



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF Environmental Protection

Central District Office
3319 Maguire Blvd., Suite 232
Orlando, Florida 32803

Ron DeSantis
Governor

Jeanette Nuñez
Lt. Governor

Shawn Hamilton
Interim Secretary

July 26, 2021

Kevin Ridgeway, Cemetery Director
Cape Canaveral National Cemetery
5525 US 1
Mims, Florida 32754
Kevin.Ridgeway@va.gov

Re: Cape Canaveral National Cemetery
PW Facility ID # 3054187
OGC Case #21-0537

Dear Mr. Ridgeway:

Enclosed is the executed Consent Order to resolve the above referenced case. This copy is for your records.

Should you have any questions or comments, please contact Miranda Rothenberger at 407-897-4301 or via e-mail at Miranda.Rothenberger@FloridaDEP.gov.

Your cooperation in this matter will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Aaron Watkins".

Aaron Watkins
Director, Central District

Enclosure

cc: Lea Crandall, OGC
Zoey Carr, Central District
Daun Festa, Central District
Miranda Rothenberger, Central District



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF Environmental Protection

CENTRAL DISTRICT OFFICE
3319 MAGUIRE BLVD., SUITE 232
ORLANDO, FLORIDA 32803

Ron DeSantis
Governor

Jeanette Nuñez
Lt. Governor

Noah Valenstein
Secretary

June 17, 2021

Cape Canaveral National Cemetery
Kevin Ridgeway, Cemetery Director
5525 US 1
Mims, Florida 32754
Kevin.Ridgeway@va.gov

SUBJECT: Department of Environmental Protection v. Cape Canaveral National Cemetery, OGC File No.: 21-0537
PW Facility ID No. 3054187

Mr. Ridgeway:

The State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection ("Department") finds that Cape Canaveral National Cemetery ("Respondent") failed to maintain an adequate chlorine residual for February 2020, June 2020, September 2020, November 2020, March 2021, and May 2021, in violation of Rule 62-555.350(6), Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), and failed to obtain a required permit before modification to the drinking water treatment system in violation of Rule 62-555.520(1), F.A.C. Before sending this letter, the Department requested that the Respondent undertake certain actions to resolve the violations. These actions have since been completed. However, due to the nature of the violations, the Respondent remains subject to civil penalties. The Respondent is also responsible for costs incurred by the Department during the investigation of this matter.

The Department's Offer

Based on the violations described above, the Department is seeking \$ 8,000.00 in civil penalties and \$ 250.00 for costs and expenses the Department has incurred in investigating this matter, which amounts to a total of \$ 8,250.00. The civil penalty in this matter includes seven violations of \$2,000.00 or more.

Respondent's Acceptance

If you wish to accept this offer and fully resolve the enforcement matter pending against the Respondent, please sign this letter and return it to the Department at 3319 Maguire Blvd, Ste 232, Orlando, Florida 32803 by July 20, 2021. The Department will then countersign it and file it with a designated clerk of the Department. Once the document is filed with the designated clerk, it will constitute a final order of the Department pursuant to Section 120.52(7), F.S. and will be effective unless a request for an administrative hearing is filed by a third party in accordance with Chapter 120, F.S. and the attached Notice of Rights.

By accepting this offer you, Kevin Ridgeway:

- (1) certify that you are authorized and empowered to negotiate, enter into, and accept the terms of this offer in the name and on behalf of Respondent;
- (2) acknowledge and waive Respondent's right to an administrative hearing pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S., on the terms of this offer, once final;
- (3) acknowledge and waive Respondent's right to an appeal pursuant to Section 120.68, F.S.; and

The Department acknowledges that the Respondent's acceptance of this offer does not constitute an admission of liability for the violation(s) referenced above.

Respondent's Performance

After signing and returning this document to the Department,

- (1) Respondent must pay \$ 8,250.00 in full by July 30, 2021.
- (2) Respondent shall make all payments required by this Order by cashier's check, money order or on-line payment. Cashier's check or money order shall be made payable to the "Department of Environmental Protection" and shall include both the OGC number assigned to this Order and the notation "Water Quality Assurance Trust Fund." Online payments by e-check can be made by going to the DEP Business Portal at: <http://www.fldepportal.com/go/pay/>. It will take a number of days after this order is final, effective and filed with the Clerk of the Department before ability to make online payment is available.

