

[News](#)**Sex business gets violation for 'holes'**

by **Art Martori** - Nov. 19, 2008 06:21 PM
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An East Valley adult-oriented business has been issued a zoning violation for holes in the partitioned stalls inside its video arcade.

Commonly known as "glory holes" in adult-entertainment circles, the break allows anonymous sexual activity between people in neighboring stalls.

East Sunvalley Resort, on Main Street between Crismon and Signal Butte roads, received the citation Nov. 6 by a Maricopa County enforcement officer, county spokeswoman Julie Syrmopoulos said.

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"There indeed was a violation and we are following up," she said. "There were disruptions in the partitions."

The business faces a hearing Dec. 16, which could result in a fine and an order to fix the holes.

The citation came nearly two years after a resident complained about the business, on Feb. 21, 2007.

East Sunvalley Resort is on a county island near east Mesa that is regulated by county government rather than city public safety and zoning agencies.

Enforcement by Maricopa County - the fourth most populous county in the United States - often is more lax than in cities because of its size and decreased staffing.

Darren Gerard, Maricopa County deputy planning director, said in an earlier interview that his agency doesn't often patrol the community.

"Frankly, we cover such a large geographic area we are reactive in zoning enforcement," Gerard said. "Therefore, if no one complains, we're not going to get zoning violations open against them."

County ordinances specifically prohibit glory holes, and the activity a glory hole might lead to violates state law - misdemeanor and felony offenses ranging from indecent exposure to public sexual indecency.

Internet search words listed in October on the East Sunvalley Resort Web site include "cruising, private, rooms, sex and toolshed."

Those search words no longer show up on the site.

East Sunvalley Resort also sells access to a private area behind the building surrounded by a high, barbed-wire-topped wall. There, patrons have access to a swimming pool, spa, sauna and private rooms.

A men-seeking-men personal ad posted Nov. 4 on Craigslist requested a meeting in the private area at the resort.

"I'm thinkin of visiting the Spa this morning after 10 or so, don't want to waste the trip," the ad states. "Anyone else interested in hangin there today? 6' 165 shaved head Hit me up!"

In October, an employee who answered the phone at East Sunvalley Resort refused to access to the owner and said answering questions wasn't permitted. Subsequent calls to the business were unanswered.

East Sunvalley Resort is owned by KEJ & D Corporation, according to the Maricopa County Assessor. John Winston is the owner of KEJ & D Corporation, according to the Arizona Corporation Commission.

Some neighbors of East Sunvalley Resort seemed irked by the business.

William Hermerath, the 88-year-old caretaker of Valley Palms mobile home park next to the resort, said it's unfair the resort was allowed to go unregulated for so long.

Yet, last year a zoning inspector cited him for a recently constructed wall around the park's swimming pool because it wouldn't keep out children, Hermerath added.

"How can they let that go on across the street, but they make me tear down my fence?" he said.