From: Keri O'Brien <kobrien@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, July 23, 2025 8:19 AM
To: Donna Phillips <donna.phillips@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] WATER QUALITY Monitoring - Conflict of Interest

From: Helen Harrison <hh@harrison-gallery.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 22, 2025 5:19 PM
To: Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] WATER QUALITY Monitoring - Conflict of Interest

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor,

I emailed you the below email on June 25th from Tahiti, but the monitoring issue was postponed until now.

Dear Mayor and Commissioners,
We hope that we are not too late to voice our concerns about choosing Mote Marine to monitor the Key West waters. There seems to be a conflict of interest. Our children and grandchildren deserve clean water.
Please vote your conscience.

Thank you. Helen and Ben Harrison

I am back in town after experiencing an underwater environment that was exciting beyond belief!

WHY would Key West not want to do everything in its power to monitor our water quality by a nonpartisan party to understand and know what is best for our island???

Please listen to LAST STAND and other knowledgable sources and reject the current bids.

Please restart the RFP process. There is the time to do it right. YOU DON'T HIRE THE FOX TO GUARD THE HENHOUSE.

I will again sign off with - *Please vote your conscience.*

Thank you.
Helen Harrison

Helen Harrison
Harrison Gallery
825 White St.
Key West, FL 33040
305-294-0609

hh@harrison-gallery.com
www.harrison-gallery.com
www.facebook.com/harrisongallery
www.instagram.com/harrisongallery

Good Afternoon, Roger,
I hope this email finds you well. I am in receipt of your email. In reference to your question about the College of the Florida Keys please see the two attached letters.
Have a great rest of your week.

Danise DeeDee Henriquez
Mayor
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Key West, FL 33040
Phone: 305-809-3840
danise.henriquez@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

From: rogermcveigh@bellsouth.net <rogermcveigh@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 1:27 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest Water Quality Testing

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:

Please disqualify Mote Marine and any other entities that have direct conflicts of interest with the Walsh Group, their related companies, and the Cruise Ship Industry.

Why would you not support the demonstrated excellent water quality testing work of our own home-based College of the Florida Keys?

To do anything other than placing the water quality testing in the hands of a qualified independent objective professional firm is a gross dereliction of your duty in representing the best interests of your constituents and the precious environment of the Florida Keys.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger and Cindy McVeigh

I may be wrong, but I would hope that they might reconsider if the City believed that they were the right choice and that they would not suffer any retaliation for their work.

Kind regards,

Roger

Roger McVeigh
627 Simonton Street
Key West, FL 33040
Mobile: 305-394-7555

"Democracy, government by the People for the People"
Abe Lincoln, Gettysburg Address

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."
Margaret Mead

From: Danise Henriquez <danise.henriquez@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 2:09 PM
To: rogermcveigh@bellsouth.net
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest Water Quality Testing

Danise Henriquez

From: Danise Henriquez
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 5:53 PM
To: rogermcveigh@bellsouth.net
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest Water Quality Testing

Hey Roger,

Yes, those letters are back from December after we postponed (Dec 4th meeting) due to the discrepancies in the ILA. The will of the commission agreed to postpone. For your understanding, my vote was not against the College despite Commissioner Kaufman's Motion. My vote no was rather to postpone to allow us to clear up the discrepancies in the ILA. That's the difference. We received those 2 letters and in January we voted to go out for an RFP. I am not against partnerships with CFK they could have reapplied and they did not.

If you have any other questions or concerns happy to discuss with you anytime.

Have a nice night

Get Outlook for iOS

From: rogermcveigh@bellsouth.net <rogermcveigh@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 4:35:07 PM
To: Danise Henriquez <danise.henriquez@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest Water Quality Testing

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Thanks Dee Dee!

Those letters are a little dated.

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Saturday, June 28, 2025 7:15 PM
To: Peter Sciandra; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

I appreciate you taking the time to write. I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to a future agenda packet.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Peter Sciandra <pjsciandra@icloud.com>
Sent: Friday, June 27, 2025 3:33 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Cc: 'Peter Sciandra' <pjsciandra@icloud.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners,

I'm sending this to urge you to immediately change the direction in which you're heading to establish a new partnership with Mote Marine to monitor water quality violations by cruise ships. As you know, this extremely important and legally mandated task had previously been ably conducted by the College of the Forida Keys, who has found many examples of water quality violations by the cruise ship industry while operating under the terms of it's Agreement with the City. In fact, over a period of 12 months it found 32 examples of violations, many of which exceeded levels that are typically seen after a hurricane, and

reported these violations to the City. Interestingly, nothing has come from these violations, and there has been no reporting of the events as is legally required. Additionally, the Inter-Local Agreement between the City and the College expired in April of 2024 with no renewal taking place. Since that time, since no monitoring has been taking place, the City has been in violation of Section 80 Code of Ordinance which applies to Cruise Ship Regulations. This Ordinance was unanimously adopted by the City after three Citywide referendums regarding Cruise Ships were held and they showed overwhelming support for actually banning certain cruise ships, which the state overruled. The Ordinance does, however, put into place significant environmental controls for ships, and in 80-3 established two funds, one for coral restoration in the harbor and second for a harbor water quality monitoring program.

It's important to note that the City is not only in violation of the ordinances that it established, but it's also in violation of the public mandate to take care of one of our most important and valuable commodities - our harbor waters. The bottom line is that the City is now in the position where it can be held responsible for damaging our waterways and for breaking the public trust. To make matters even worse, if that's even possible, the leading contender for taking over the responsibility of monitoring the waterways is Mote Marine, a company that's in partnership with one of the biggest environmental offenders in Key West in the form of Mark Walsh. It's Mark Walsh who has effectively been giving the finger to Key West through his actions of completely ignoring the public mandate for smaller ships and has instead been courting larger and larger ships to come to his private pier since the votes. Unfortunately, the City has done nothing to stop or hinder these modern behemoths from entering the Key West Harbor, nor has any action been taken against Mr. Walsh to perhaps persuade him to yield in some manner to what the public is demanding.

While Mote Marine is a fine organization, the relationship with Walsh and Pier B which Walsh owns, and it's possible negative influences as it pertains to proper water quality monitoring, is abundantly clear. Mote receives $50,000 annually from cruise ship operations under a special lease condition imposed on Pier B by the state of Florida. So, Mote's interest in Pier B operations is worth $1.25 million over the 25 year lease term. Additionally, Mote's Key Largo facility is built on a parcel of land owned by Walsh and one of his companies, Opal Collection. The arrangement between Mote and Opal is described as a partnership on their respective web sites, and Mote receives donations and revenue streams from Opal through merchandising arrangements. And to top all of this off, Walsh has pledged $1.5 million to Mote, and touted that fact in a letter to the City in which he also was clear that he opposed the Water Quality Monitoring. As stated, Mote may be a fine organization but the partnerships and relationships between Mote and Walsh (Pier B) are clear. And it's clear that Mote cannot be counted on to report its findings in an accurate and impartial manner when it comes to matters that could negatively impact Pier B's operations.