The Department may enforce the terms of this document, once final, and seek to collect monies owed pursuant to Sections 120.69 and 403.121, F.S.

Until clerked by the Department, this letter is only a settlement offer and not a final agency action. Consequently, neither the Respondent nor any other party may request

an administrative hearing to contest this letter pursuant to Chapter 120, F.S. Once this letter is clerked and becomes a final order of the Department, as explained above, the attached Notice of Rights will apply to parties, other than the Respondent, whose interests will be substantially affected.

Electronic signatures or other versions of the parties' signatures, such as .pdf or facsimile, shall be valid and have the same force and effect as originals. No modifications of the terms of this Order will be effective until reduced to writing, executed by both Respondent and the Department, and filed with the clerk of the Department.

Please be aware that if the Respondent declines to respond to the Department's offer, the Department will assume that the Respondent is not interested in resolving the matter and will proceed accordingly.

If you have any questions, please contact Miranda Rothenberger at 407-897-4301 or at Miranda.Rothenberger@FloridaDEP.gov.

Sincerely,



On behalf of:

Aaron Watkins
District Director

Central District

FOR THE RESPONDENT:

I, Kevin T. Ridgeway [Type or Print Name], **HEREBY ACCEPT**
THE TERMS OF THE SETTLEMENT OFFER IDENTIFIED ABOVE.

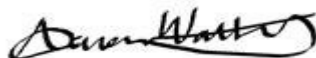
By: Kevin T. Ridgeway Digitally signed by Kevin T. Ridgeway
345151
Date: 2021.07.19 15:10:51 -04'00' Date: 07/19/2021
[Signature]

Title: Director, Cape Canaveral National Cemetery
[Type or Print]

FOR DEPARTMENT USE ONLY

DONE AND ORDERED this 26th day of July, 2021, in Orange County,
Florida.

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT
OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



Aaron Watkins
District Director
Central District

Filed, on this date, pursuant to section 120.52, F.S., with the designated Department
Clerk, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged.



Clerk

Attachments: Notice of Rights

July 26, 2021

[Date](#)

Final clerked copy furnished to:

Lea Crandall, Agency Clerk (lea.crandall@dep.state.fl.us)

Miranda Rothenberger, FDEP

NOTICE OF RIGHTS

Persons who are not parties to this Order, but whose substantial interests are affected by it, have a right to petition for an administrative hearing under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes. Because the administrative hearing process is designed to formulate final agency action, the filing of a petition concerning this Order means that the Department's final action may be different from the position it has taken in the Order.

The petition for administrative hearing must contain all of the following information:

- a) The OGC Number assigned to this Order;
- b) The name, address, and telephone number of each petitioner; the name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner's representative, if any, which shall be the address for service purposes during the course of the proceeding;
- c) An explanation of how the petitioner's substantial interests will be affected by the Order;
- d) A statement of when and how the petitioner received notice of the Order;
- e) Either a statement of all material facts disputed by the petitioner or a statement that the petitioner does not dispute any material facts;
- f) A statement of the specific facts the petitioner contends warrant reversal or modification of the Order;
- g) A statement of the rules or statutes the petitioner contends require reversal or modification of the Order; and
- h) A statement of the relief sought by the petitioner, stating precisely the action petitioner wishes the Department to take with respect to the Order.

The petition must be filed (received) at the Department's Office of General Counsel, 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, MS# 35, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000 or received via electronic correspondence at Agency_Clerk@floridadep.gov, within 21 days of receipt of this notice. A copy of the petition must also be mailed at the time of filing to the District Office at the address indicated above. Failure to file a petition within the 21-day period constitutes a person's waiver of the right to request an administrative hearing and to participate as a party to this proceeding under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes. Mediation under Section 120.573, Florida Statutes, is not available in this proceeding.