December 18, 2014

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| Hon. Matt Caldwell, ChairLee County Legislative Delegation | Via e-mail to: charlotte.gammie@myfloridahouse.gov.  |

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| Re: | Upper Captiva Fire Protection and Rescue Service DistrictRequest to address Lee County Legislative Delegation |

Dear Rep. Caldwell:

I am the general counsel for the Upper Captiva Fire Protection and Rescue Service District, an independent special fire control district in Lee County. Our Fire Board has requested that I obtain permission for the Board Chair, Edward “Zeke” McDonald, to address the Lee County Legislative Delegation at its hearing on January 13, 2015, to request the following:

Providing funding for necessary and critical equipment, or a portion of additional staffing that had to be added in order to maintain the fire rating for the island. This amount would be **$110,000**.

The rationale for that amount is that it is ¼ of the money (about $440,000.) that is being generated by the District due to passage of a referendum in July 2014 for a non-ad valorem special assessment. The District had to provide funding for firefighters to satisfy federal, state and ISO requirements.

North Captiva Island, which comprises the District, is owned by the State in Forestry lands to the extent of almost 50%. The State pays no taxes and provides almost no services in these lands. Some contribution by the State toward the local fire and rescue services will not be very precedential, because few, if any, local jurisdictions are comprised of such a high percentage of State lands. Also, we believe that the State is assisting in the funding of one or more districts on portions of Alligator Alley.

Thank you for the opportunity to address our Legislators.

Very truly yours,

Roetzel & Andress, LPA



Robert D. Pritt For the Firm

Board Certified City, County & Local Government Lawyer

Roetzel & Andress, L.P.A

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