

# St. Pete cops carry rich memories from old HQ

By Kathryn Varn  
Tampa Bay Times

ST. PETERSBURG — Down the hall, past desks that could be straight out of the 1970s TV series S.W.A.T. and an interview room where a defendant once escaped through the drop ceiling, descends a stairwell that leads to nowhere.

No one seems to know why it's here and the only way to reach it is through a toddler-sized hole in the wall. That puts the staircase high on the list of weird features in this time capsule of a building that, until this year, housed the St. Petersburg Police Department.

The department's 562 sworn and 220 civilian members have nearly completed their move to a new \$78.3 million center across the street at 1301 First Ave. N. The new station's clean lines, spacious conference rooms and elaborate break rooms present a stark contrast to the quirks and the lore of its venerable predecessor.

But, like all change, this one comes with a touch of wistfulness.

"That's a phenomenal building," said longtime Officer George Lofton, speaking of the new one. "But for an old guy like me, there's a little bit of nostalgia."

The old headquarters is technically two buildings. The west side was built in 1978 and will soon house St. Petersburg employees temporarily while City Hall is renovated. The east side was built almost three decades earlier in 1951 and will be closed for good.

The east wing is reminiscent of an old-school cop flick, in part because



**St. Petersburg Police Chief Mike Kovacsev walks in the area that served as the Uniform Patrol sergeants office in the old St. Petersburg Police Department in St. Petersburg on May 9. The old St. Petersburg Police Department building is full of horror stories. Labyrinths of desks. Haunted evidence lockers. Archaic plumbing. Dungeon-like, windowless buildings. So the detectives and civilians who make up the 800-member force are thrilled to be moving to the shiny new state-of-the-art building across the street.** [DIRK SHADD/TAMPA BAY TIMES VIA AP]

of the asbestos, said Assistant Chief Mike Kovacsev. The insulation material becomes harmful when it's disturbed, so any remodeling would require expensive remediation. It wasn't worth the investment, so the building remained locked in time.

One example is the office of the economic crimes unit, where Lofton once worked as a detective. A series of metal desks in different shades of green and tan are outfitted with wooden shelves attached by the detectives and passed down through the years. The oldest desk dates to the 1960s, Kovacsev said. Tucked in the back corner is an interview room with a vestige of old-time policing: the two-way mirror. Video cameras have made them obsolete.

Across the hall is another interview room with a curious sign on the door: "This room is not secure. Do not leave suspects/prisoners unattended." Look up, and it makes more sense.

Years ago, the drop ceiling with speckled tiles like you'd see in a classroom or office once served as an escape hatch for a teenage defendant, Lofton said. The teen didn't make it out of the building, but officers haven't left anyone alone in the room since then.

Nearby is one of two cramped conference rooms shared by the entire agency. The floor-to-ceiling windows with their view of drooping oak tree branches are unlike any others in a building with rooms that are window free or where the openings are covered

with metal grating à la the cheese grater building that once stood nearby.

This view was a favorite of retired Sgt. Katy Connor-Dubina. Downstairs, in the rooms used by units Connor-Dubina once supervised — crimes against children and domestic and personal violence — challenges abounded.

The teams shared bathrooms often crowded with detectives and supervisors but moreso when the Florida Department of Children and Families brought children to the station. Archaic plumbing meant the toilets made a booming sound when flushed, Connor-Dubina said.

"You knew these little kids were probably scared to death, like they

See COPS, B7

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**PUBLIC NOTICE OF ENACTMENT OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALACHUA, FLORIDA**

Notice is hereby given that the City Commission of the City of Alachua will hold a public hearing on a proposed ordinance. The hearing will be held on June 10, 2019, at 6:00 p.m., in the James A. Lewis Commission Chambers in City Hall, located at 15100 NW 142nd Terrace, Alachua, Florida.

