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**Exclusively Serving “Boca’s Beachfront Condominiums”**

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# THE BOCA BEACH REPORT

**December 2014**

*Privileged  
information about  
your real estate*

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*This publication is not a solicitation but is an information service from this real estate office.*

## When You Buy Or Sell Check Your Closing Documents

We all make mistakes. I do. You do. We all do. That is why we always recommend that all closing papers for a real estate transaction be carefully checked and recomputed.

There may be errors in addition or subtraction. There may be errors in the information that was reported to the person that is drawing the closing documents. If you are the seller, was your last mortgage payment reported correctly? Is there a refund coming to you on your prepaid insurance policy?

When you purchase or sell a property, the columns of figures on the charges and credits prepared by the attorney, escrow company or title company go on for pages. They can be intimidating. Further, they might not be all correct. Take your time and question anything you do not understand fully. It's your money.

Professional real estate agents will help a buyer or seller check the closing papers when a property changes ownership. The terms and conditions of the sale

were spelled out in advance. The buyer's loan papers were also worked out carefully with the lender, spelling out the terms of the loan.

**Make sure the figures are correct when signing the documents.**

- The monthly payments. The total amount of the indebtedness and the term in months of the loan.
- Per diem figures for utilities, taxes, and/or interest.
- Rents, security deposits, and/or interest on deposits that have not yet been transferred.
- Any charge for utility bills that have already been paid.
- Any charge for loan fees that have been paid in advance.
- Look for contractors, attorney, appraiser, or some other party to the contract who has not yet been paid.

It is much easier to correct any error or omission before signing and before the closing than to try to get something corrected at a later date, perhaps from a new address across the country. ❖

## There Are Second Home Bargains

Owning more real estate is an investment in the future. With real estate prices gradually increasing, now may be your time. With the recovery starting, prices are rising.

People are still buying homes. In addition, many own a second home. If you already own the home you live in, is it time to buy another? Why not start on a program of estate building by the purchase of an extra home or homes for rentals? Each successive investment gets easier.

### Your Down Payment

Compared to investments such as the stock market, the amount of capital required can be remarkably small. The leverage is better, with down payments still as low as **10%** or **15%** of the value. You may be able to make an investment in a significant property with just a down payment in the **\$20,000** to **\$30,000** range (or even less). Someone else, either a lender or maybe the seller of the property will put up the rest of the investment capital. Real estate is always the perfect place for the use of **OPM (other people's money)**. Usually the rents will cover most of the expense.

### Capital Gains

If there is any increase in value in real estate, the potential for big gains on a leveraged (**OPM**) investment can be significant. An increase in value affects the whole value of the property, not just your equity.

Suppose you have invested a **\$30,000** down payment in a **\$300,000** property (or properties) that increases in value by only **20%**. The **\$300,000** total value just increases to **\$360,000**. That **20%** increase in value of the property made your equity increase to **\$90,000**. That is a **200%** increase in equity.

Picture the profit on this transaction if the property went up **50%** in value to **\$450,000**.

### Look For The Right Location

#### What should you look for?

**A neighborhood where most homes are occupied by the owners.** You will probably be able to get higher rents in an area where the other houses are owner-occupied. Owner-occupied houses will usually be better maintained and the neighborhood will be more

stable. If you own a second home in a resort, check out that area. Resort areas bring in high rental amounts and usually have excellent property managers.

In the area of your primary home, be aware of the location of schools, churches, shopping - **just as you would if you were purchasing the property for your own residence.** The person you sell to later will be doing the same. Make sure of the zoning of the neighborhood and any adjoining areas. Be sure you do not have any sudden surprises after you make your purchase. (We will make sure that this will not happen when we help you with the purchase.)

