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Fwd: CF#14-1635-S2 Home Sharing

Etta Armstrong <etta.armstrong@lacity.org>
 To: Edwin Grover <edwin.grover@lacity.org>

Tue, Apr 4, 2017 at 10:39 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Simon Smeddle** <sirmsmed@yahoo.com>

Date: Tue, Apr 4, 2017 at 10:06 AM

Subject: CF#14-1635-S2 Home Sharing

To: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org, Sharon.dickinson@lacity.org, matthew.glesne@lacity.org, cpc@lacity.org, justin.wesson@lacity.org, councildistrict15@lacity.org, etta.armstrong@lacity.org, alexander.hall@airbnb.org, heather.anderson@lacity.org, hgnc@sbcglobal.net

To all whom it may concern,

My family and I are on in California for a Sabbatical. We are from Tennessee. We are home sharing in the home of Vanessa Johnson in South Los Angeles and find it a great experience so far.

I find home sharing is a necessary alternative for us. Staying in hotels with small children is neither practical nor affordable for us. With home sharing, we are able to shop in the local grocery stores, cook our own food and have all the amenities and comforts of home away from our own home. Home sharing also enables us to experience Los Angeles as though we are residence, enjoying the city in a deeper and more meaningful way.

In your decision to regulate home sharing, we hope that you take into account families such as mine, and how home sharing allows us to travel to Los Angeles.

Yours sincerely,

Simon Smeddle

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone



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Google Groups

Fwd: Short-Term Rental News

Sharon Dickinson

Apr 4, 2017 7:32 AM

Posted in group: **Clerk-PLUM-Committee**

From: **Los Angeles Short-Term Rental Coalition** <lacoalition@calodging.com>
 Date: Fri, Mar 31, 2017 at 4:21 PM
 Subject: Short-Term Rental News
 To: sharon.dickinson@lacity.org

Short-Term Rental News

Feature Article

Q&A With Brian Chesky: Disruption, Leadership, and Airbnb's Future

Fortune | 3/27/17

Your end user likes you, that's very clear. But many other stakeholders do not. And that's because the core business of renting out a home for a short term violates local laws in many markets. You've worked to turn those over in many places. But there are some markets that just won't budge-and New York is one of them. This has been a big source of opposition for you. So talk about that a little bit. Why has there been so much pushback? And what's the endgame?

CHESKY: ...The basic premise is if a city has a housing constraint-[like] San Francisco and New York City-**we want people to rent the homes they live in and not take units off the market.**

Taxes

Airbnb has secret tax deals around the nation. Is there one in your city?

The Hill | 3/26/17

Secrecy is rarely a good thing. When state and local government agencies meet, Sunshine Laws usually require those meetings be held in public, and for good reason. Government agencies meeting publicly builds confidence in our institutions, allows the public a voice in their governance and prevents the possibility of creeping corruption. So the idea that local or state government officials would meet behind closed doors with a private company, and agree to a one-of-a-kind tax deal proposed by that company that applied only to itself and its affiliates is simply unacceptable.

Crime

Airbnb homeowner blames social media for shooting, unsafe atmosphere

THV11 | 3/28/17

A rental home became a crime scene last weekend, when the guests threw a party that ended with a shooting. While it is rare, listings on sites like Airbnb can lead to trouble... One person

was shot early Sunday morning at a house on Kanis Road in Ferndale after a small gathering turned into an out-of-control party. According to the Pulaski County Sheriff's Office, the home was occupied by guests who rented it through Airbnb.

This man had \$21K worth of items stolen by Airbnb guests he thought were a 'nice family'

CBC | 3/29/17

A Toronto photographer says his Airbnb guests seemed like a "nice family," until he realized about \$21,000 worth of his possessions and SIN card had been stolen. Matthew Lyn thought he was hosting a woman, her husband and her child between March 5-10. After the family missed their first day of arrival, Lyn decided to get them some snacks and a bottle of wine to make them feel welcome. When he returned to his apartment after the guests had left, he found that not only did they take the wine - they also took off with a whole lot more.

Airbnb Bribes Host With Cash Under NDA After 200 Partiers Destroy Apartment Complex

The Observer | 3/29/17

After guests wrecked everything in sight, Airbnb botched the investigation, bullied the host and ultimately refused to cover damages. That is, until we reached out-now Airbnb is trying to send the host money on the condition he signs an NDA.