The ordinance title is as follows:

**ORDINANCE 19-26**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALACHUA, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE AMENDMENT OF THE CITY'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN; AMENDING THE CITY'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT TO AMEND OBJECTIVE 1.4, AND POLICIES 1.4.A, 1.4.D, AND 1.4.F RELATED TO THE CORPORATE PARK FUTURE LAND USE MAP DESIGNATION; PROVIDING A REPEALING CLAUSE; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

At the public hearing, all interested parties may appear and be heard with respect to the application. Copies of the application are available for public inspection at the Planning and Community Development Department, 15100 NW 142nd Terrace, Alachua, Florida, on any regular business day between the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Written comments on the application may be sent to the following address: City of Alachua, Planning and Community Development, P.O. Box 9, Alachua, FL 32616. Notice is given pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, that, in order to appeal any decision made at the public hearing, you will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, you may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any persons with a disability requiring reasonable accommodation in order to participate in this meeting should call the City Clerk at (386) 418-6100 x 101 at least 48 hours prior to the public hearing.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD OF THE CITY OF ALACHUA, FLORIDA**

Notice is hereby given that the Planning and Zoning Board of the City of Alachua will hold a public hearing on June 11, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. The hearing will be held in the James A. Lewis Commission Chambers in City Hall, located at 15100 NW 142nd Terrace, Alachua, Florida, to consider a request by the City of Alachua to amend the City of Alachua Land Development Regulations (LDRs) as follows: amending Section 2.4.4 relating to Special Exception Permits; amending Section 2.4.7 relating to Variance Permits; creating Section 2.4.10(B)(3)(i) relating to residential development in the Corporate Park (CP) zoning district; amending Section 3.1.1 and Table 3.1.1 relating to maximum gross density in the Corporate Park (CP) zoning district; amending Section 3.5.2(F) relating to the specific purposes of the Corporate Park (CP) zoning district; amending Section 4.1.1 and Table 4.1-1, Table of allowed uses, relating to permitted uses in the Central Business District (CBD), Commercial Intensive (CI), Corporate Park (CP), Industrial Light Warehousing (ILW), Planned Development— Commercial, and Planned Development— Traditional Neighborhood Development zoning districts; creating Section 4.3.4(G)(11) relating to use-specific standards for microbreweries; amending Section 5.1.3 and Table 5.1-3 relating to maximum gross residential density and dimensional standards for residential development in the Corporate Park (CP) zoning district; amending Section 5.1.3 and Table 5.1-3 relating to maximum height for development within the Commercial Intensive (CI) and Corporate Park (CP) zoning districts; creating Section 5.2.3(B) relating to special height requirements in the Commercial Intensive (CI) and Corporate Park (CP) zoning districts; amending Section 10.2 relating to the definition of "dwelling, live/work" and "microbrewery".

At the public hearing, all interested parties may appear and be heard with respect to the application. Copies of the application are available for public inspection at the Planning and Community Development Department, 15100 NW 142nd Terrace, Alachua, Florida, on any regular business day between the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Written comments on the application may be sent to the following address: City of Alachua, Planning and Community Development, P.O. Box 9, Alachua, FL 32616. Notice is given pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, that, in order to appeal any decision made at the public hearing, you will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, you may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any persons with a disability requiring reasonable accommodation in order to participate in this meeting should call the City Clerk at (386) 418-6100 x 101 at least 48 hours prior to the public hearing.

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The ordinance title is as follows:

**ORDINANCE 19-29**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALACHUA, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE AMENDMENT OF THE OFFICIAL ZONING ATLAS; AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING ATLAS FROM AGRICULTURAL (A) (ALACHUA COUNTY) TO AGRICULTURAL (A) ON AN APPROXIMATELY ±199 ACRE PROPERTY; LOCATED EAST OF COUNTY ROAD 241 AND SOUTH OF NW 88TH PLACE AND EAST OF COUNTY ROAD 241 AND NORTH OF MILLHOPPER ROAD; CONSISTING OF TAX PARCEL NUMBERS 04043-000-000, 04044-000-000, 04049-000-000, 04049-004-000, 04049-004-001, 04049-004-002, 04049-007-000 AND 04051-000-000; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