### Other Benefits

There are many more benefits from investments in single-family homes. Many professional investors specialize in houses and have never owned any other type of income property:

1. It is usually the easiest property to qualify for a high ratio loan. It is not unusual to have 80% or 90% loans on homes, even when not owner-occupied. Remember the example of leverage when property increased by only 20%.
2. Refinancing any income property already owned can be a good source of tax-free cash. Any house owned for any length of time can probably be utilized to borrow against to acquire cash to buy another property. Later, when you can refinance both houses again, your investments can multiply!
3. There is little risk, if you have chosen the right property and neighborhood. Can you think of any less risk in investing than owning a home in a good neighborhood?
4. The negotiation can be easier than dealing with professional investors of income property. When you purchase a home, you are usually dealing with a seller who is not a professional investor, but just the owner of a house.
5. The owner of a rented single-family home has all of the tax benefits of depreciation.
6. Tenants who rent single-family homes or vacation homes are more stable people and better credit risks than occupants of apartment properties.
7. Down payments are low compared to investments in apartment properties, since you only purchase one unit at a time. In the single family

(continued)

house, you are purchasing one house, one unit, rather than two or more units.

8. Like the purchase, when you sell the home, the buyer will usually be buying the property as a home. The sale transaction is very simple since you will not be dealing with a professional investor.

9. If you own more than one investment home, your investments are scattered and are separate properties. Later, when you sell, you can then have the choice of paying the income tax on the gain in whatever year

you choose. By selling only one, two or a few houses in any one tax year, the gains can be spread out for years to fit into a long-term plan to minimize income taxes. You can move from one to another, live in each long enough to qualify for the \$250,000 or \$500,000 exemption from capital gains taxes, and retire very rich.

10. Since rental houses are investment properties like any apartment or business property, the owner can combine them using any or all equities at any time for a tax-deferred exchange into other investment properties. ❖

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## Selling Homes Is Our Business

Even though home sales are getting back to normal in many parts of the country, it may take longer than usual to sell your home. It is most important to hire the best, most active real estate office to handle the transaction.

There is a big difference between real estate offices and the way that properties that are listed are promoted. The agent's marketing plan has two main objectives. The prospective buyer must be persuaded to go out and see the property—then he must "see" it through your eyes, with its true potential fully realized. Other brokers must also see the home as "special" so their clients will appreciate it, when they show it. A well-conceived descriptive sales package or report on the property can achieve both of these aims.

Assembling all of the data that prospects need and presenting it in a handy and attractive form can expedite the entire process of negotiation as well as the ultimate sale. Besides speeding up the communications process, the "package" also provides the seller with a means of getting his information to a wider range of buyers in a more effective manner.

### The Benefits Of The Package

A well-prepared sales package serves essentially five marketing purposes:

- Helps the seller's agent identify and reach prospective buyers or lessees.
- Provides an agent and his/her associates with an attractive and effective way of presenting the property.
- Gives the buyer, in one neat package, all the information needed to decide whether or not to buy.
- Provides dollars and cents demonstrations that

will support the seller's price.

- If the property is other than residential, it provides information on the property's potential for development.

### Included In The File

The following information should be of interest to a prospective buyer and should be preassembled in a handy, attractive form.

#### Physical Features:

- Legal description of property.
- Plot plan showing survey boundaries and dimensions, access streets, sidewalks, buildings, structures, parking areas, easements, etc.
- Description of topography and surroundings.
- Topographic map, if available.
- Photographs of the property, including an aerial view.
- Soil Analysis report, if applicable.
- For an existing building, a statement of its physical condition, copies of floor plans, gross and net square footage.

#### Other Attributes:

- Statement of present ownership.
- List of any encumbrances.
- Statement of present zoning status.
- Proximity to highways, public transportation, residential areas, schools, houses of worship, shopping, sources of employment, etc.

