

Keri O'Brien

From: Ashley Kamen <ashleykamen@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 7, 2024 2:39 PM
To: District IV; Mary Lou Hoover; Teri Johnston; Samuel Kaufman; Clayton Lopez; Billy Wardlow; Billy Wardlow
Cc: Albert Childress; Ronald Ramsingh; Keri O'Brien
Subject: [EXTERNAL] LOCAL BUSINESS MANAGER IN SUPPORT OF A LONG-TERM DOCKING AGREEMENT with American Cruise Lines

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City Clerk: please attach this letter to the agenda item.

Esteemed City Commissioners,

As the manager of a long-established gallery on Duval Street, (Archeo Gallery 1208 Duval Street) I'm writing to express my wholehearted support for a long-term docking agreement with American Cruise Lines.

Archeo Gallery has been in business for over twenty-five years and has never, until now, seen any business come from cruise ships. I can count on one hand the number of clients we have had off large cruise ships over the last twenty years I have been with the gallery.

In contrast, guests on American Cruise Lines have been coming weekly to our business since they started docking at Mallory Square. They are engaged with the culture and history of this island in a meaningful way and have become excellent regular clients. We are thrilled American Cruise Lines is looking to expand their visits to Key West and I have full confidence this will be a boost to our sales. Although the boats are small, they have had a big impact on our business.

A long-term docking agreement would translate into a great benefit to our bottom line. Their commitment to supporting small local businesses has been well established and Key West should be doing everything we can to support their continued visits to our island.

Thank you,

Ashley Kamen
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