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# City of ALACHUA

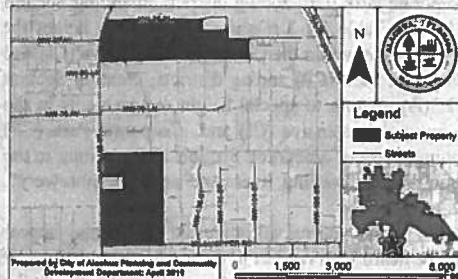
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(Published: Alachua County Today - May 30, 2019)

## AFFIDAVIT FOR POSTED LAND USE SIGN

I MELISSA WATSON, POSTED THE LAND USE  
(name)  
SIGN ON 5-23-19 FOR THE Hodor Farms Rezoning (CCOM Hearings)  
(date) (state type of action and project name)  
LAND USE ACTION.

AS PER ARTICLE 2.2.9 D OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS.

THIS WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE STAFF REPORT.

Melissa Watson  
(signature)

8  
(number of signs)



# IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING POSTED NOTICE SIGNS

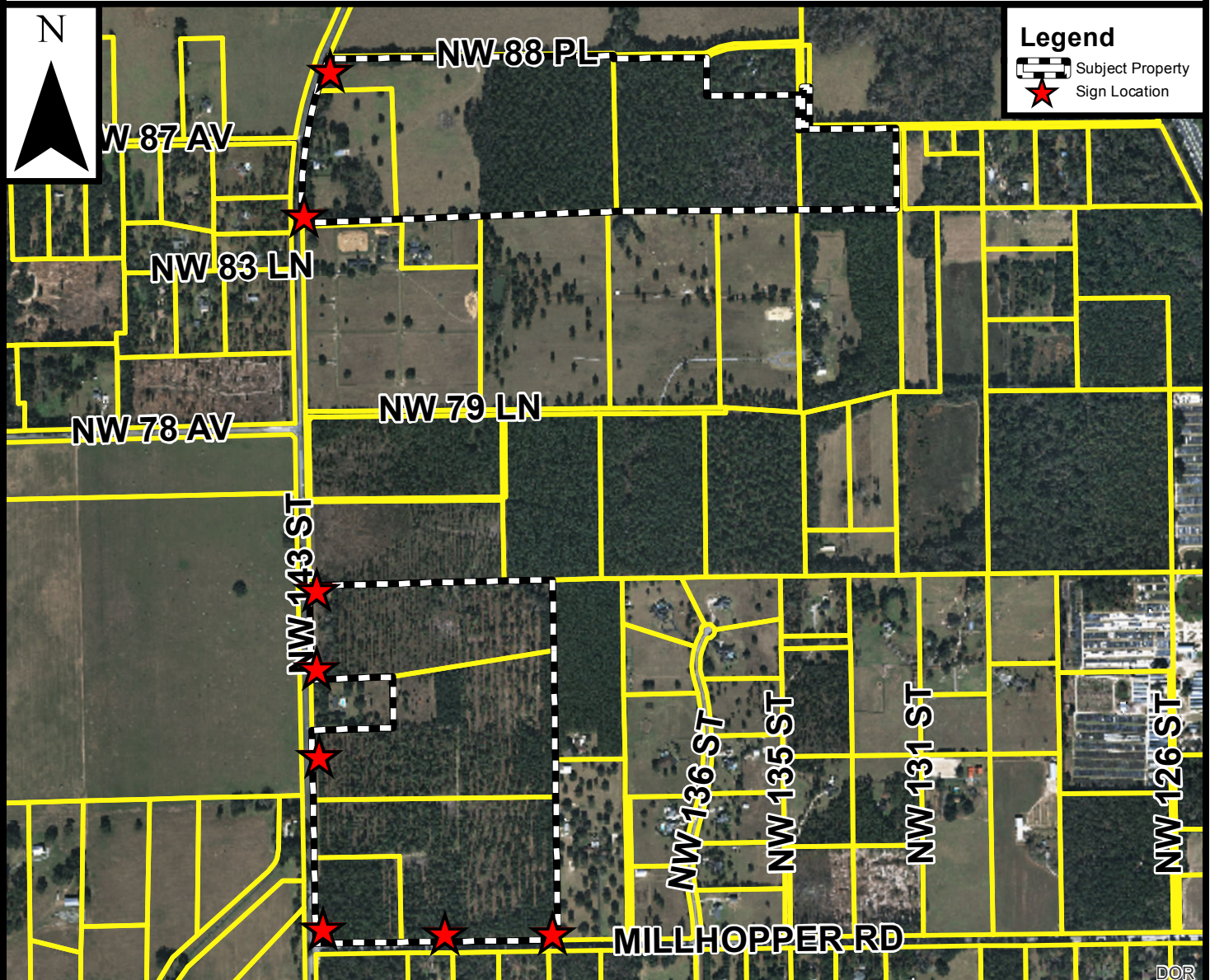
Pursuant to Section 2.2.9(D) of the City's Land Development Regulations, posted notice signs must be placed on the land that is the subject of the application, along each street which is adjacent to or runs through the land in a manner that makes them clearly visible. Signs shall be posted at intervals of not more than 400 feet when the land subject to the application has less than 1,500 feet of road frontage. When the land subject to the application has 1,500 feet or more of road frontage, signs shall be posted at intervals of not more than 1,320 feet.

