

# City of Key Colony Beach

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## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE LAW OF DERELICT VESSELS AND “CHUGS”**

Dear Property Owners and Concerned Citizens:

Today the City of Key Colony Beach conducted a follow-up conversation with Captain Dipre of FWC regarding the management of derelict vessels and chugs. This additional information may be helpful:

1. For a vessel in public waters, any authorized, jurisdictional agency has the legal authority to follow protocol for that vessel's ultimate disposal. This does not change a property's owner's responsibility with regard to derelict vessels on private property.
2. The time frame for authorized, jurisdictional agency involvement in public water cases is undetermined due to shortages of resources and manpower.
3. The good news is that the Florida Department of Emergency Management may soon be authorized to assist in the disposal of vessels deemed *abandoned* in public waterways and on private property. This includes storm affected vessels and migrant chugs. This is not implemented yet, and there is no deadline for action, but state government is working toward this assistance.

If you have any questions about this information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

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