All of this can be done in multiple copies in folders so that each prospective buyer who shows a serious interest can take a copy for further study. ❖

# Boca BEACHFRONT Availability

The following is a summary of the available and pending residences located on the East (BEACH) side of OCEAN Blvd. (A1A) in Boca Raton. 0.1% to 3.9% is Low Inventory \* 4.0% to 6.9% is Balanced Inventory \* 7.0% to 9.9% is High Inventory \* 10.0% + is Excessive Inventory

## North Beach

(North of Palmetto Park Road on North OCEAN Blvd. - Listed from North to South)

Address	Condo Name	TA	AA	%A	ADOM	Price Range	Average	PC
2150	Aegean	8	0	0.0%	0	SOLD OUT	N/A	0
2070	Athena	4	1	25.0%	32	2.95M	2.95M	0
2066	Ocean Reef Towers	55	1	1.8%	127	799K	799K	0
2000	Brighton	39	2	5.1%	63	1.05M to 1.4M	1.225M	0
<b>S/T</b>	<b>North Beach</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3.8%</b>	<b>71</b>		<b>1.550M</b>	<b>0</b>

## Boca Beach

(South of Palmetto Park Road to the Boca Inlet on South OCEAN Blvd. - Listed from North to South.)

Address	Condo Name	TA	AA	%A	ADOM	Price Range	Average	PC
250	Marbella	155	0	0.0%	0	SOLD OUT	N/A	2
310	Boca Mar	38	0	0.0%	0	SOLD OUT	N/A	1
350	Beresford	53	0	0.0%	0	SOLD OUT	N/A	1
400	Excelsior, The	27	3	11.1%	133	2.85M to 6.2M	4.083M	0
500&550	Chalfonte, The	378	8	2.1%	74	599K to 1.625M	854K	4
600	Sabal Shores	125	7	5.6%	169	549K to 1.15M	729K	0
700	Sabal Point	67	5	7.5%	90	500K to 1.995K	1.113M	1
750	Sabal Ridge	31	0	0.0%	0	SOLD OUT	N/A	0
800	Presidential Place	42	2	4.8%	64	3.695M to 4.195M	3.945M	0
1000	One Thousand Ocean	52	2	3.9%	39	3.3M to 4.495M	3.898M	0
<b>S/T</b>	<b>Boca Beach</b>	<b>968</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>2.8%</b>	<b>105</b>		<b>1.391M</b>	<b>9</b>

## South Beach

(South of the Boca Inlet on South OCEAN Blvd. - Listed from North to South)

Address	Condo Name	TA	AA	%A	ADOM	Price Range	Average	PC
1180	Cloister del Mar	96	1	1.1%	4	\$1.199M	1.199M	0
1200	Cloister Beach	128	0	0.0%	0	SOLD OUT	N/A	0
1400&1500	Addison, The	169	4	2.4%	243	991K to 2.599M	1.636M	2
1800	Placide, The	54	2	3.7%	100	635K to 875K	755K	0
2000	Whitehall	164	1	0.6%	125	450K	450K	1
2494	Aragon, The	41	4	9.8%	159	2.295M to 3.495M	2.935M	0
2500	Luxuria, The	24	2	8.3%	82	5.495M to 5.7M	5.598M	0
2600	Stratford Arms	120	2	1.7%	11	849K to 875K	862K	0
2800	Whitehall South	256	8	3.1%	96	625K to 1.099M	839K	4
3000	3000 South	80	3	3.8%	189	520K to 549K	539K	1
<b>S/T</b>	<b>South Beach</b>	<b>1132</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>128</b>		<b>1.537M</b>	<b>8</b>

<b>Totals</b>	<b>Dec. 2014</b>	<b>2206</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>113</b>		<b>1.470M</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>Dec. 2013</b>	<b>2206</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>193</b>		<b>1.779M</b>	<b>11</b>

### Key:

**TA** = Total Number of Apartments in Development \* **AA** = Number of Apartments Available For Sale  
**%A** = Percent of Apartments in Development For Sale \* **ADOM** = Average Number of Days on Market per Listing  
**PC** = Number of Apartments SOLD and Pending Closing

This information is compiled from FlexMLS on November 17, 2014. This representation is based in whole or in part on data supplied by FlexMLS. FlexMLS does not guarantee or is not in any way responsible for its accuracy. Data maintained by FlexMLS may not reflect all real estate activity in the market.