All of this comes at what may be the worst time in the City Commissions history in terms of dysfunction and corruption. As we all know, we're going through the issues that have been identified in the Corradino Report and the facts that have been uncovered by the Grand Jury

Report, along with the indictments of three high level City officials and a public outcry for the resignation of one of the City Commissioners because of her being complicit with those that have been indicted.
It is painfully clear that changes have to be made within our local government in order for it to gain back the trust of its constituents and to operate in a manner that's both transparent and in-line with what's needed, and expected, within the community. One of those changes can start with the elimination of Mote Marine from consideration for conducting the monitoring of water quality for cruise ship violations. I, along with many caring individuals within our wonderful community, strongly recommend re-establishing communications with the College of the Florida Keys and possibly issuing an RFP to others as well so that we can have an honest and open decision-making process as to who is the best organization to conduct this extremely important, and legally required testing and reporting. **This is an easy choice – just do the right thing!**

Sincerely,

Peter J. Sciandra

Peter J. Sciandra
pjsciandra@icloud.com
(305)900-7258

monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Monica Haskell <monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 8:45 PM
To: Todd Creely LAST_NAME <toddcreely@comcast.net>; District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you for writing.

Monica Haskell

District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305-809-3844
Cell: 305-304-5635
Monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

From: Todd Creely LAST_NAME <toddcreely@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 7:20:46 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners: I would like to see Mote Marine receive the water quality contract to help finance their other important endeavours. Please attempt to find a way for Mote to do

the job and report their findings without bias or interference from the Walsh organization. If this is not possible please reconsider giving the contract back to the college, another wonderful local entity.

Thank you,
Todd Creely
1310 Johnson St.
Key West

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 5:04 PM
To: Kat Vallilee; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Kat Vallilee <kathrynvallilee@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 11:37 AM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:
Come on people, this one is a no brainer. INDEPENDENT water monitoring is essential to making reality based policy decisions to protect the resource that attracts most people to Key West: the water. Seek a better alternative to Mote.
Sincerely,
Kat Vallilee

Sent from my iPhone

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 5:04 PM
To: George Fontana; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: George Fontana <unclegkw@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 11:39 AM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:

Independent water quality control for Key West waters. Mote Marine has a clear conflict of interest and should not be considered as a candidate for water quality control contract.

Eyes on you,

G. Fontana. registered voter, Key West

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 5:04 PM
To: Andre Bohy; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Andre Bohy <andrebohy@outlook.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 11:44 AM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Conflict of Interest

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Mayor and Commissioners:

I live in Mid-Town and I have been following this story about Mote Marine. I think that even Stevie Wonder could see that there is a conflict here. Can't you pick some other company to do the water testing and make this a non-issue?

Thank you,

Andre Bohy

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 5:03 PM
To: peggyloomis1; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: peggyloomis1 <peggyloomis1@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 11:45 AM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:

Please put a clear and sharp eye on your choice regarding cruise ship monitoring.

Sent from my Galaxy

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 5:03 PM
To: Susan Hobbins; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Susan Hobbins <susanhobbins@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 11:48 AM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Cc: Safer Cleaner Ships <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:
Please read the extensive alert from Safer Cleaner Ships!

My husband swims at Ft Zach as often as weather allows. In the days when multiple huge ships were present, he'd smell the fuel and other odiferous content and the worst days were when a certain Carnival boat was there. These days it's better but still markedly worse than during the pandemic when the ocean and gulf had a chance to breathe.

Please do the right thing for our special space in the vast waters.

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 5:02 PM
To: Mail Server; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Mail Server <emkopczick@outlook.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 11:48 AM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:

Please act responsibly Remove Mote Marine from consideration for the water-quality monitoring contract. Restore independent water-quality monitoring. Mote Marine has clear conflicts of interests.

Elise Kopczick
800 Amelia Street
Key West, FL

Sent from my iPhone

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 5:02 PM
To: John Brady; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: John Brady <jbrady@topretirements.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 12:00 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:

Dear Mayor and Commissioners

We have enough conflicts of interest and self-dealing in Key West. Please do not allow Mote Marine with its cozy ties to Pier B owner to do the water monitoring.

Enough, it is time for an ethically run city

Thank you

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 5:01 PM
To: Lisa Menditch; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Lisa Menditch <lmenditch@mac.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 11:54 AM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:

Selecting Mote Marine to monitor the water quality in Key West is an unbelievably absurd idea.

If you truly are working to replenish your "trust bank" with the majority of voters in Key West, this is not the way to go about it. You may as well save our money and have no monitor in place rather than pay for Mote to report.

Please don't take the path you appear to be taking. It's crooked.

Sincerely,
Lisa Menditch

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 5:00 PM
To: marniepa2kw@gmail.com; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: marniepa2kw@gmail.com <marniepa2kw@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 12:02 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:
Please DO NOT give Mote Marine the contract for measuring water quality! I am so very concerned about our whole island. Some of you, & many other commissioners in the past are running our island. Please step up & make the right decisions. This Bubby Boy system has to end!!
Marnie Ramsey
113 Front St # 305
Key West.

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:59 PM
To: Jana Wiggins; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

Under Florida law, e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact the City of Key West by phone, in writing or in person. F.S. 668.6076.

From: Jana Wiggins <janawiggins@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 12:07 PM
To: Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:

Please remove Mote from the eligible responders/contracts for water quality testing due to the obvious conflict of interest. Additionally, please tighten up the requirements for testing. Turbidity testing obviously needed to protect life on the reefs and other areas.

You had to know the information below:

Walsh has a history of using his portfolio of companies to fight environmental regulations that threaten the operation of his Pier B Cruiseport. In 2021, the Miami Herald reported that Walsh used 11 different companies to funnel nearly $1 million to Gov. Ron DeSantis's political committee as the

Legislature debated a bill that ultimately overturned Key West's voter-enacted cruise ship limits.

As Mote Marine's landlord, business partner, and major donor, Walsh could bring significant pressure on Mote to produce water-quality results favorable to his cruise ship operation at Pier B. Mote's financial stake in at least four Walsh companies, including its direct interest in the Pier B Cruiseport, poses an obvious and irreparable conflict of interest.

Please become more transparent, protect the residents, and our surrounding waters.

Sincerely,
David & Jana Wiggins

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:59 PM
To: John Martini; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: John Martini <jm@johnmartini.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 12:08 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:
It is time to turn this ship around, as it were. The residents were screwed and abused by Walsh and the upstate politicians who overruled our local referendums. It now appears that our local commission might make a decision which appears complicit with Walsh, the very same upstate politicians and local corporate interests. Mote should be immediately stricken from the list of potential water testing entities. Their conflicts of interests are legion I don 't know if anyone else remembers the campaign slogan of a local downtown corporate guy running for County Commission many years ago but as I remember it the slogan was "Enough is Enough" . Please take it to heart for the good of residents, for our fragile environment and improving the perception of progressive change and healing in our sadly damaged city government.
Best and thank you,
John Martini

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:59 PM
To: Susan Kongos; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Water quality testing

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Susan Kongos <susankw4@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 12:08 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Water quality testing

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:

Please, in the interest of water quality and the future of our reefs, please carefully consider the removal of Mote Marine as the water quality testers. There is clearly a conflict of interest with Mr Walsh funding them. We need much more transparency in our government especially in light of everything going on at city hall.
As an average citizen, how else can we compete with billionaires funding and paying off people to get there way.

Thank you for your consideration in this extremely important matter.
Susan Kongos

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:58 PM
To: Marilyn Kellner; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Marilyn Kellner <marilynkellner@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 12:23 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:
I want independent monitoring of our waters so that we are able to be healthy and safe and keep our waters that way.
No conflict of interests... Haven't you learned that that is not OK?
Sincerely,
Marilyn Kellner
Sent from my iPhone

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:58 PM
To: kevin scott; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: kevin scott <avpetro@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 12:25 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:

The City needs to employ independent water monitors. Utilizing a third party with a direct financial interest in the monitoring is clearly a conflict if not borderline corrupt. I find it stunning the Commission would even consider this option for a service that holds substantial impact for the community and is of such interest to the public. Walsh has exerted influence on the City for a long time. Although it may be convenient to utilize his business it is not a appropriate. And it definitely will not insure less controversy or long term success with the water monitoring program. Find another option.

