

## Statement from Evolve Construction

First, we want to acknowledge that homeowners impacted by Hurricane Ian went through an extremely difficult and emotional experience. We understand the stress that comes with property damage, insurance delays, construction disruption, and uncertainty surrounding one's home. We do not dismiss those frustrations.

Hurricane Ian created one of the largest and most chaotic property restoration environments in Florida history. During that period, many contractors, suppliers, labor providers, insurers, HOAs, and property owners experienced unprecedented delays, shortages, and operational challenges. Evolve Construction was not immune to those pressures.

While Evolve successfully completed a substantial amount of restoration work during that period, there were also projects that experienced delays, communication issues, subcontractor disputes, scheduling conflicts, material shortages, and operational breakdowns that should have been handled better.

Importantly, many of the matters being referenced publicly stem from a prior operational and licensing period involving former qualifier/license holder and former FRO Ahmed Darkawi, who is no longer affiliated with or involved in Evolve Construction in any capacity. Since that time, the company has undergone substantial restructuring, operational changes, management oversight improvements, vendor restructuring, compliance reforms, and customer service enhancements.

At the same time, it is important that the public receives complete context regarding these disputes.

Many of the matters being publicly characterized as "unfinished work" or "consumer complaints" are, in reality, legally disputed construction and insurance-related payment matters involving highly complex fact patterns, including HOA involvement, insurance funding disputes, material delays, subcontractor conflicts, homeowner cancellations after work commenced, change orders, punch list disputes, and projects where Evolve contends work was partially or substantially completed but payment was withheld.

For example, counsel for Evolve previously issued formal legal correspondence regarding River Place Townhouse Association asserting that Evolve had entered into contracts with dozens of homeowners within the community and that work had been performed pursuant to those agreements. The correspondence further asserted that the Association and others interfered with contractual relationships and encouraged non-payment despite work being performed.

That correspondence also included formal preservation and litigation notices relating to communications, photographs, contracts, surveillance materials, and other project evidence associated with the disputes.

Because that legal correspondence was issued in anticipation of litigation and contains confidential legal strategy, homeowner information, and privileged dispute-related material, we are not in a position to publicly distribute or disclose the full contents of those documents.

Additionally, some homeowner matters arising from this time period have already been resolved through confidential civil settlements, releases, and negotiated resolutions. Those agreements contain confidentiality provisions and therefore we are not able to publicly discuss the details of those resolutions. Certain resolved matters also involved express denials of liability while still reaching settlement to avoid prolonged litigation and expense.

Evolve also disputes any implication that complaints alone constitute findings of wrongdoing. The existence of complaints, civil disputes, or regulatory inquiries does not establish fraud or liability, particularly in large-scale post-catastrophe construction environments involving hundreds of moving parts and third-party participants.

The company intends to continue cooperating appropriately with any lawful requests or inquiries from regulatory agencies and remains committed to resolving legitimate customer concerns professionally and in good faith.

Today, Evolve operates under a materially different operational structure than it did during portions of the immediate post-Ian recovery period. The company has implemented stronger oversight procedures, tighter subcontractor controls, expanded project management systems, additional compliance safeguards, and enhanced customer communication protocols designed specifically to prevent the operational issues that occurred during that earlier phase of rapid growth.

We recognize that trust is earned through actions, not statements. Our focus remains on continuing to improve operations, resolve disputes where appropriate, complete projects responsibly, and move forward constructively.