

# Sky London

## Douglas Monas

1642 Crescent Place

Venice, CA 90291

(212) 724-2815

[smugdug@yahoo.com](mailto:smugdug@yahoo.com)

April 27, 2016

Councilman Mike Bonin  
West LA District Office  
1645 Corinth Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90025

VIA EMAIL: [councilmember.bonin@lacity.org](mailto:councilmember.bonin@lacity.org)

Re: Council File 14-1635-S2

Dear Councilmember Bonin,

We are writing this letter regarding the Draft Short-Term Rental Ordinance that was released on April 15, 2016.

We own the home at the above referenced address. We spend approximately half of the year as we also own a home in New York. We reside in Los Angeles in order to be near our children and grandchildren who reside here.

Since April of 2014 we have offered our entire home for vacation rental. While we are not present for the rental, we are far from absentee hosts. We employ a local manager and our neighbors act as defacto "deputies" in the event that anything untoward occurs. We're glad to say that we have had zero problems as we enter our third year of this arrangement.

Before commencing vacation rental activities, and as required by the City of Los Angeles, we applied for authorization to collect Transient Occupancy Taxes. These taxes have always been remitted when due.

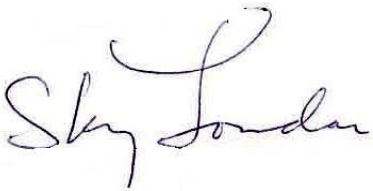
While not unique, we are certain that our circumstance is rarely the case. The ability to offer our home for vacation rental has enabled us to maintain our home even though we are retired and live on a fixed income. If this ordinance is enacted, in its' current form, we will end up being "collateral damage" as none of the intentions of the legislation will apply to our situation. We will be forced to sell our home and this will have no effect on the city's affordable housing stock. Additionally, as previously stated, all Transient Occupancy Taxes are collected and remitted when due. "Neighborhood Character" would not be impacted as we have never had the slightest issue with any of our guests.

This is insured with a variety of protections: (1) hands-on property management by a local individual, and (2) a very close-knit neighborhood (that is very much in our corner) of which we are always in close contact with, and (3) we charge a significant rent that in itself attracts the most responsible and respectful of guests. We also have "House Rules", age restrictions and occupancy limits that are vigorously enforced to ensure compliance.

Specific to the proposed ordinance, we request that the "home sharing" provision be amended to incorporate our situation. We also ask that the 90 day limit either be eliminated or be amended to at least 180 days.

We're sorry for the length of this letter but we wanted to state our case as clearly as possible. We hope that we achieved this goal. If you have any questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sky London".

Sky London

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Douglas Monas".

Douglas Monas

cc: [tricia.keane@lacity.org](mailto:tricia.keane@lacity.org)  
[sharon.dickinson@lacity.org](mailto:sharon.dickinson@lacity.org)  
[matthew.glesne@lacity.org](mailto:matthew.glesne@lacity.org)



Sharon Dickinson <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>

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## Home Sharing Ordinance - CF 14-1635-S2

1 message

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**Andy Layman** <andy@venicebeachsuites.com>

Wed, Apr 27, 2016 at 4:01 PM

To: Clerk Sharon Dickinson <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>

Dear Clerk Dickinson,

As the owner of Venice Beach Suites & Hotel I strongly support the draft ordinance concerning short-term rentals. These illicit businesses, some of which control dozens of properties, are engaged in unfair and often illegal competition with my business. It threatens not just my business, but the many employees who work here, other businesses that depend on us, and the city's own bottom line.

My hotel, along with the many others that serve the city, are an important part of the economy here. We employ thousands of residents in good, steady jobs. We pay millions of dollars in taxes that help pay for city services like police, fire, parks and schools. We are a vital part of the tourism industry in Los Angeles that supports thousands of other jobs in restaurants, retail shops and activities.

I'm not talking about home-sharing here - our industry supports people sharing a part of their own residence from time to time. The problem is permanent short-term rental operators who create "ghost hotels" are taking advantage of online sites that let them cover their tracks and evade the rules. They cheat the city out of taxes, disrupt neighborhoods, make a mockery of zoning laws, and put thousands of jobs at risk.

The ordinance in front of you would help put a stop to the many abuses in the short-term rental business, to the benefit of the city and its legitimate business community. It also would protect the ability of homeowners to engage in reasonable home-sharing activities. This is precisely the kind of ordinance that should be passed in LA, and we urge the Commission to lend its support.

Sincerely,

Andy Layman  
1305 OCEAN FRONT WALK  
VENICE, CA 90291



Sharon Dickinson <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>

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## Re: Council File 14-1635-S2

1 message

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**lisa revelins** <lisa@revelins.com.au>

Wed, Apr 27, 2016 at 4:36 PM

To: bonin@lacity.org

Cc: tricia.keane@lacity.org, sharon.dickinson@lacity.org, matthew.glesne@lacity.org

27 April 2016

29, 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue

VENICE CA 90291

SENT BY EMAIL

Re: Council File 14-1635-S2  
RENTALS

RESPONSE TO THE DRAFT ORDINANCE ON SHORT TERM

I come from a family which has provided high end accommodation to discerning guests for two generations.

The two private properties I own are right near the beach on Venice beach. Both the properties I rent out are entire homes that comfortably sleep 6 people in three bedrooms on three levels. They are well appointed and set up as townhouse condominiums for discerning guests and are in a perfect position for holidays or people coming to Los Angeles for work on a short term project.

I have been providing short term rental for 7 years. I received this property as settlement in my divorce and didn't take spousal or child support as I was able to make an income from renting out my 2 properties side by side each other and I take this as a serious business and something I am extremely proud of.

It is perfectly set up for families and that is 90% of my market. They will come with their spouse and children. Every guest tells me that they would much rather stay in an entire home rather than a hotel. Some may stay a minimum of 3 days or 3 months – it depends on their business. It is a home away from home. I am booked out nearly all year round. I have top ratings and reviews

Venice Beach is a tourist attraction. They ride the bikes that I provide, walk to local restaurants, cafes and shops that I recommend. They attend local yoga or gym or spa services. These guests are very nice people that really like to feel what it is to live here. To be part of the Venice community. Their contribution to the Venice economy should not be underestimated and would be lost to the community if discontinued.

Guests are carefully vetted by me. I ask them to tell me about themselves before they book, their age, each guests details, their jobs, hobbies. Are they here for business or holiday, how they plan to use the house and what are their plans when they are visiting. Do they understand the Los Angeles county laws and house rules before they book and arrive?. Above all they are made aware of very strict noise disturbance guidelines and I have a curfew of any outside or courtyard and roof deck activity after 10pm.

My immediate neighbors are well aware that I rent short term and have all been happy to have my contact details. I live in the vicinity 10 minutes away if there was ever a problem which I proud to say has never occurred. I am always available.

Because this business is my sole source of income it is hard to understand that in an economy which prides itself as the world's bastion of free enterprise, how it can possibly consider such a restrictive trade practice. Surely the Uber experience demonstrates that people are entitled to choice.

To have received a copy of the draft ordinance on 30 March 2016 was utterly devastating.

Airbnb and VRBO have done much to contribute to the security and better standard of accommodation available to discerning guests in the Venice Beach area. As a direct result police are more diligent in the area because Venice Beach is now a number 1 tourist attraction and is now a safer place for the general public.

In conclusion I appeal to those responsible for this decision to consider the consequences of a blanket ban to those providing unique facilities and is their only form of livelihood.

Thank you for hearing and I hope you really consider.

Yours sincerely

LISA REVELINS