Signs shall be inspected by the City subsequent to their posting. The applicant shall be responsible for ensuring that the posted notice is maintained on the land subject to the application until the completion of the final public hearing on the application.

***Signs must be removed by the applicant and returned to the City within ten days after the final decision on the application.***



## Hodor Farms Rezoning



Prepared by the City of Alachua  
Planning & Community Development Department

Prepared April 2019

**DISCLAIMER:** Data is provided "as is" without warranty of any representation of accuracy, timeliness, or completeness. The burden of determining accuracy, timeliness, or completeness for use rests solely on the requestor. The City makes no warranties, expressed or implied, as to the use of the data. The requestor acknowledges and accepts the limitations of the data, including the fact that the data is dynamic and in a constant state of maintenance, correction, and update.

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Feet



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**ALACHUA**

THE GOOD LIFE COMMUNITY

Mailed 5/23/2019



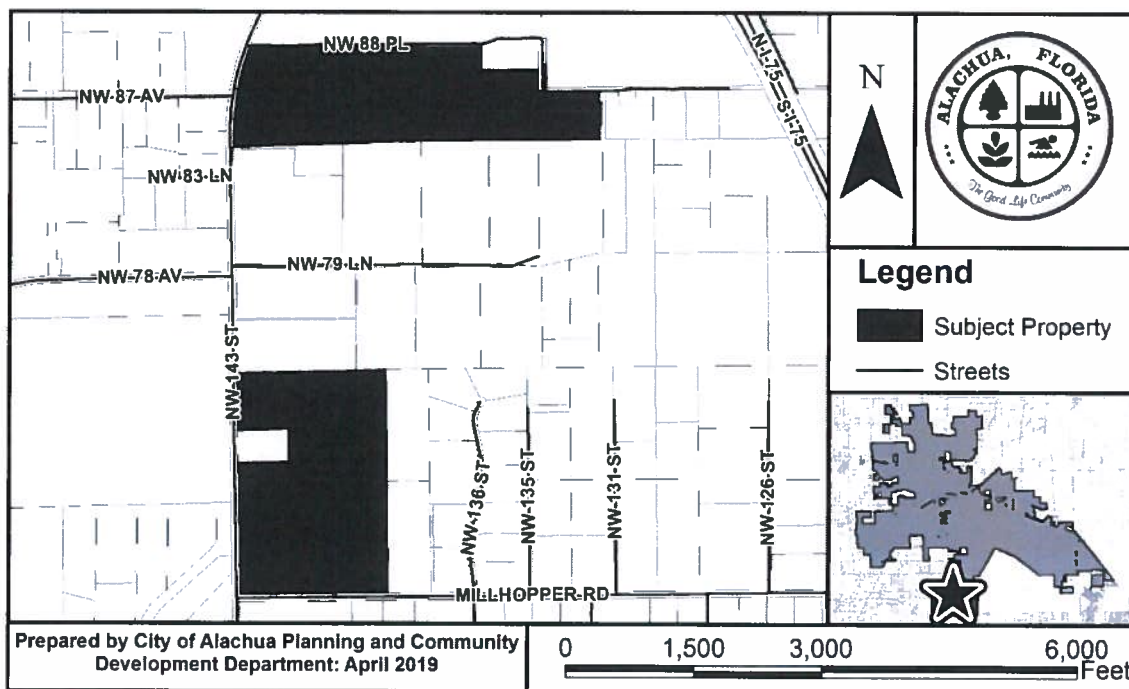
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P.O. Box 9 ♦ Alachua, Florida 32616-0009  
Phone: (386) 418-6121 ♦ Fax: (386) 418-6130

