

Colleagues need assistance in their fight against the Town of St. James A Petition is under way to revoke the town's charter

A small group of people are not only trying to avoid being involuntarily annexed by the Town of St. James but are looking to have the town's charter revoked. This petition is asking the legislature to review the law that allowed the gated community to incorporate in July, 1999.

The forced annexation area is composed of 25 property owners and 76% of those owners have voluntarily petitioned Oak Island (a real town with public access) for annexation. The paper Town of St. James is a gated community that last year received \$600,000 in sales tax revenue and deems its streets private and allows no public access. 100% of the residents live behind the gate which is governed by their Property Owners Association (POA). This POA is a seven member board with 4 members being appointed by the developer. Who really is minding the store??? In addition the only meaningful asset the Town of St. James has is 15 acres outside the gate for the purpose of some day building a town hall and possible community center. Most municipalities can be defined by a main street, business district and public access. Not St. James, Main Street is St. James Drive (see photos below) that leads all behind the gate. Only Main Street defines the Town of St. James.

If the Town of St. James is successful in their annexation attempt we as citizens of that town would have unequal representation, no additional services and the inability to access the community to eat at the restaurants, go to the parks, amphitheater, church or library. We would still travel to another town that offers public access as we do today.

This is Forced Annexation taken to another level.....

To sign the Petition to have legislature revoke the "Town of St. James" Charter click on this link (www.lbraaa.com/Petition.html).



