



**SPENCER RAYMOND
GROUP**

BHHS EWM Realty

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL GLOBAL REAL ESTATE ADVISORS



This month we had the privilege of visiting with Spencer Raymond and enjoyed getting to know him better. We asked Spencer to share a little of his personal background and he came to be where he is today. Here is our interview with him.

Where did you grow up?

How long have you lived in the area?

Tell us about your family.

I grew up in a small town in Connecticut called Southport. After college, I lived in San Francisco for many years before relocating to work in the Hamptons. For five years, I was for a television network in Manhattan. My brother teaches locally at MAST Academy and my folks split their time between the Key and Cape Cod, MA.

Tell us about the events that led up to where you are now.

After attending Berklee College of Music in Boston, where I studied Jazz Composition and received my Bachelor's Degree, I moved to the Bay Area. With a strong technical background, I consulted with many start-ups besides sales and marketing positions in San Francisco and Silicon Valley while simultaneously pursuing a career in music.

While living in California they recruited me to work in television with a boutique network catering to resort towns (The Hamptons, Vail, Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard, Telluride, Aspen, Sun Valley, and Miami Beach.).

What is unique about your business?

What sets you apart?

We are a full-service Residential and Commercial Real Estate Team dedicated to helping find properties for Buyers, Sellers, or those seeking advice about Investment Opportunities. Contact us directly or via the Website. We look forward to helping.

How long have you lived in Key Biscayne?

What caused you to move here?

While my family relocated to the Key over 20 years ago, I initially moved from Manhattan to Brickell and shortly after to Key Biscayne where I have been living for the past 11 years.



Given your business expertise and the nature of what you do, what advice can you offer to the residents?

Working in Real Estate, I have come to know the Island very well. Take advantage of our beautiful beaches and parks. I love riding my bike around Bill Baggs State Park. We are lucky to live in such a beautiful area of the Country. Get out there and explore. There are many hidden gems here on the Key.

Anything else you would like to share with our readers?

Don't hesitate to contact us if you are interested in a property consultation, or would like to know the value of your home or condo. We love to help people and if there is anything you need, whether it's business-related or personal, we are here to help.

I have been a Board Member at the Chamber of Commerce for many years and we strive to make a difference and give back to our community.

Business Contact Information

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JEFF RAYMOND

Mr. Raymond's Civics And Social Studies Academy

MAY IS THE MONTH WE TYPICALLY CELEBRATE OUR SCHOOL TEACHERS WITH TEACHERS' APPRECIATION WEEK. THIS YEAR IS A LITTLE DIFFERENT WITH IN-CLASS SCHOOL BEING CANCELED. SO, WE WOULD LIKE TO SAY "THANK YOU!" TO ALL OUR TEACHERS FOR THE AMAZING WORK YOU DO, ESPECIALLY THIS YEAR, WITH UNPRECEDENTED CHALLENGES. YOU ARE OUR CLASSROOM HEROS!

meet your neighbor

We are delighted to feature Jeff Raymond, Civics and History Teacher at the MAST Academy.

Jeff has been a teacher for Miami Public schools since 2004. He taught at Key Biscayne K-8 Center for ten years and moved over to the MAST Academy three years ago.

He is known as Mr. Raymond to many local students and their families here on the island, but he is also known to tens of thousands of grateful students all over the country via the internet. Mr. Raymond's Civics and Social Studies Academy YouTube channel has over 17,000 subscribers and most of his tutorial videos have thousands of views. Many have tens of thousands of views. **That's a lot of Civics and History lessons! Those of us who are parents learning to teach our own children in this new #StayHomeStaySafe world are in awe!**



Jeff grew up in Connecticut near New York City. He attended Roanoke College in Virginia and lived in Boston following college. After ten years of doing sales and marketing in the music industry, he started looking for a career change, something where he could impact other's lives.

His advisor in college, Professor Miller, instilled in him a love of history, which impacted his decision to become a teacher. It was the pursuit of this new career that brought him to Key Biscayne. Jeff's parents had retired here and he came down to take some teaching courses for what he thought would be a short six-month stay. "Seventeen years later, and I am still here," he says with a grateful smile.

Jeff moved to Key Biscayne in 2003 but has been coming here since the mid-1990s. He loves the small-town feel with easy access to the city. While teaching is obviously his biggest passion in life, in his free time, he likes to play golf and travel.

Jeff tells us, "This is a close-knit community where people tend to know each other and connect well. As a family, we enjoy the community. My parents and brother live here. As a realtor, my



brother will often show a residence to a family. It doesn't take long for them to realize that we are brothers. We definitely have the same voice. And although we don't see it, people think we look alike."

When we asked Jeff about his life as a teacher he shared, "As a teacher, every day is an adventure. You never know what the day has in store for you. One of the unique gifts of my career is the opportunity to teach kids from Key Biscayne in middle school and high school. Watching them grow up and go to college is amazing. I regularly run into them and their parents on the island, which makes the bond that much more special."

"Teaching requires a lot of patience, passion, and a love of learning. It is a physically and emotionally draining profession, but I feed off the energy of my students. I am constantly looking for ways to improve as an educator. My students keep me motivated."

In wrapping up our interview, we asked Jeff to share some advice for anyone pursuing a career in teaching or for parents who woke up one day in early March to find that this was their new job.

He said, "For a long time in America, we have talked about how little teachers are paid. Although I took a large pay cut to become a teacher, I can't put a price on the fulfillment it has brought to my life."

**Thank you, Mr. Raymond!
You and all the Key Biscayne
teachers are truly our
Classroom Heros!**



Would you like to meet more people in the community or do you know someone we should get to know? To be featured contact us today, KBliving@n2pub.com.

