a penalty of up to an additional \$1,000 and 30 days in jail.
SIGNATURE ACKNOWLEDGES SERVICE OF THIS NOTICE AND RECIEPT OF COPY OF SAME.
Print Name: Mark De Witt
Signature:
TOURISM 95050-17 Account # N/A
The same of the sa

CITY OF SAVANNAH
TOURISM MANAGEMENT & AMBASSADORSHIP
2 EAST BAY STREET, CITY HALL
912-525-1500

912-525-1500 This structure is in violation of City Code section(s): O Unpermitted Use: Short-term vacation rental O 8-10011: Failure to obtain a Short-term Residential Rental Certificate O 8-10016; Failure to comply with Short-term Residential Rental Regulations According to City Code Section Sec. 8-10016, violations are subject to the following fines, which may not be waived or reduced and which may be combined with any other legal remedy available to the City: © (1) First violation: \$500 O (2) Second violation within the preceding 12 months: \$750 O (3) Third violation within the preceding 12 months: \$1,000 A total fee of \$500 shall be paid to the City of Savannah by August 15 , 20 17. Payment shall be made at the Tourism Management & Ambassadorship Department located at City Hall, 2 E. Bay Street. Failure to pay the fine will result in a subpoena to court and a penalty of up to an additional \$1,000 and 30 days in jail. SIGNATURE ACKNOWLEDGES SERVICE OF THIS NOTICE AND RECIEPT OF COPY OF SAME. Print Name: Signature:

!	CITY OF SAVANNAH TOURISM MANAGEMENT & AMBASSADORSHIP 2 EAST BAY STREET, CITY HALL 912-525-1500
	Address: 3/1 East 65th 5t. Date: 8/8/17
	<ul> <li>This structure is in violation of City Code section(s):</li> <li>Unpermitted Use: Short-term vacation rental</li> <li>8-10011: Failure to obtain a Short-term Residential Renta Certificate</li> <li>8-10016: Failure to comply with Short-term Residential Rental Regulations</li> </ul>
5	According to City Code Section Sec. 8-10016, violations are sub- ect to the following fines, which may not be waived or reduced and which may be combined with any other legal remedy available o the Cily:
	(1) First violation: \$500 O (2) Second violation within the preceding 12 months: \$750 O (3) Third violation within the preceding 12 months: \$1,000
i	A total fee of \$500 shall be paid to the City of Savannah by A1.016. 15 , 20.77. Payment shall be made at he Tourism Management & Ambassadorship Department located at City Hall, 2 E. Bay Street. Failure to pay the fine will result in a subpoena to court and a penalty of up to an additional \$1,000 and 30 days in jail.
31 31	GNATURE ACKNOWLEDGES SERVICE OF THIS NOTICE AND ECIEPT OF COPY OF SAME.
Ρ	rint Name: Mark DeWitt
S	ignature:
	OURISM ode-Case # 10619-17 Account # N/4

CITY OF SAVANNAH TOURISM MANAGEMENT & AMBASSADORSHIP 2 EAST BAY STREET, CITY HALL 912-525-1500
Address: <u>lad4 East 53rd St;</u> Date: <u>8/8/17</u>
<ul> <li>This structure is in violation of City Code section(s):</li> <li>Unpermitted Use: Short-term vacation rental</li> <li>8-10011: Failure to obtain a Short-term Residential Renta Certificate</li> <li>8-10016: Failure to comply with Short-term Residential Rental Regulations</li> </ul>
According to City Code Section Sec. 8-10016, violations are sub- ect to the following fines, which may not be waived or reduced and which may be combined with any other legal remedy available o the City:
<ul> <li>(1) First violation: \$500</li> <li>(2) Second violation within the preceding 12 months: \$750</li> <li>(3) Third violation within the preceding 12 months: \$1,000</li> </ul>
A total fee of \$ 500 shall be paid to the City of Savannah by Allulust 1.5 , 20 17. Payment shall be made at the Tourism Management & Ambassadorship Department located at City Hall, 2 E. Bay Street. Failure to pay the fine will result in a subpoena to court and a penalty of up to an additional \$1,000 and 30 days in jail.
IGNATURE ACKNOWLEDGES SERVICE OF THIS NOTICE AND ECIEPT OF COPY OF SAME.
Print Name: Mark DeWitt
Signature:  OURISM 810 90 - 17 Account # N/A

