



# SANTA ROSA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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June 3, 2020

Secretary Halsey Beshears  
2601 Blair Stone Rd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1027

Re: Revised Safety Plan for Continued Operation of Vacation Rentals in Santa Rosa County

Dear Secretary Beshears,

Thank you for your support and approval to open and operate vacation rentals in Santa Rosa County. As was presented in our safety plan the County completed a bi-weekly review and has incorporated several minor revisions to the original plan. The attached updated safety plan continues to use the same metric of coronavirus cases/100K residents but the plan now looks at the data on county level vice state level. Since the cases/100K rate only increases – it does not account for recovery or active cases only – it is necessary to adjust the threshold; an adjustment is included in this revised safety plan. The CDC website is still used as the common dataset since reporting is standardized, is easily accessible and property owners and managers are familiar with it.

The safety plan now also references and incorporates the additional DBPR recommended safety measures and best practices. The reporting requirement for property owners and managers has worked well and remains in place.

Santa Rosa County continues to have low positive test percentage (less than 1.5% over the last seven days) and low case rate (currently 134/100K) and we will continue to monitor the reopening phase metrics. Additionally, we will review the safety plan in coordination with our property owners and managers to ensure operation in responsible and safe manner.

As before, I am available to discuss this matter further and will provide any additional information you or your staff may need to allow the continued approval of operations of vacation rentals in Santa Rosa County. Thank you again for your time, leadership and support shown to the citizens of Santa Rosa County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dan Schebler".

Dan Schebler  
County Administrator

# Santa Rosa County Plan to Reopen Short Term Vacation Rentals

## (Revision 1)

Santa Rosa County completed a review of the original safety plan submitted and approved by DBPR on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Several changes (highlighted below) are included in the following additional measures to allow vacation/short term rental units to continue to operate:

- Vacation rental reservations and stays will be allowed from all U.S. **counties** with a COVID-19 Case Rate less than **1000** cases/100K residents. Additionally, reservations from other identified COVID-19 hot spots in the country will be avoided for the next 30-45 days. **County level case rate information is available at the following link: (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/county-map.html?>).**
  - Property owners and managers will continue to provide a report weekly to the Santa Rosa County Tourism Development Office (due every Friday) which includes all reservations (Arrival/Departure dates) and home zip codes of renters.
- Property owners and managers will provide COVID-19 guidance of any local restrictions that are in place during the guest stay and other related local information. The county has posted online all current information related to such restrictions so that it can be easily accessible to lodging operators and guests 24/7.
- Property owners and managers will adhere to all Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR) sanitation guidelines already in place as addressed under [61C-3.001 Sanitation and Safety Requirements of the transient lodging statutes](#). **Property owners and managers will adhere to DBPR recommended safety measures and other best practices located [here](#).**
- Property owners and managers will follow the [CDC related guidelines that are for public spaces, businesses, schools and homes](#) which expand upon the State of Florida & DBPR requirements already in place for safety and sanitation for all lodging.
  - Lodging should be allowed flexible time between stays based upon the use of CDC cleaning and sanitization procedures. Lodging units being cleaned are all different and some will take more time or less time, depending upon the size of the unit being sanitized.
- Signage will be placed at each property highlighting the cleaning protocols between stays.
- Property owners and managers should supply any and all employees or contractors with [CDC related safety guidance](#) while operating in the short term rental industry units to alleviate the transmission of the virus and provide further protection for employees and guests.
- Property owners and managers should supply guests with [CDC guidance](#) for guests traveling with pets and service/assistance animals if the property is pet friendly.
- Property owners and managers should also share [CDC resources](#) to any guest while staying in their units. These resources are available in multiple languages at the CDC website.