



November 4, 2025

Ms. Lindsay Buckingham
WKYC
1333 Lakeside Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Re: Short Term Rentals- Bath Township

Trustees

Sean F. Gaffney
Elaina E. Goodrich
Sharon A. Troike

Dear Ms. Buckingham,

With regard to your questions for the Bath Township Trustees on short term rentals, I submit the following statement on their behalf to address the same

a. The township's prohibited status of short-term rentals and enforcement challenges

Bath Township considers short-term rentals in residential districts a commercial use and commercial uses are not permitted in residentially zoned districts. Because the township does not have home rule authority under Ohio law, violations of zoning restrictions do not carry criminal or civil penalties under current law.

Fiscal Officer

Laura Tuttle

b. The liability warnings to property owners

When the township becomes aware of a property being used as a short-term rental, the Zoning Department issues a compliance letter to the property owner advising them of the violation and the need to discontinue the rental use. In the future, property owners will be cautioned about potential liability issues associated with allowing short-term rentals in residential areas and may expose the owner to private legal action or insurance exclusions.

**Township
Administrator**

Vito F. Sinopoli

c. Steps the township is considering to prevent similar incidents

To address the limitations of township authority, Bath Township is requesting the Summit County Executive's Office draft a countywide ordinance that could provide for civil or criminal penalties related to short-term rental violations.

d. How residents can report suspected short-term rental violations

Residents who suspect a residential property is being used as a short-term rental are encouraged to contact the Bath Township Zoning Department at 330-666-4007 to report their concerns. If residents observe a large gathering at a home that may appear suspicious, they can contact the Bath Township Police Department at 330-666-3736

Thank you,



Vito F. Sinopoli, Esq.

Administrator
Chief of Police

BATH TOWNSHIP
Summit County, Ohio

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