

Are piers public?

Marty Casado Tue, Apr 14, 2015 [Crime](#), [Diving & Snorkeling](#), [Fishing](#), [Swimming](#) 0 24736

I am looking for information regarding dock / pier law... I am hoping your long time experience might point me in the correct direction. Additionally, I do not want to spend money on an attorney unnecessarily...

Specifically, I have a man who is parking his boat permanently on my dock with no lease. I have ask him to move it (verbally and in writing) with no success. I have emailed the chief of police with no response. (Henry Jemmott).

I appreciate any information you may offer.

If in fact the neighbor is in some kind of violation, it is a civil legal problem, not a criminal one.

This means calling an attorney, not a police officer at this juncture. If a court issues an order then the police can enforce it.

Emailing the police never works, you have to visit them and take them to the dock.

As I understand it, all seashore in Belize is owned by the GOB, 66 feet from the waterline.

This rule is obviously broken all over the country, my lot and many others come within 10 or so feet.

This ownership includes docks, which in Belize are built and maintained by the people who's property abbutts the sea frontage, after they have applied and received permission from the Gov. to build them.

This Gov. owned seashore rule is in effect in lots of countries, it was the same in Costa Rica and Florida.

It has it's roots in old maritime law, stops denial of people in distress (at sea) from safe landing.

As always in Belize, a dispute would bring varied arbitrary results, depends on who's dock and who wants to walk on it. There are lots of docks on CC that have signs and gates.

More information here:

<https://ambergriscaye.com/forum/ubbthreads.php/ubb/showflat/Number/411898/>

From the San Pedro Town Council:

The Ministry responsible for granting pier permits is the Ministry of Natural Resources through its Physical Planning Department. When you applied for your permit they provide a document that states the rules and regulations under which you were granted the pier permit. When experiencing problems the use of the pier it would be best to contact the department in order for them to instruct you on how to proceed.

Online URL: <https://ambergriscaye.com/help/article/are-piers-public-370.html>