



NEW FILE
FIRE PROTECTION
COUNTY ISLANDS

553-12

October 29, 2004

Facsimile and Mail (602-468-0562)

Elaine Richardson
Commissioner
Arizona Department of Real Estate
2910 N 44th Street, Suite 100
Phoenix, AZ 85018

Dear Commissioner Richardson:

This letter is to request your assistance and direction regarding disclosure of the availability of fire protection and emergency response services to county islands located within the urbanized area.

Gilbert is extremely concerned that real estate agents may be under the impression that a Gilbert mailing address results in Gilbert emergency and fire services. **That is not the case.** Gilbert has the obligation to serve property annexed into the community, and there are individual lots, subdivisions and parcels not annexed into Gilbert who may be told by listing agents they have Gilbert police and fire to which they are not legally entitled.

Of particular concern to Gilbert is information that Rural Metro will not be providing fire protection service within the Gilbert area after July, 2005. Gilbert presently has an Agreement with Rural Metro which compensates Gilbert for responses into non-annexed areas where Rural Metro provides service. *This Agreement will no longer be valid, once Rural Metro ceases to serve.* These county islands will no longer receive any protection from Gilbert, even though they might be right next door to a Gilbert fire station.

I have been asked by the Mayor and Council to identify the most appropriate communication vehicles to advise the real estate industry, and subsequently homeowners of this concern.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this request.
I can be reached at 480-503-6864 if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "G. A. Pettit", written over a horizontal line.

George A. Pettit
Manager

Cc: Mayor and Council
Susan Goodwin
Collin DeWitt