CITY OF SAVANNAH
TOURISM MANAGEMENT & AMBASSADORSHIP
2 EAST BAY STREET, CITY HALL
912-525-1500

	912-525-1500
	Address: <u>658 East 3812 St.</u> Date: 8/8/17
	<ul> <li>This structure is in violation of City Code section(s):</li> <li>Unpermitted Use: Short-term vacation rental</li> <li>8-10011: Failure to obtain a Short-term Residential Rental Certificate</li> <li>8-10016: Failure to comply with Short-term Residential</li> </ul>
a	Rental Regulations According to City Code Section Sec. 8-10016, violations are sub- ect to the following fines, which may not be waived or reduced and which may be combined with any other legal remedy available to the City:
	<ul> <li>(1) First violation: \$500</li> <li>(2) Second violation within the preceding 12 months: \$750</li> <li>(3) Third violation within the preceding 12 months: \$1,000</li> </ul>
e ir	A total fee of \$500 shall be paid to the City of Savannah by August 15 , 20 17. Payment shall be made at ne Fourism Management & Ambassadorship Department located at City Hall, 2 E. Bay Street. Failure to pay the fine will result a subpoena to court and a penalty of up to an additional 1,000 and 30 days in jail.
UF	GNATURE ACKNOWLEDGES SERVICE OF THIS NOTICE AND ICIEPT OF COPY OF SAME.  Fint Name: HULL DEWITH
Si	gnature:
7[ .c.	URISM 75010-17 Account #

# SHORT-TERM RESIDENTIAL RENTAL CITATION CITY OF SAVANNAH

TOURISM MANAGEMENT & AMBASSADORSHIP 2 EAST BAY STREET, CITY HALL
912-525-1500
Address: 110 East 6010 St. Date: 8/8/17
This structure is in violation of City Code section(s):  O Unpermitted Use: Short-term vacation rental O 8-10011: Failure to obtain a Short-term Residential Rental Certificate O 8-10016: Failure to comply with Short-term Residential Rental Regulations
According to City Code Section Sec. 8-10016, violations are subject to the following fines, which may not be waived or reduced and which may be combined with any other legal remedy available to the City:
9. (1) First violation: \$500 O (2) Second violation within the preceding 12 months: \$750 O (3) Third violation within the preceding 12 months: \$1,000 A total fee of \$500 shall be paid to the City of Savannah by August 15 20 17. Payment shall be made at the Tourism Management & Ambassadorship Department located at City Hall, 2 E. Bay Street. Failure to pay the fine will result in a subpoena to court and a penalty of up to an additional \$1,000 and 30 days in jail.
SIGNATURE ACKNOWLEDGES SERVICE OF THIS MOTICE AND RECIEPT OF COPY OF SAME.
Print Name: Mark De Witt
Signature:
TOURSM GUIGO-17 Account #

CITY OF SAVANNAH
TOURISM MANAGEMENT & AMBASSADORSHIP

2 EAST BAY STREET, CITY HALL 912-525-1500				
Address: <u>730 East 58th St.</u> Date: <u>8/8/17</u>				
This structure is in violation of City Code section(s):  O Unpermitted Use: Short-term vacation rental O 8-10011: Failure to obtain a Short-term Residential Rental Certificate O 8-10016: Failure to comply with Short-term Residential Rental Regulations				
According to City Code Section Sec. 8-10016, violations are sub- ject to the following fines, which may not be waived or reduced and which may be combined with any other legal remedy available to the City:				
O (1) Eirst violation: \$500 O (2) Second violation within the preceding 12 months: \$750 O (3) Third violation within the preceding 12 months: \$1,000				
A total fee of \$500 shall be paid to the City of Savannah by AUGUST 15, 2017. Payment shall be made at the Tourism Management & Ambassadorship Department located at City Hall, 2 E. Bay Street. Failure to pay the fine will result in a subpoena to court and a penalty of up to an additional \$1,000 and 30 days in jail.				
SIGNATURE ACKNOWLEDGES SERVICE OF THIS NOTICE AND RECIEPT OF COPY OF SAME.  Print Name:				
Signature:				
DURISM 96/10-17 Account # N/A				
,, .				