Leadership is doing the right thing when it the hard thing. Show some leadership.

Thank you,
Kevin Scott, Property owner and long time permanent resident.
1309 Catherine St.
Key West, FL

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:57 PM
To: Steve Iseman; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Steve Iseman <s-iseman.1@onu.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 12:27 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine Conflict of Interest

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners -

I've followed the situation with water monitoring at the Key West seaport for some time and I think that it is a good thing. Folks who are doing the right things in the right ways would have no reason to not to support an independent water monitoring program.

What I'm most concerned about now is who will be awarded the contract for this water quality monitoring program. Monitoring needs to be done by an independent organization, and I don't think Mote Marine meets this requirement. While Mote Marine may have some excellent qualities, as I understand it they have multiple financial ties to cruise ship or cruise port interests and that should disqualify them from consideration for this contract.

I encourage you all to spend some extra time and find a truly independent organization to do our water monitoring.

--
Dr. Steve Iseman APR, Fellow PRSA
Public Relations Professor Emeritus
Cell - (937) 417-1997
Email - s-iseman.1@onu.edu
Facebook - http://facebook.com/Dr.SteveIseman
Linkedin - http://www.linkedin.com/pub/dr-steve-iseman-apr-fellow/2/21/242
Twitter - @Dr_Iseman

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:56 PM
To: Timothy Maloney; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Timothy Maloney <timothysmaloney@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 12:29 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:

Please disqualify Mote Marine from being awarded the contract for water testing. There is a clear conflict of interest between Mote Marine and Mark Walsh and Pier B.

The City needs a renewed effort to prevent clear conflicts of interests and the appearance of impropriety.

Thank you!
Tim Maloney
1023 Washington St
Key West, FL 33040

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:56 PM
To: Silverman, Robert; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Silverman, Robert <rob@silvermanassociates.us>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 12:30 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:
We respectfully request that you remove Mote Marine from consideration and restore independent monitoring of water quality violations caused by cruise ships. The conflict of interest between Mote and Walsh is unacceptable.
Thank you.
Rob and Fran Silverman
1205 Olivia Street
Key West

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:56 PM
To: justin bachert; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: justin bachert <justin.bachert@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 12:31 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:

As a shareholder in the community—and Monroe County resident— that is unable to vote on decisions made in the City of Key West, I emphatically urge you to defer from using Mote Marine Lab to monitor water quality, in Key West Harbor and surrounding waters, as there is undoubtedly a conflict in interest with their direct relationship with Mark Walsh and his affiliates.

Very respectfully,

Capt. Justin D. Bachert
Hot Water Fishing

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:55 PM
To: steve.russ1@comcast.net; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: steve.russ1@comcast.net <steve.russ1@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 12:43 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:
I am concerned about the potential conflicts of interest posed by the Mote/Walsh connections. Over many years the Walsh Group has aggressively pursued their self-interests, and there is no reason to expect they will not do that in the future.
If locality is a driving concern in placing this contract, I would have thought that some adequate arrangement could have been reached with the College of the Florida Keys.
Regards,
Steve Russ

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:55 PM
To: Michelle Sciandra; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Michelle Sciandra <mmsciandra@me.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 12:57 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:

Please remove Mote Marine from consideration to monitor water quality violations by cruise ships.

This is a CLEAR CONFLICT OF INTEREST. It is so clear that it is Walsh's name is all over everything, including The Opal, Pier B and Mote.

1) Mote receives funds from cruise ship operations
2) Mote's laboratory is built on land owned by Walsh interests
3) Mote has received a $1.5 million dollar pledge from Walsh

The Mayor, Vice Mayor and SOME members of the commission have already lost all credibility with the residents due to their nefarious dealings/cover up of the crimes noted in the FBI and State Attorney probe. This Mote Marine situation just adds to the amount of corruption and ineptitude of some of the City leaders and I use the term leaders very loosely. You have made our city vulnerable to more probes and lawsuits.

DO THE RIGHT THING AND IMMEDIATELY REMOVE MOTE MARINE FROM CONSIDERATION TO MONITOR WATER QUALITY VIOLATIONS BY CRUISE SHIPS.

Thank you,
Michelle Sciandra

Sent from my iPad

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:54 PM
To: KAY BEHMKE; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: KAY BEHMKE <kdbehmke@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 1:00 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:To preserve the health and safety of ALL Key West residents and visitors, please do the right thing and remove Mite Marine from any water monitoring and select an independent company with no financial ties to Pier B owners. Kay Behmke

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:54 PM
To: Helen Walker; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Helen Walker <hwalker23011107@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 1:16 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:

HeLen Walker. Sent from my iPhone
Please remove Mote Marine from consideration to monitor water quality in Key West. There is a clear conflict of interest here

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:53 PM
To: Tom Ottey; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

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District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Tom Ottey <tomotey@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 1:17 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:I'm a permanent resident of Big Pine Key and have been coming to the keys since the 80's. I am very concerned about our fragile eco-system here in the keys, the water clarity was amazing whenever we went snorkeling during Covid when there were no cruise ships especially along out along our reef system.I believe Mote Marine is doing an outstanding job of protecting and rehabbing our reefs but having them monitor the water clarity when receiving so much money from Walsh is a clear conflict of interest! I have friends and neighbors who work for the EPA and Mote and they think this is not a smart move.The College was doing a very professional and unbiased job of monitoring our waters.This proposed Mote contract reminded my wife and I of when Walsh paid off DeSantis to overturn KW's voter-enacted cruise ship limits! Please do not taint KW and our beloved Keys with the odor of corruption... Tom Ottey

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:48 PM
To: Tamara Chanmugam; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Tamara Chanmugam <Tamara06@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:42 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:
I implore you to disengage Mote Marine from consideration of pollution monitoring. Returns the monitoring of cruise ships back to the college. I will be closely monitoring what your votes will be in this matter. So far, your actions are hideous - only Kaufman & Haskellhave demonstrated integrity.
Many thanks ,
Tamara Chanmugam
Sent from my iPhone

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:48 PM
To: katieprentice@juno.com; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Water Quality Monitoring

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: katieprentice@juno.com <katieprentice@juno.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 7:46 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Water Quality Monitoring

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To: Mayor Hernandez
from Katharine Prentice, 3 Sunset Key Dr., Key West FL 33040

Please do not consider Mote Marine for the water quality monitoring contract. This is a clear conflict of interest. Katharine Prentice

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:46 PM
To: Steve Travers; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Steve Travers <shfmyfl@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 25, 2025 8:08 AM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:

My family, the Travers and Heitmans, began arriving in Key West 140 years ago. As a permanent, full-time resident of the Florida Keys, I am deeply concerned about water quality and reef restoration.

I had planned to bequeath my entire fortune, held in a trust, to Mote Marine Laboratory for Keys reef restoration and water quality research. However, I am terminating this gift due to Mote's recently disclosed financial association with Pier B Development Corp., the cruise ship pier owner in Key West. Artificial intelligence disclosures have confirmed the extent of Mote's arrangements with Mark Walsh, Pier B's owner. For example, as part of a 2024 lease agreement, Walsh agreed to donate $50,000 annually to Mote Marine, which operates a coral nursery at his Key Largo resort. Additionally, in 2021, Walsh

pledged $1 per passenger disembarking at Pier B and per hotel room rented, estimated at $1.5 million annually, to support Mote's coral restoration efforts. Critics, including Safer Cleaner Ships, argue this relationship compromises Mote's objectivity in environmental research, an appearance of impropriety Mote has not addressed.