04053-000-000  
BRYAN RICHARD A & ALICE H LIFE ESTATE  
14823 NW 94TH AVE  
ALACHUA, FL 32615

04101-000-000  
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA, FOUNDAT  
1938 WEST UNIVERSITY AVE  
GAINESVILLE, FL 32603

04044-003-000  
DENNIS, WYARD JR  
217 SE 20TH ST  
GAINESVILLE, FL 32641-7432

04059-010-004  
WILLIAMS MABLE  
14405 NW 83RD LN  
ALACHUA, FL 32615-6739

04059-010-002  
STARK THOMAS M & MARGARET A  
14410 NW 83RD LN  
ALACHUA, FL 32615-6739

04059-010-001  
CHEEK PATRICK & SCARLET CARABACA  
14426 NW 83RD LANE  
ALACHUA, FL 32615

04119-010-082  
LEE JAMES G & FRANKIE O  
13903 MILLHOPPER RD  
GAINESVILLE, FL 32653-2448

04119-016-002  
GARRETT L C  
14007 MILLHOPPER RD  
GAINESVILLE, FL 32653-2446

04119-016-001  
YOUNG RICHARD B  
14101 MILLHOPPER RD  
GAINESVILLE, FL 32653

04119-010-080  
MAYS DAVID L & MARON B CALDERWOOD  
13703 MILLHOPPER RD  
GAINESVILLE, FL 32653-2452

04119-010-081  
WHITTY MARY ANN TRUSTEE  
13815 MILLHOPPER RD  
GAINESVILLE, FL 32653-2450

04049-001-000  
VON CASTEL-ROBERTS, KRISTINA M TRUSTEE  
13818 NW MILLHOPPER RD  
GAINESVILLE, FL 32653

04049-006-005  
GREEN, PRESTON T & HILARY M  
13520 NW 79TH LN  
ALACHUA, FL 32615

04108-002-000  
GREEN PRESTON T & HILARY  
13520 NW 79TH LN  
ALACHUA, FL 32615-6600

04108-010-000  
GREEN, PRESTON T & HILARY M  
13520 NW 79TH LN  
ALACHUA, FL 32615

04049-006-002  
GREEN, PRESTON T & HILARY M  
13520 NW 79TH LN  
ALACHUA, FL 32615

04049-006-003  
GREEN, PRESTON T & HILARY M  
13520 NW 79TH LN  
ALACHUA, FL 32615

04049-006-000  
GREEN HILL FARMS OWNERSHIP, AS  
13520 NW 79TH LN  
ALACHUA, FL 32615

04049-005-000  
KIDD, DAVID M & ALLISON  
13200 W NEWBERRY RD APT EE-176  
NEWBERRY, FL 32669

04043-001-000  
MORALES CARLOS M III & NIA A  
13505 NW 88TH PL  
ALACHUA, FL 32615

04049-006-001  
GREEN, PRESTON T & HILARY M  
13520 NW 79TH LN  
ALACHUA, FL 32615

04049-007-000  
HODOR FARMS LLC  
12730 NW 12TH RD  
NEWBERRY, FL 32669

04051-000-000  
HODOR, HOWARD TRUSTEE  
12730 NW 12TH RD  
NEWBERRY, FL 32669

04044-002-000  
DENNIS SIDNEY  
13027 NW 88TH PL  
ALACHUA, FL 32615-9369

04049-004-000  
HODOR FARMS LLC  
12730 NW 12TH RD  
NEWBERRY, FL 32669

04049-004-001  