Illegal Rentals

Why Your Airbnb May Be ILLEGAL (YOUTUBE)

Owner of Airbnb Listing in Trump Tower is Fined \$10,000

New York Times | 3/24/17

New York City officials issued a summons to the owner of a condominium at Trump Tower that gained notoriety after being rented out on Airbnb, determining that the unit was being illegally advertised for rent. The civil summons, given to Lena Yelagina, whose 30th floor apartment was available on Airbnb for at least six months in the time before, during, and after the presidential election and inauguration, seeks a penalty of \$1,000 for the offense.

City and State Action

Airbnb, VRBO make case for not banning vacation rentals

San Diego Union Tribune | 3/23/17

Just a day before San Diego City Council members are scheduled to consider new regulations governing vacation rentals, representatives of the home sharing industry gathered Thursday in hopes of heading off a potential ban. Executives with Airbnb and HomeAway, the two biggest home-sharing platforms, extolled the economic virtues of vacation rentals and introduced San Diego hosts and local business owners who talked about what home sharing has meant to them financially.

Miami may target Airbnb hosts who spoke at City Hall, sue home-sharing platform

Miami Herald | 3/23/17

Dozens of Miami property owners who rent their homes and duplexes to visitors through home-sharing platform Airbnb spent all day at City Hall on Thursday pleading with city officials to buck a legal opinion declaring their business an illegal nuisance. Instead, Miami commissioners reaffirmed that position in a 3-2 vote, threatened to sue Airbnb for promoting clandestine activity, and then told the hosts who placed their names and addresses on the record that they had outed themselves to code compliance.

Portland puts limits on Airbnb rentals

WGME | 3/27/17

The city council approved new rules affecting the lucrative tourism rental market in Portland Monday night. An amendment passed Monday night would limit the amount of housing used exclusively for short-term housing. No non-owner occupied single family home or condo can be rented for those reasons, except on the islands. A cap will be put on those renting out multifamily and mixed-use homes.

Anaheim short-term rental owners strike back

OC Register | 3/30/17

The Anaheim City Council voted last week to approve a tentative settlement agreement with short-term rental owners in hopes of avoiding a costly legal battle. As part of this, the council voted to lift certain restrictions and regulations, while also allowing short-term rental owners who invested considerable sums in their property a longer window of opportunity to operate in order to recoup their investments.

No Airbnb Enforcement Crackdown in San Diego - Yet

Voice of San Diego | 3/29/17

City Attorney Mara Elliott's memo declaring short-term vacation rentals illegal under city code may have excited weary opponents but it's not sparking a crackdown on those rentals. Instead, neighbors angered by bustling Airbnbs in beach communities and elsewhere will have to keep waiting. For more than two years, short-term rental operators and those who dislike them have been pushing for regulations. Multiple hours-long hearings with heated testimony from both sides have failed to provide any clarity on the rules.

Governor McAuliffe Approves Airbnb Regulation Bill

WVTF Public Radio | 3/28/17

Virginia's Republican lawmakers and Democratic Governor Terry McAuliffe have finally reached a middle ground on how to handle one part of the new disruptive economy... Now McAuliffe is signing Norment's bill, which allows local governments to require homeowners who use Airbnb to register as businesses -- which means paying taxes. Airbnb public policy director Will Burns says the law would have been better if Airbnb had been given permission to collect those taxes on behalf of the homeowners. But, he says, that still might happen.

Growth

Airbnb, Alphabet Eye Homebuilding

The Information | 3/24/17

Last year, employees in Airbnb's experimental design studio explored ways of manufacturing small homes for people's backyards, to provide extra space for guests. But the effort, which hasn't previously been reported, was mostly scuttled for now, said a person with knowledge of the situation. Airbnb senior executives worried that the business model wasn't proven and could cause a political backlash, if neighbors complained or it flouted zoning laws. Airbnb eventually could get into the financing of backyard homes, said a person close to the company.

Airbnb keeps making money and controversy

Travel Weekly | 3/27/17

Airbnb has stated that it continues to double its business each year. While the company does not disclose financial figures, last year it was estimated to have generated \$1.6 billion in revenue (fees from guests and commissions from hosts) and \$156 million in earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA). To put those numbers in perspective, Marriott International, the world's largest hotel company, generated \$17.1 billion in revenue last year, and with a full year of Starwood Hotels under its belt, it is likely to approach \$23 billion in revenue this year.

Our coalition represents workers, neighbors, tenants, lodging associations, employers and affordable housing advocates. We stand united behind responsible and appropriate regulation of

the short-term rental (STR) industry in Los Angeles.

Short-Term Rental Coalition consisting of AH&LA, CH&LA, Hotel Assoc. of LA, Keep Neighborhoods First, LAANE, UNITE HERE Local 11, and other neighborhood, business and community groups, 414 29th Street, Sacramento, CA 95816

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