This conflict has led me to redirect these funds to advocate for political action regarding Walsh's influence. Many residents share this sentiment and are committed to defending the natural biodiversity of our county with integrity.

I urge you to prioritize water quality over personal interests and address the environmental impact of supersized cruise ships carrying over 1,000 passengers. We are watching closely and are prepared to become active advocates against these damaging operations.

Sincerely,

G. Steve Travers
97652 Overseas Highway, HH3
Key Largo, FL 33037

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:45 PM
To: Karen Siegel; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Karen Siegel <karen@mvredhead.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 25, 2025 6:33 AM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:

Now is the time to stop this sort of blatant corruption. Do what's best for the city and its residents, and stop enriching yourselves and your buddies. Elections are coming and we will not forget.

Karen Siegel
Washington St

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:41 PM
To: Pat Key; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Pat Key <nautibell@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 3:56 PM
To: Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Cc: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:

I am writing to express serious concerns regarding Mote Marine's involvement as the front runner entity for water quality monitoring, particularly in light of their financial relationship with the operator of Pier B Cruiseport.

The integrity of our water quality data must be above reproach and when an organization tasked with monitoring our marine environment also benefits from the same cruise ship operations that contribute to its degradation, that presents a problem.

The Florida Keys waters and Key West' s future depends on the transparency and integrity of the decisions made today. I urge you to ensure that independent, conflict-free organizations are the ones monitoring the very waters that define the Keys.

Sincerely,
Pat Key
Key Largo, Fl.

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:40 PM
To: Kate Miano; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Kate Miano <kwqueenkate@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 25, 2025 10:50 AM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov <+districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov <+districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +DistrictIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov <+DistrictIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov <+districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov <+districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov <+mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +info@safercleanerships.com <+info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:

Enough is Enough!

Please remove Mote from consideration!

In its recent report detailing corruption at City Hall, the Monroe County Grand Jury described "a disheartening pattern of public officials failing to discharge their sworn responsibilities, [and] ignoring obvious red flags – even when public safety, fiscal accountability and democratic transparency were

on the line." **Mote's financial relationship with Pier B is an obvious red flag that, on its own, should immediately disqualify Mote from consideration**.

Kate Miano
The Gardens Hotel
526 Angela

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:40 PM
To: Barbara Bowers; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine Connections and Water Quality

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Barbara Bowers <barbara@bbowers.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 25, 2025 10:53 AM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine Connections and Water Quality

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Good Morning Mayor; I was impressed with your article about how the City Commission is working to correct the misguided actions of the Commission's past few years. Your promise to work toward improving trust in the community needs to start with your vote against water quality monitoring by Mote Marine—an organization tied closely to the Walsh companies—and instead, select an independent organization akin to the water monitoring the Florida Keys College once did. Thanks for working for the locals who live here.

Barbara Bowers
Preferred Properties
520 Southard Street
Key West, FL 33040

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:39 PM
To: Brenda Bauer; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Brenda Bauer <babauer53@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 25, 2025 10:53 AM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov <+districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov <+districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +DistrictIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov <+DistrictIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov <+districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov <+districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov <+mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +info@safercleanerships.com <+info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:
Using Mote Marine is clearly a conflict of interest in ensuring the quality of water that provides an environment that will protect marine life in the waters surrounding the Florida Keys.

Mark Walsh being a landlord, business partner and major donor IS clearly a conflict of interest. It has been proven the cruise ships do extensive damage to the reefs surrounding Key West.

Please use an independent contractor to test the waters so that future generations may enjoy the beauty that is the FLorida Keys.

Sincerely,
Glenn and Brenda Bauer
Big Pine Key, FL

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:39 PM
To: Jeri Thompson; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Jeri Thompson <jerileet@verizon.net>
Sent: Wednesday, June 25, 2025 11:40 AM
To: Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Cc: info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:

I request you immediately remove Mote Marine from consideration for the water-quality monitoring contract where a direct conflict of interest exists. Mote's financial stake including its direct interest in the Pier B Cruiseport, poses an obvious and irreparable conflict of interest. Steps should be taken to restore *independent* water-quality monitoring of water quality violations caused by cruise ships in Key West.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeri Mawhinney
Little Torch Key, FL

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:38 PM
To: D. P.; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: D. P. <drew.a.painter@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 25, 2025 8:34 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners,

This is highly concerning. I have no trust in you for the betterment, health and well being of our community.

If this is a false narrative, speak up. Otherwise I hold you accountable

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:37 PM
To: Carole Marani; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine - COI | Employ an Independent Water Testing Provider

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Carole Marani <carolemarani@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 9:00 AM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine - COI | Employ an Independent Water Testing Provider

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Mayor Henriquez and City Commissioners,

After educating myself on this topic, **Mote Marine has a COI** in monitoring water quality in Key West stemming from cruise ships.

In light of the government corruption that has been transpiring and was finally brought to light through the indictments, please do the right thing and **employ an independent water testing provider** that doesn't have an actual or even perceived COI.

Thank you, Carole Marani (217 Southard St)

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:36 PM
To: Bonnie Scarborough; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Bonnie Scarborough <bonnieofkw@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 9:53 AM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:
No to Mote Marine
In a previous meeting, the city has looked into giving a contract to Mote Marine to monitor the safety of our water by cruise ships. It is my understanding that they are still the front contender. Upon my further investigation, I have found that Mote Marine would have a strong conflict of interest in performing this job.

If the city still objects to having the college continue with this endeavor I strongly urge the mayor and commissioners to find another alternative and do what is right for the citizens of Key West and the lower Keys and NOT award this contract to Mote Marine.
The state officials have already gone against what the citizens of Key West have voted for and I ask that our city officials do not do the same by hiring a company that may not have the best interest of Key West at heart.

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:33 PM
To: Sharon Smarsh; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: Mote Marine

Thank you and I'm forwarding to the clerk to add to the future agenda item.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Sharon Smarsh <s.smarsh@outlook.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 12:58 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: Mote Marine

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Morning,

I am writing to you to request that Mote Marine be eliminated from the bidding process for water quality testing. There is a clear conflict of interest with the Mote Marine and Pier B relationship. This will open the city up for more lawsuits and also add to the argument that business is not above board with the city of Key West.

If the College will step up to continue testing at no charge, the city can contribute to the college experience of marine biology students. I am very much against a tax increase and yet the city will be incurring very high expenses due to our ex-employees. Any opportunity to save money must be exercised.

I am looking forward to your cost effective decisions.
Best,

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From: Scott Mc <scottdogfl@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 6:14 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Cc: info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners: Please find an independent water quality monitor vs one who has a conflict of interest to protect of waters and quality of life in the Keys. Thank you, R. Scott McClelland

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From: Michael Berman <meberm@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 5:20 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:

It's beyond outrageous that the city should even consider Mote Marine with its close ties to the Walsh family for water quality monitoring. Shame on all of you. I guess it's bubba business as usual. I wonder if a grand jury should be looking at this.