HODOR FARMS LLC  
12730 NW 12TH RD  
NEWBERRY, FL 32669

04049-004-002  
HODOR FARMS LLC  
12730 NW 12TH RD  
NEWBERRY, FL 32669

04104-000-000

04043-000-000  
HODOR FARMS LLC  
12730 NW 12TH RD  
NEWBERRY, FL 32669

04044-000-000  
H & S HOLDINGS INC  
12730 NW 12TH RD  
NEWBERRY, FL 32669-2390



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04059-010-003  
WATKINS PAULA MARIE  
2405 NW 32ND ST  
GAINESVILLE, FL 32605

04040-001-001  
BECK HOLDINGS LLC  
3746 BETHLEHEM RD  
BLACKSTOCK, SC 29014

04040-001-002  
BECK HOLDINGS LLC  
3746 BETHLEHEM RD  
BLACKSTOCK, SC 29014

04049-006-006  
A TO Z ENTERPRISES LLC  
6614 NW 50TH LN  
GAINESVILLE, FL 32653

04050-000-000  
BRYANT JAMES E & TRACY L  
7329 NW 143RD ST  
ALACHUA, FL 32615

04049-003-000  
HARRIS, MARY A LIFE ESTATE  
8303 NW 143RD ST  
ALACHUA, FL 32615

04049-003-001  
HARRIS MARY A LIFE ESTATE  
8303 NW 143RD ST  
ALACHUA, FL 32615

04049-002-000  
BROUSE LARRY J TRUSTEE  
845 WASHINGTON LN  
RYDAL, PA 19046

04049-000-000  
HODOR & SOUTHWELL  
8615 NW 143RD ST  
ALACHUA, FL 32615

04119-016-000  
MAY TRUSTEE & WILLIAMS, TRUSTE  
PO BOX 140011  
GAINESVILLE, FL 32614-0011

04101-001-000  
SHEY STEPHEN & CAROL A  
PO BOX 14424  
GAINESVILLE, FL 32604-2424

04101-001-001  
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA, FOUNDAT  
PO BOX 14425  
GAINESVILLE, FL 32604-2425

04101-001-002  
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA, FOUNDAT  
PO BOX 14425  
GAINESVILLE, FL 32604-2425



Bonnie Flynn  
 16801 NW 166th Drive  
 Alachua, FL 32615

Dan Rhine  
 288 Turkey Creek  
 Alachua, FL 32615

Tom Gorman  
 9210 NW 59th Street  
 Alachua, FL 32653

Richard Gorman  
 5716 NW 93rd Avenue  
 Alachua, FL 32653

Peggy Arnold  
 410 Turkey Creek  
 Alachua, FL 32615

David Forest  
 23 Turkey Creek  
 Alachua, FL 32615

TCMOA-President  
 1000 Turkey Creek  
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 Alachua, FL 32615

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 Alachua, FL 32615

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 Gainesville, FL 32601

Antoinette Endelicato  
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 Gainesville, FL 32653