



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau

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Superior Small Lodging: *Local accommodations qualify for prestigious designation*

LEE COUNTY, FL – Representatives of the Florida Superior Small Lodging Association (SSL) recently announced 16 Lee County hoteliers have successfully qualified for the distinguished SSL designation. The SSL certification is a statewide hospitality recognition program.

In addition, 15 of the 16 total SSL properties inspected by the Property Review Program (PRP) qualified to receive the coveted Donal A. Dermody White Glove Award for best practices in housekeeping. Properties must receive a score of 100 percent for all components of the housekeeping inspection to be eligible to receive the White Glove Award.

Superior Small Lodging Program

Eligibility for participation in the Lee County SSL program is restricted to accommodations with 50 room units or less. Properties must hold a valid hotel, motel, inn or bed and breakfast license and pay all applicable state and local taxes related to the operations of an accommodation.

The SSL inspection program and designation is designed to provide travelers with an easily identifiable symbol to demonstrate that the accommodation is a “clean, safe and well managed small lodging establishment, offering friendly ambiance and personal service.” All property review inspections are conducted unannounced and can be repeated periodically and randomly to ensure that SSL program standards are being maintained.

The passing grade for participation in the program is 82 percent and is based on a comprehensive review process of six different property attributes: registration/operations/public

Sanibel & Captiva Islands Fort Myers Beach Fort Myers Bonita Springs Estero Cape Coral Pine Island Boca Grande & Outer Islands North Fort Myers Lehigh Acres

places, guests accommodations, bathrooms, bathroom supplies, kitchens, and property exterior. These six categories are further delineated with numerical scoring to create the 343 total point inspection system.

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Lee County properties recognized by the Florida Superior Small Lodging Association hospitality recognition program for 2014 include:

Bokeelia, Fort Myers & St. James City

Lahser House – *White Glove Award*

Legacy Harbour Hotel & Suites – *White Glove Award*

Tarpon Lodge – *White Glove Award*

Two Fish Inn – *White Glove Award*

Fort Myers Beach

Beach Shell Inn - *White Glove Award*

Harbour House at the Inn - *White Glove Award*

Manatee Bay Inn Bed & Breakfast – *White Glove Award*

Matanzas Inn

Silver Sands Villas – *White Glove Award*

Sanibel & Captiva islands

Gulf Breeze Cottages – *White Glove Award*

Mitchell's Sand Castles – *White Glove Award*

The Palm View – *White Glove Award*

Sandpiper Inn- *White Glove Award*

Shalimar Resort – *White Glove Award*

Signal Inn – *White Glove Award*

Waterside Inn on the Beach – *White Glove Award*

For more information on the Superior Small Lodging program, contact Nancy MacPhee, program manager, Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau at 239-338-3500. For destination information, visit www.FortMyersSanibel.com .

EDITOR'S NOTE: *The Beaches of Fort Myers & Sanibel in southwest Florida includes: Sanibel Island, Captiva Island, Fort Myers Beach, Fort Myers, Bonita Springs, Estero, Cape Coral, Pine Island, Boca Grande & Outer islands, North Fort Myers, Lehigh Acres.*