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### **WARNING EASTER LONG WEEKEND REVELLERS: OWNERS IN GOLD COAST TAKING STRONG STANCE AGAINST PROPERTY DAMAGE**

#### **PROPERTY LEADERS ENCOURAGE “ZERO TOLERANCE POLICIES”**

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**Easter revellers be warned,** Gold Coast apartment owners and managers are being urged to adopt a “zero tolerance” policy for poor behaviour during this year’s Easter festivities.

And it could leave the wallets of short term letting guests significantly lighter, especially if the police are used to control offenders.

As one of the most popular short break holiday periods, the strata title sector says wilful damage to common property, illegal drinking, unsafe balcony behaviour and apartment overcrowding are just a few of the repeated problems that Gold Coast apartment owners face every year during the Easter holidays.

Thousands of people will take up residence in holiday apartments over the Easter long weekend, and the peak organisation representing these owners says it’s time zero tolerance policies were brought into play.

Strata Community Australia (Qld) say apartment owners should not be left to pick up the cost of reckless behaviour and is encouraging a hard line stance to be adopted at the Gold Coast.

“Easter is not a green light to get away with wrecking property that is not yours or being a nuisance to long term residents at your holiday destination,” SCA (Qld) President Simon Barnard said today.

“Guests know what is right and what is wrong and at the end of the day they should question whether their behaviour will cause damage or issues.”

“At the first signs of misbehaviour, owners and managers will consider using local police to control offenders, and that could become an expensive holiday.”

Mr Barnard says regardless how short the stay, properties are a lifetime investment and guests must acknowledge the financial impact of their actions.

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“We are urging short-term guests to be reasonable and consider the impact of their actions on people's lifetime investment.”

“It's not uncommon for communities to sustain thousands of dollars of damage to popular common areas like the pool and barbecue area following holiday periods, and that's just not acceptable.”

“Mother nature is capable of causing enough headaches for owners at the Gold Coast to have to deal with, without guests creating more, and it should be made clear that it will be their wallets getting lighter, not owners if they do.”

Mr Barnard says SCA (Qld) is urging owners to be on the front foot and communicate zero tolerance policies.”

“I'd encourage communities to assist the situation by providing clear guidelines for short-term accommodation as to what is inappropriate behaviour on their property,

“An appropriate time for this is at check in, and for good measure, it should be encouraged that guests read the community rules in their apartment's handbook.”

Mr Barnard says zero tolerance policies aren't an exercise in 'fun policing', and hopes to see some common sense taken by holiday makers this Easter.

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