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## **From the Magna Carta to the PIPOA**

I am Kelly McFadden and I am a candidate for the 2019 PIPOA Board.

We all received them. That packet of PIPOA documents provided to us as we were purchasing our home. That packet that most of us glanced at and thought “OK, I am part of a homeowner’s association and I have to pay dues”. But in the excitement of purchasing a new home, the full importance of these documents is often overlooked.

I know. I was one of those who, at the time, did not fully understand the importance of our Articles of Incorporation, our Bylaws and our Covenants.

But over the last few years, as I got more involved with the PIPOA, I quickly realized how important these documents were to me, a homeowner in the PIPOA. And I took a closer look and really read them.

I realized that these documents are not only to describe our organization. They are also there to protect us, the homeowners and the substantial investment we make in our community. Yes, we homeowners agree to follow certain rules. But the PIPOA has rules to follow as well.

And when myself and many others discovered that the PIPOA was not following all the rules, that is when we spoke up.

The community spoke loudly in 2015 when the Board attempted to build a multi-million dollar community center without asking permission of the homeowners as was required by our Articles of Incorporation. Unfortunately, \$60,000 had already been spent on plans before the process was halted. The Board issued an apology letter to the community ([linked below](#)).

The community spoke loudly in 2017 when it was discovered that the 2013 Board had secretly changed our Bylaws granting themselves the right to amend them. A right that was listed in the Bylaws as a sole right of the homeowners. We formed the ARCH to right this wrong. And in May of 2018 the community cheered loudly as they overwhelmingly voted to return Bylaw amending rights solely to the homeowners.

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And now the community is starting to speak loudly about our Covenants. For years they have been questionably and inconsistently applied. And that uneven and inconsistent enforcement is at the root of a problem that now must be addressed.

These three documents form the basis of our governance. They are not optional. They must be adhered to. If there is something in them that we, as a community, no longer agree with, then we, as a community can vote to change them.

What do our governance documents have to do with the Magna Carta? Signed in the year 1215, the Magna Carta established written laws that must be followed. No one was above the law. And these concepts were included in our Constitution, and in our State Laws. Today, 804 years later, our PIPOA governing documents describe the rules and laws that we must follow. If elected, I will follow them to the letter. The PIPOA Homeowners should expect nothing less.

[www.KellyForPIPOA.com](http://www.KellyForPIPOA.com)

<http://padreislespoa.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Signed-letter-to-owners-1-13-15.pdf>