Dr Michael Berman
Key West
Sent from my iPhone

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: gloria welsh <ob2kwf@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 4:31 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine

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The City of Key West has already been found to have some of the most flagrant violations of the law by high ranking employees so lets not continue to be put in that position.
The Walsh corporations were already involved in having the Governor overturn the will of the Key West voters so let's put a stop to their interference with our city government. Pier B does very well with the current arrangement of cruise ship docking. If any of you truly care about our water quality give the contract back to CFK who has no ulterior motives.
Thank you.
Gloria Welsh

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From: Cheryl Bowman <cbowman511@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 4:17 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov <+districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov <+districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +DistrictIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov <+DistrictIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov <+districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov <+districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov <+mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +info@safercleanerships.com <+info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:
Please remove Mote Marine from consideration for Pier B as there is a conflict of interest. Cheryl Bowman. Resident of Monroe County

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:29 PM
To: Keri O'Brien
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Re: Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Michael Mazzorana <mmazzora1@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 9:00 AM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To the Majority,

I realized after watching last evenings "special" meeting, I am not recognized as being part of the "heart and soul" of this community for taking a couple months off this summer to travel and/or for not being born on the island.

You can disregard my email below, as most of you are not going to bother to read it anyway. Look forward to my return in August.

As an ideal citizen, I will prepare my 2026 tax check (with the amount open regarding pending lawsuits) for submission.

Submissively yours,
Mike Mazzorana

On Tue, Jun 24, 2025, 1:08 PM Michael Mazzorana <mmazzora1@gmail.com> wrote:
I forgot to identify myself,

Regards
Michael Mazzorana
1307 Newton St, Key West, FL 33040

On Tue, Jun 24, 2025, 1:06 PM Michael Mazzorana <mmazzora1@gmail.com> wrote:
Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:

I am completely on board with Safer Cleaner Ships assessment of Mote Marines Conflict of Interest. I also believe it encapsulates a bigger need from our city governance.

It's time to do the right thing for the "community" and regulate the business and tourism responsibly.

I've been traveling across the country this summer and visiting some of the most touristed areas you can imagine. While I book or rent places, what has really become apparent is how much more the local governments are doing for the community's on balancing tourism and quality of life. Setting strict and managed noise ordinances. Allowing rentals but putting strict parameters and clear processes to report when they are hurting the community in quality and affordability. Keeping a priority focus on managing to the community needs over tourism, because if you are somewhere special and beautiful, the tourists will still come. Accountability for business to keep their surroundings clean and professional looking. Lastly, keeping their city as beautiful as can be in parks, streets, water, buildings, etc. All these areas are greatly appreciated by quality tourists, the residents, and the businesses. They respect all aspects of co-exisiting with a clear set of boundaries and transparency.

We have seemed to lose this balance as Key West has evolved in my almost 20 years living here and visiting 15 years before. Community events are less important; the city is letting basic maintenance issues go too far; good folks who were great to this community are moving out in great numbers like I've never seen before; and we are not attracting these quality residents for the future.

Heck, even the tourists are noticing it. This is something the TDC will/can not fix. We need to get back to the organic roots of where this community came from. We can't afford to lose it.

The governance of this city are at a cross roads in many ways. It's time to take priority for this community and keep what's beautiful, protected, along with making future decisions that encompass quality of life and vibrancy from its roots that tourism can sustainably thrive.

Do the right thing.

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From: Jeffrey Ware <jeff.fishingkw@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 3:20 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Safer Cleaner Ships <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners, I will keep this short:-

Please remove Mote Marine from any consideration you all might have in awarding them the contract for water quality monitoring in the harbor and adjacent waters around Key West, and restore independent monitoring of water quality violations caused by cruise ships.

With all the recent reports detailing corruption at City Hall, and the Monroe County Grand Jury describing "a disheartening pattern of public officials failing to discharge their sworn responsibilities, [and] ignoring obvious red flags – even when public safety, fiscal accountability and democratic transparency were on the line."; surely you all cannot be so irresponsible, yet again, to be even considering Mote Marine for the monitoring project due to their obvious and openly displayed financial relationship with the Pier B owners and operator.

I trust that you all will come to your senses and do the right thing on this matter, and perhaps in doing so start the long process of rebuilding the public's faith in City Hall.

Regards

Jeffrey Ware
3314 Northside Drive, #41
Key West

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From: SAM BROWN <samwbrown@mac.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 3:54 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Safer, Cleaner Ships <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners: My wife, Alison Teal, and I are Key West residents and voters. We have been following the controversy about Mote Marine. Frankly, on its face, it is clear that Mote Marine should be disqualified from bidding for the water monitoring contract. A vote to certify and/or select them is an enormous breach of your obligation to put the interests of citizens above those of special interests and the wealthy and emits more than a whiff of corruption. One grand jury has already investigated corruption in Key West with devastating findings. I hope your actions will not give reason for another such finding. Please think carefully and act responsibly and disqualify Mote Marine, and any other similarly compromised potential contractor, from consideration. Thank you for your service.

SAM BROWN
samwbrown@mac.com
202 468-4726
202 330-5292 (fax)

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From: PHILIP WHEELER <phwcpa@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 3:20 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Phil and Donna Wheeler

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We live at 623 Frances Street and are very concerned about water quality. Please make sure when you vote for the company to do the water testing that there is no conflict of interest whatsoever.

We thank you for your service.

Phil and Donna Wheeler

Sent from AOL on Android

City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

<Outlook-fkxxh1z1.png>
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From: Mary Jean Connors <maryjean.mj@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 3:10 PM
To: Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine consideration

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Dear commissioners,

Mark Walsh consistently has proven part of the problem of trying to maintain clean government in Key West. And, once again, here we are. That you would consider Mote Marine for the water quality monitoring contract, given its relationship as a financial beneficiary of Walsh, is yet another example of the commission failing to protect its citizens as its top priority. Need I mention that this very behavior was noted by the grand jury report regarding the city's recent corrupt government scandal?

When you chose to run for commissioner, were you motivated by a desire to stand for and serve us, the citizens, or to have your pictures in the press awarding plaques and cutting ribbons? To the city residents, it often looks like the latter.
Please, do your job. Remove Mote from consideration regarding the water quality monitoring contract.

Mary Jean Connors
Key West resident and voter

Sent from my iPad

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From: Bob Hogsed <bobahogsed@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 2:33 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:

Sent from my iPad. I am writing you today to express my concern about Mote Marine doing water quality testing for the city. Why not let our own junior college to the testing and that would benefit every one,our students would be getting valuable training and we would be getting unbiased results. The quality of our nearshore water affects everyone living in the keys. This is a very important issue. I will never forget the time I was fishing out by the reef and started seeing raw sewage floating by. There was quite a bit and my impression was that a big ship had discharged their holding tank. I know they are not supposed to do that or at least grind it up before they dump but who is checking. It definitely put a damper on our day. We voted to limit our cruise ship activity and the governor overrode us so at least make them abide by the rules. Thank you

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From: rogermcveigh@bellsouth.net <rogermcveigh@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 1:26 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest Water Quality Testing

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:

Please disqualify Mote Marine and any other entities that have direct conflicts of interest with the Walsh Group, their related companies, and the Cruise Ship Industry.

Why would you not support the demonstrated excellent water quality testing work of our own home-based College of the Florida Keys?

To do anything other than placing the water quality testing in the hands of a qualified independent objective professional firm is a gross dereliction of your duty in representing the best interests of your constituents and the precious environment of the Florida Keys.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger and Cindy McVeigh

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From: Billy // COAST <billy@coastprojects.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 2:11 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Cc: info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine Conflict of Interest

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners,

Now, more than ever, is the time to start the road to redemption at City Hall. The public is losing trust in the system, and if corruption persists, the only way to right the ship will be at the ballot box in the years to come. I'm sure you all want to leave a positive mark on the history of the city, and it begins with regaining the trust of your electorate.

