



United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Eastern States
7450 Boston Boulevard
Springfield, Virginia 22153
<http://www.blm.gov/eso>



IN REPLY REFER TO:
1813 (935) FTM
FLES 57254

CERTIFIED MAIL 7010 1060 0000 5208 1199 – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

November 7, 2011

Naja Girard
1214 Newton Street
Key West, Florida 33040

Dear Naja Girard:

This further responds to your letter dated August 9, 2011, inquiring about the ownership of lands described as Section 36, Township 67 South, Range 24 East, and Section 31, Township 67 South, Range 25 East, Tallahassee Meridian, County of Monroe, State of Florida. These lands are also known as Wisteria Island.

After further review of the records, a Federal Interest Determination was performed by Dominica Van Koten, Chief, Branch of Cadastral Survey. The Federal Interest Determination revealed that Wisteria Island was built by the United States Navy on an existing shoal. The Shoal was included in Executive Order No. 4060 which reserved the area for United States Naval purposes. Florida became a State in 1845, at which time the Executive Order was in effect and in addition the Statehood act reserved all of the Florida Keys area to the Military. Much of the lands were later relinquished to the State of Florida but not the Key West area. Public Land Order No. 6214 revoked Executive Order 4060. The land is currently under the management of the Department of Interior and is now under the administrative jurisdiction of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's Key West National Wildlife Refuge. Legal title, therefore, would appear to be still vested in the United States.

If you have any questions or need further assistance in relation to this matter, feel free to contact Frankie Morgan, Land Law Examiner at 703-440-1595.

cc: Anne Morkill
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
28950 Watson Blvd.
Big Pine Key, Florida 33043