

# **BULLETIN**

from **SXM Weekly News**

Edition #1038 --- March 23, 2016

- Sapphire Resort Court Case Delayed Again
- RCI & Sapphire May Have Reconnected
- How To Contact Us (Important)
- Quick Update on Seaweed, Zika, & Security (Following the Brussels Attacks)
- Winners of Our 10 Vacation Giveaway

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## **1. Sapphire Resort Case Delayed Again**

The Sapphire Court case, pitting a new would-be owner against the Verdier family, developers of the resort, has been delayed again. The verdict was originally scheduled for March 8 and has been again delayed until April. Last time the Court said clerk reports were delayed, this time it said nothing.

We will keep you posted. When anything happens it will first be posted to our **Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site**, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/6297726366/> , and will then be in the next *SXM Weekly News*.

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## **2. RCI & Sapphire May Have Reconnected**

Some readers who are not Sapphire timeshare owners are telling us that they have traded into Sapphire through RCI. That implies that the RCI - Sapphire relationship is back on again, though we have not been able to confirm that with RCI and we've heard from no Sapphire timeshare owners about it either.

If you're a Sapphire timeshare owner and want to bank or trade, give it a shot & let us know.... Hopefully this unending soap opera is almost over.

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## **3. How To Contact Us (Important; for JMB Members Only)**

First: contacting us any way other than as described here is likely to delay your inquiry.

By far the best way for JMB Website Supporters members to contact us is through our main support email, support[at]jmbcommunications.com. Email sent there by JMB members now usually receives a reply within one business day. If you email to any other address, your mail (if it is received) must be rerouted, further delaying it. So please always use the support@ address. It's also faster than phone and much faster than ground mail.

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**4. Zika, Seaweed, and Security**

Zika. We have not seen one single solitary aedes aegypti mosquito -- they're black with white markings -- and not many "ordinary" mosquitoes in the last several weeks. "Aedes" is the genre that can carry Zika, Chikungunya, and Dengue Fever if they bite an infected person.

We have also not seen any aedes aegypti mosquitoes anywhere in more than two years, since December 2013.

Seaweed. A little seaweed is around, mostly not "sargasso" so it's really not bothering anyone. Water is quite warm and getting warmer... only about 60 days until hurricane season (June 1).

Security. After the November attacks in Paris, the Gendarmerie enhanced border patrols. Cars were stopped to check occupants' legitimacy. We were stopped once, in Marigot, where we were asked for our car rental papers and our license. It was quick and easy. In the wake of the Brussels attacks, checks are being enhanced in some areas, so expect it.

One gendarme in each group we've seen was carrying an assault weapon.

When driving anywhere in SXM, always wear your seat belt. Never use your cell phone when driving. And never drive after drinking, particularly on the French Side. Fines are very heavy.

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**5. Winners of Our 10-Vacation Giveaway**

They'll be announced in our next regular issue, which is scheduled to be mailed Monday March 28.

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