The prudent, well-organized, and citizen-supported committee at Safer Cleaner Ships has entirely too much support for you to ignore their voice and their commitment to hold cruise ships accountable for their negative impacts on the island. Let's not forget that their hard work demonstrated that 75% — *an overwhelming majority* — of the island wanted to limit cruise ship traffic in an effort to save our waters and our future. Rather than discounting their voice, you should be building a bridge. It will show that you are listening to the people.

Their recent investigations into clear conflict of interest cases between Mote Marine and Pier B should alarm the entire commission. With this clearly stated evidence in front of you all, if you do not deny this potential partnership, the only reasonable conclusion for any voter to make is that this is just another case of corruption at City Hall. Now is the time to change that narrative and remove Mote Marine from consideration for the water-quality monitoring contract.

At the end of the day, the billionaire at Pier B will be more than fine regardless of the outcome — and Mote Marine will still get their $50k per year without having to compromise their integrity.

Now is the time to stand, instead, with your people.

Regards,

Billy Kearins
803 Whitehead Street

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From: diezfamily@aol.com <diezfamily@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 2:06 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:
Mote Marine should never be considered for monitoring water quality in Key West! They have a direct conflict of interest receiving funds from Walsh. Please disqualify them and find another independent source .
Maria Diez

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From: Michael Hogan <hoganmt2@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 2:26 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners: C'mon now folks. In the current environment, with scandal already blanketing city hall, this is what you want to do? Find a qualified candidate who isn't so obviously conflicted. It just can't be that hard.

Michael Hogan
911 Watson Street

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From: valiantone888@gmail.com <valiantone888@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 2:10 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:

The conflict of interest between Mote Marine, Walsh, and the City of Key West is untenable. Please drop this plan like a hot potato and pursue a more honest and progressive plan that has long term benefits for the health & safety of Key West waters, our undersea residents, our land-based residents and visitors.
Respectfully,

Michael S Weiss
Lt Col, USAF, Ret
NAS Boca Chica marina

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From: Chris Kent <chris.kent2@outlook.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 1:46 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

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Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:

While seemingly benign on the surface, retention of Mote Marine as the City contractor to monitor the water quality impact cruise ships may be having on our harbor (e.g., the environmental impact cruise ships may be having on water quality in the Key West harbor area) represents a clear conflict of interest. The financial relationship between Mote and the various companies owned by Mark Walsh are well documented. And, Mr. Walsh and his companies' actions since the passage of the three proposed ordinances limiting cruise ship activity, ordinances that were approved by a vast majority of Key West voters, are well known. Unfortunately, the Key West City Commission, since the Grand Jury report released in April, has a dark cloud over its head – a report detailing a "disheartening pattern of corruption at City Hall and of City officials "failing to discharge their sworn responsibilities." Wisdom dictates that the Commission avoid ANY actions that would further degrade the public's trust in its ability to execute its duties in a fair and impartial manner.
Please reject the selection of Mote for this critical role.
Respectfully,

Christopher and Kathryn Kent
800 Fleming St., Apt. 2A
Key West, FL 33040cChris.kent2@outlook.com

chris.kent2@outlook.com

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From: mark adams <markatbms@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 1:32 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov <+districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov <+districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +DistrictIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov <+DistrictIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov <+districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov <+districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov <+mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; +info@safercleanerships.com <+info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please select a company, without the obvious conflict of interest, to monitor the water quality of the Piers in Key West. Our livelihood depends on the keys returning to a pristine.condition.

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From: Robert Maykut <rjmtsm@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 1:43 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; info@safercleanerships.com <info@safercleanerships.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mote Marine / Conflict of Interest

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor Henriquez & City Commissioners:

In light of recent events in the City of Key West related to lack of transparency, cronyism, and overt failure of duty of multiple members of City Commission, as identified in the recent Grand Jury report, it is time for this Commission to begin the process of restoring public confidence in our local government.

If you approve this arrangement with Mote Marine as the monitors of water quality related to cruise ship activity, despite the numerous and obvious conflicts of interest already publicly identified between them and the Pier B owners, then you will demonstrate what utter contempt you have for the people you supposedly represent. There must only be a truly independent and non-biased provider of water quality monitoring service, and that is certainly not Mote Marine.

Robert Maykut
1023 Washington St
Key West, FL 33040
Sent from my iPhone

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Tuesday, June 3, 2025 5:00 PM
To: Allison Delashmit; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Follow-Up on Water Quality RFP – Chapter 80 Consideration

Keri, will you please add this letter to the agenda packet. Thank you

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Allison Delashmit <allison@lkga.org>
Sent: Monday, June 2, 2025 11:11 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; City Manager <citymanager@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Dorian E. Patton <dpatton@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Cc: LKGA <Board@lkga.org>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Follow-Up on Water Quality RFP – Chapter 80 Consideration

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Attached is a letter from the Lower Keys Guides Association regarding the City's RFP process for water quality monitoring that will be discussed at your upcoming meeting. First and foremost, we want to commend the City for its commitment to science-based monitoring and for attracting several qualified and thoughtful proposals.

As outlined in the letter, we hope the City will ensure that the selected contractor is informed of Chapter 80 of the City Code, as it contains important testing requirements that we believe should complement the proposed work. This observation was brought to our

attention by partners at Safer Cleaner Ships, and we felt it appropriate to bring it to your attention in a collaborative spirit.

LKGA remains committed to protecting water quality in the harbor and beyond, and we appreciate your continued leadership on this issue.

Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Warm regards,
Allison

--
Allison Delashmit
Executive Director
Lower Keys Guides Association (LKGA)
allison@LKGA.org
305.304.3768 c
https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.LKGA.org&c=E,1,g8s2F-euZm4mgpzY0enpx43JGkbHGr29vcDB0Et1diZMJONmdpai3A0OleD3-WwUSojZdZQnO4_0xD6nra6h2blVCysiz5KW5Py-ZnJNVzP1tJmvyPisuvFRh5M,&typo=1

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Wednesday, June 4, 2025 11:20 AM
To: Keri O'Brien
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] water quality testing

more public comment 2

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Office: 305.809.3868
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

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From: Tina Wermuth <tinaw0820@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 3, 2025 5:47 PM
To: Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] water quality testing

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June 3, 2025
Mayor Henriquez and Commissioners Carey, Castillo, Haskell, Hoover, Kaufman, and Lee:

Item # 50 on your agenda for June 4, 2025, concerns staff's recommendation to award a contract for implementation of the City's Water Quality Monitoring Program in response to RFP # 25-004. We are writing for the following purposes:

1. to express our concerns that RFP 25-004 fails to reflect the City's requirements for water quality monitoring under its "Cruise Ship Regulations," defined and described in Chapter 80 of its Code of Ordinances;

2. to strongly urge the Commission to incorporate the requirements of Chapter 80 in any contract it may award for RFP 25-004;

3. to strongly urge the City to report to state and federal agencies the 32 violations of state and federal water quality standards which were documented by the previous monitoring program, as required by Chapter 80; and

4. to notify the City of the risk of penalties, including potential legal action for declaratory judgment and injunctive relief, if it awards a contract that fails to address its requirements under Chapter 80 or if it fails to meet its obligation to report previously documented violations, or future violations, to state and federal agencies.