CITY OF SAVANNAH
TOURISM MANAGEMENT & AMBASSADORSHIP
2 EAST BAY STREET, CITY HALL
912-525-1500

Address: 1013 Past 3314 St. Date: 8/8/17

This structure is in violation of City Code section(s):

- O Unpermitted Use: Short-term vacation rental
- O 8-10011: Failure to obtain a Short-term Residential Rental Certificate
- O 8-10016: Failure to comply with Short-term Residential Rental Regulations

According to City Code Section Sec. 8-10016, violations are subject to the following fines, which may not be waived or reduced and which may be combined with any other legal remedy available to the City:

- O (1) First violation: \$500
- O (2) Second violation within the preceding 12 months: \$750
- O (3) Third violation within the preceding 12 months: \$1,000

A total fee of \$ 500 shall be paid to the City of Savannah by Attaust 15, 2017. Payment shall be made at the Tourism Management & Ambassadorship Department located at City Hall, 2 E. Bay Street. Failure to pay the fine will result in a subpoena to court and a penalty of up to an additional \$1,000 and 30 days in jail.

SIGNATURE ACKNOWLEDGES SERVICE OF THIS NOTICE AND RECIEPT OF COPY OF SAME.

Print Name: Mark De With

Signature:

TOURISM 55242-17 Account #

CITY OF SAVANNAH TOURISM MANAGEMENT & AMBASSADORSHIP 2 EAST BAY STREET, CITY HALL 912-525-1500 East 33rd S.L. \_\_ Date: <u>8/8/1</u>7 This structure is in violation of City Code section(s): O Unpermitted Use: Short-term.vacation rental O 8-10011: Failure to obtain a Short-term Residential Rental Certificate O 8-10016: Failure to comply with Short-term Residential Rental Regulations According to City Code Section Sec. 8-10016, violations are subject to the following fines, which may not be waived or reduced and which may be combined with any other legal remedy available to the City: ∅/(¹) First violation: \$500 O (2) Second violation within the preceding 12 months: \$750 O (3) Third violation within the preceding 12 months: \$1,000 A total fee of \$500 shall be paid to the City of Savannah by August 15 , 2017. Payment shall be made at the Tourism Management & Ambassadorship Department located at City Hall, 2 E. Bay Street. Failure to pay the fine will result in a subpoena to court and a penalty of up to an additional SIGNATURE ACKNOWLEDGES SERVICE OF THIS NOTICE AND

\$1,000 and 30 days in jail. RECIEPT OF COPY OF SAME. Print Name: Signature:

CITY OF SAVANNAH TOURISM MANAGEMENT & AMBASSADORSHIP

	2 EAST BAY STREET, CITY HALL 912-525-1500
	Address: 1330 Fast 39th St. Date: 8/8/17
	This structure is in violation of City Code section(s):  O Unpermitted Use: Short-term vacation rental  O 8-10011: Failure to obtain a Short-term Residential Renta Certificate  O 8-10016: Failure to comply with Short-term Residential Rental Regulations
	According to City Code Section Sec. 8-10016, violations are subject to the following fines, which may not be waived or reduced and which may be combined with any other legal remedy available to the City:
	O (1) First violation: \$500 O (2) Second violation within the preceding 12 months: \$750 O (3) Third violation within the preceding 12 months: \$1,000
	A total fee of \$ 500 shall be paid to the City of Savannah by Atlantish 15, 2017. Payment shall be made at the Tourism Management & Ambassadorship Department located at City Hall, 2 E. Bay Street. Failure to pay the fine will result in a subpoena to court and a penalty of up to an additional \$1,000 and 30 days in jail.
í	IGNATURE ACKNOWLEDGES SERVICE OF THIS NOTICE AND RECIEPT OF COPY OF SAME.  Print Name: MARK DEWITT
	Signature:
•	TOURISM. 1020 70-17

## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF CHATHAM COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

THE MAYOR AND ALDERMEN (	ЭF	THE
CITY OF SAVANNAH		

Plaintiff,

VS.

CIVIL ACTION NO. <u>SPCV17-01215-BA</u>

ARDSLEY PARK SAVANNAH PROPERTIES, LLC and MARK DEWITT,

Defendants.

#### **VERIFICATION**

I, Description, duly authorized representative of Plaintiff herein, verify that the allegations contained in the foregoing Complaint are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

This 4 day of December, 2017.

THE MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF SAVANNAH

By. Birley

1) Bourism Max agrees of

Sworn to and subscribed before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of December, 2017.

Yotary Public

> SEAL