

7.15.14 # 9b.

TO: The Honorable Chairman and Members of the
Board of County Commissioners

FROM: James L. Bennett, County Attorney *JLB*

SUBJECT: Notice of New Lawsuit and Defense of the Same by the County Attorney
in the Case of Thomas M. Walsh, Jr., and Patricia Walsh v. Pinellas County
Circuit Civil Case No. 14-004170-CI-21

DATE: July 15, 2014

NOTICE: THIS IS TO ADVISE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS THAT THE ABOVE-REFERENCED LAWSUIT WAS FILED AGAINST THE COUNTY AND THE COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE WILL DEFEND THE SAME.

DISCUSSION: Plaintiffs allege that on or about September 9, 2012, while on vacation from Chicago, IL, visiting Upham Beach, St. Pete Beach, the plaintiff slipped and fell on the T-groin structure installed to reduce beach erosion. The plaintiffs allege that the T-groins were vandalized, unsafe, and presented a safety hazard to invitees and visitors to the public beach. Plaintiffs contend that the County knew, or should have known, of this purported dangerous condition and failed to warn them of the danger.

The County Attorney's Office will bring all counterclaims, cross-claims, or third party claims as necessary or appropriate in the judgment of the County Attorney.

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