We have no desire to litigate this issue against the City in the Courts. We know the City is now facing numerous challenges. These include the serious and structural changes that have been urged upon the City Commission by the recent Grand Jury, whose Report describes "a pervasive culture of negligence, nepotism, manipulation, and abdication of duty at the highest levels of city leadership." We also note the Grand Jury's attention to Key West's designation by the State Legislature as an "Area of Critical State Concern" (ACSC); and its attention to the fact that pollutants in our waterways and degradations in water quality can arise when the rule of law is not observed. As the Grand Jury stated, "The careless oversight of these regulations has real world impacts on the city of Key West and beyond; including near shore water quality which affects the health of ocean life and fish." We also believe water quality is fundamentally important to our economy and the social fabric of our community. We strongly urge the City to accept its legal responsibility to follow its own rules to protect the water quality of its waterways from the demonstrated harm caused by cruise ships.

1Key West Committee for Safer, Cleaner Ships

The City is required to perform water quality monitoring under the "Cruise Ship Regulations" of its Chapter 80. But not just any water monitoring program will do. As the attached memo demonstrates, Chapter 80 specifically requires the City to perform monitoring of water quality violations caused by cruise ships in Key West's waterways. Additional context for this requirement is provided by the enacting ordinance (22-07), which added Chapter 80 to the Code of Ordinances. That ordinance, adopted unanimously by the City Commission on April 5, 2022, states findings by the Commission including the following:

"WHEREAS, the City Commission finds substantial evidence that unregulated cruise ship operations impact the public safety, health and welfare of the citizens of Key West; and

"WHEREAS, the City Commission finds that regulations imposed on the discharge of Pollutants related to cruise ship operations will promote the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Key West; and

"WHEREAS, the City of Key West, seeking to mitigate harm to the environment and coral reefs and to support the highest standards of environmental compliance and health safety, desires to regulate the discharge of Pollutants from cruise vessels within the legal boundaries of the City of Key West."

The City has experience in performing the sort of monitoring specifically required by Chapter 80. Through its previous contract with the College of the Florida Keys, waterways were monitored for pollutants and water quality violations historically associated with cruise ships in Key West, specifically through testing for suspended particulates/turbidity with monitoring equipment attached to the City-owned "Yellowman" station, located in close proximity to the Pier B Cruiseport. Monitoring at this station documented a total of 32 specific violations of state and

federal statutes regarding turbidity that were associated with cruise ships docking at Pier B. These violations were reported to the City over six months ago, in November, 2024.
The City's RFP was drafted with reckless disregard for this history. The RFP fails in a number of respects to meet the City's own legal obligations, to wit:

1. 2. to direct respondents to test for suspended particulates/turbidity and any other pollutants historically associated with cruise ships;
to direct respondents to test in the harbor and/or the ship channel where cruise ships operate;

3. to direct respondents to utilize the City-owned "Yellowman" station, which effectively captured evidence of prior violations by cruise ships.
The word "cruise ship" appears only once in the RFP, as part of a generic description of Key West's population and tourist visitation. The words "vessel," "turbidity," "sedimentation," "particulates," and "silt" do not appear at all, despite extensive historical documentation by state and federal agencies of these problems and their connection to cruise ships.
Instead of requesting that proposals meet the City's clear and specific requirement to monitor for cruise-ship pollution under Chapter 80, the RFP asks respondents to review data, identify actions, and design a monitoring program that will be subject to "feedback and prioritization" from the City Commission prior to implementation. This proposed "feedback and prioritization" by the Commission implies to us an ad-hoc process, one whose outcome may be influenced by factors unrelated to the City's legal obligations, including political pressure from cruise-ship operators like Pier B Development Corporation, which has previously stated its opposition to Chapter 80's requirement to monitor for cruise-ship-related pollutants. But Chapter 80's requirements are crystal clear. Any "feedback and prioritization" of tasks should only began after the City has first established monitoring that meets its legal obligations under the Code.
Moreover, the RFP specifies that proposals must increase testing for bacteria at swimming beaches, stating "The City has already identified bacteria as a pollutant of concern at the Swimming Beaches." While we support increased testing at beaches, the RFP does not assert a connection between bacteria at swimming beaches and cruise ship operations in Key West's waterways, and thus this testing would do nothing to satisfy the City's legal requirements under Chapter 80. The City's decision to specifically require monitoring at beaches, while not requiring monitoring in the harbor or ship channel; and its statement that "the City has already identified bacteria as a pollutant of concern," while remaining silent about the prior monitoring program's documentation of 32 water quality violations caused by cruise ships, further emphasizes its reckless disregard of Chapter 80, which precisely requires monitoring of water quality violations caused by cruise ships, and requires reporting of such violations.
We know Chapter 80 and its history well. At the request and direction of the City Commission, our Committee participated in the collaborative process, led by former City Attorney Shawn Smith, which ultimately produced this ordinance. Over a 6-month period beginning in October 2021, we engaged in a series of meetings with City staff, including former City Attorney Smith

and former City Manager McLauchlin; and with the City's outside counsel for the cruise ship ordinances, Joseph Pozzuoli, who invited us to comment on working drafts of the ordinance and provide materials from our research. This process also included a formal mediation, overseen by Judge Sandra Taylor, between stakeholders including our Committee, the City and its outside counsel, and the owners and legal counsel for Pier B.
The outcome of this lengthy and deliberative process was the Cruise Ship Regulations of

Chapter 80, which was unanimously adopted by the Commission in April 2022.
In contrast to that process, RFP 25-004 appears to have been drafted without the benefit of public input. Its appearance on the June 5 agenda is the first time it has been provided to the public. In light of the Grand Jury investigation and indictment of the former City Attorney, we are also concerned the RFP may have been drafted without benefit of a diligent technical and legal review that could have identified its shortcomings with regard to Chapter 80.
It is not too late for the City to remedy the failures of the RFP, and there is no need to lose more time before the monitoring required by Chapter 80 is resumed. We propose that the Commission award a contract for water quality monitoring at this meeting with clear direction to staff to require, as part of this contract, the following elements:

1. perform testing for suspended particulates/turbidity, as regulated by state and federal water quality standards, including standards for Outstanding Florida Waters (OFW), and which is historically associated with cruise ships in Key West's waterways;

2. 3. 4. perform testing in the harbor and the ship channel where cruise ships operate; perform testing from a station attached to the City-owned "Yellowman" structure, in order to measure whether cruise ship operations are continuing to cause the violations of state and federal water quality standards that were documented by prior testing.
Additionally, the Commission should direct the City Manager to immediately report to state and federal agencies the 32 prior documented violations, as required by Chapter 80, as well as state and federal regulations, and develop procedures for timely reporting of any future violations.
If the City enters into a contract for water quality monitoring that fails to reflect the elements outlined above, we believe it will assume the risk of potential penalties, including potential legal action that would compel it to do so. However, we believe potential paths to litigation would be closed off if the City would simply follow its own rules and regulations.
4Key West Committee for Safer, Cleaner Ships
We are available to answer any questions from staff or individual Commissioners in advance of Wednesday's meeting. We will also be present at the meeting and available to answer any questions at that time.

Memorandum on Chapter 80
Chapter 80 of the City of Key West's Code of Ordinances is titled "Cruise Ship Regulations." In Section 80-1, cruise ships are defined as the sole class of vessel which are subject to the regulations. Wherever Chapter 80 uses the term "vessel," the term is a synonym for "cruise ship:"
"'Vessel' shall mean a cruise ship holding more than five hundred (500) passengers and such cruise ship's owner(s)." (Sec. 80-1)
In Section 80-2(1), the discharge of pollutants by cruise ships in Key West's waterways is outlawed:
"It shall be unlawful for any vessel to deposit, place or discharge any pollutant into the waterways of the City of Key West." (Sec. 80-2(1))
In Section 80-2(2), cruise ships docking in Key West are required to comply with applicable laws:
"Vessels docking at the City of Key West shall at all times be in full compliance with all applicable state, federal and international safety, health and environmental protection statutes, regulations, standards and requirements, including, but not limited to, the Oil Pollution Act of

1990, the International Convention for Safety of Life at Sea, the International Convention for Prevention of Pollution from Ships, and shall have a valid certificate of inspection." (Sec. 80-2(2))

Section 80-3 requires monitoring of water quality violations of Section 80-2:

"The City of Key West shall also establish a water quality monitoring fund for the monitoring of water quality violations of Sec. 80-2 in the Waterways of the City of Key West, via certified, independent, qualified water quality monitoring expert, or governmental entity to be identified by resolution annually." (Sec. 80-3)

As demonstrated above, the only water quality violations described in Section 80-2 are the discharge of pollutants by cruise ships (Sec. 80-2(1)); and any noncompliance with applicable state and federal standards by cruise ships docked in Key West (Sec. 80-2(2)). Therefore, where Section 80-3 requires "monitoring of water quality violations of Sec. 80-2" this in fact means "monitoring of pollution caused by cruise ships" and "monitoring of noncompliance with state and federal standards caused by cruise ships."

Finally, in Section 80-5, "Enforcement," the City is required to coordinate with state and federal agencies to ensure that cruise ships docked in Key West comply with applicable law. This Section plainly obliges the City to timely report any documented noncompliance by cruise ships to these agencies, as a first step in coordinating efforts to ensure that cruise ship operations conform with the law.

"The City of Key West shall coordinate with state and federal agencies to ensure that vessel operations conform to all applicable laws relating to Sec. 80-2(2)."

7ORDINANCE NO. 22-07

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, ADDING CHAPTER 80 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, ENTITLED "CRUISE SHIP REGULATIONS" BY ADDING SECTION 80-1 DEFINITIONS, SECTION 80-2 PROHIBITING POLLUTION OF WATER, ESTABLISHING FEES RELATED TO THE FAILURE TO CLEANUP WATER POLLUTION, SECTION, SECTION 8 0 -3 ESTABLISHING A CORAL REEF RESTORATION FUND AND ESTABLISHING A MECHANISM FOR THE FUNDING OF RESTORATION FUND AND ESTABLISHING A WATER QUALITY MONITORING FUND AND A MECHANISM TO FUND WATER QUALITY MONITORING ; SECTION 8 0 -4 PASSENGER HEALTHCARE SERVICES; SECTION 80-4 PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF INCONSISTENT PROVISIONS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the City of Key West is an island with a delicate surrounding environment, including coral reefs and a tourist economy which depends upon a safe and clean environment, especially our near shore waters; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission finds substantial evidence that unregulated cruise ship operations impact the public safety, health and welfare of the citizens of Key-

West; and
WHEREAS, the City Commission finds that regulations
imposed on the discharge of Poll tants related to cruise
Page 1 of 9ship operations will promote the health, safety and welfare
of the citizens of Key West; and
WHEREAS, the City of Key West, seeking to mitigate
harm to the environment and coral reefs and to support the
highest standards of environmental compliance and health
safety, desires to regulate the discharge of Pollutants
from cruise vessels within the legal boundaries of the City
of Key West; and
WHEREAS, the City Commission finds that, in the
instance of disease outbreak, the treatment of cruise ship
passengers at the City of Key West's medical facilities
could overwhelm the City of Key West's medical
infrastructure; and
WHEREAS, the City of Key West finds that this
Ordinance establishing rules and regulations for cruise
vessels docking at the City of Key West will promote the
health, safety and welfare of the citizens and visitors of
the City of Key West and does not restrict maritime
commerce.
Page 2 of 9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF KEY
WEST, FLORIDA:
Section 1: That Chapter 80 is hereby added to the
Code of Ordinances as follows*:
CHAPTER 80 -- City of Key West Cruise Ship
Regulations.
*(Coding: Added language is underlined; deleted
language is struck through at first reading. Added language
is double underlined
Sec. 80-1. Definitions.
As used herein, the following words, terms and phrases,
when used in this ordinance, shall have the meanings ascribed
to them in this section.
"Vessel" shall mean a cruise ship holding more than five
hundred (500) passengers and such cruise ship's owner(s).
"Discharge" shall mean any spilling, leaking, pumping,
pouring, emitting, releasing, emptying or dumping.
"Pollutant" shall mean ballast, dunnage, untreated
sewage, garbage, liquid or solid matter, oil, gasoline,
residuum of gas, calcium, carbide, trade waste, tar or refuse,
Page 3 of 9or any other floating matter or scum on the surface of the
water, obstruction on the bottom of the waterways, or odors
or gases of putrefaction as such Discharge is defined as a
Pollutant by state or federal law.
"Waterways of City of Key West" shall mean the water six
hundred (600) feet into the tidal waters adjacent to the City

of Key West's corporate limits.
Sec 80-2. Pollution of water.
(1) It shall be unlawful for any Vessel to deposit, place or discharge any Pollutant into the waterways of the City of Key West.
(2) Vessels docking at the City of Key West shall at all times be in full compliance with all applicable state, federal and international safety, health and environmental protection statutes, regulations, standards and requirements, including, but not limited to, the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, the International Convention for Safety of Life at Sea, the International Convention for Prevention of Pollution from Ships, and shall have a valid Certificate of Inspection. In the event of a Vessel Pollutant Discharge into the waterways of the City of Key West, the Vessel responsible for the Page 4 of 9Discharge shall take immediate action to clean up the Discharge. Cleanup is to be accomplished in the shortest time possible, using industry approved standard methods, so as to limit in every way possible, damage to the environment. In any instance where it is determined by the City of Key West that cleanup efforts are not being undertaken in a timely and/or adequate manner by the responsible Vessel, the City of Key West may order resources, as necessary, to commence and complete the Pollutant Discharge cleanup. In such cases, the actual cost of the cleanup plus an administrative fee of 15% of the actual cost of cleanup will be charged to the responsible Vessel.
(3) Full payment of the cleanup costs, including administrative fee, must be paid by Vessel before the Vessel will be permitted to sail from the City of Key West. In instances where a Vessel is prohibited from sailing due to failure to pay actual cleanup costs and administrative fee as prescribed by this section: (a) an additional one thousand ($1,000) dollar per-day Pollutant Discharge cleanup management fee will assessed until such time as Vessel sails from the City of Key West (b)the City of Key West will provide dock space or other anchorage and (c) the Vessel prohibited from sailing shall pay dockage fee to the City of Kew West Page 5 of 9at then prevailing rates.
(4) In the event any oil or hazardous substance is discharged into or upon the waterway of the City of Key West, in a harmful or reportable quantity, the responsible Vessel shall immediately notify all appropriate state and local agencies and the National Response Notification Center.
Sec. 80-3. Coral Reef Restoration; Water Quality Monitoring.
The City of Key West shall establish a fund for the express purpose to restore and maintain coral reefs adjacent

to the City of Key West. The City of Key West shall engage certified, independent, qualified reef restoration experts, to be identified by resolution of the City of Key West annually, to restore and maintain such reefs.
The City of Key West shall also establish a water quality monitoring fund for the monitoring of water quality violations of Sec. 80-2 in the Waterways of the City of Key West, via certified , independent, qualified water quality monitoring expert, , or governmental entity to be identified by resolution annually.
Revenue for Coral reef restoration and maintenance fund and Water Quality monitoring fund shall be derived from the
Page 6 of 9administrative fee established in Section 80-2 herein, the cruise ship passenger Disembarkment Fee revenue share paid to the City of Key West, and any donation made to the funds.
Allocation of funds to the respective programs shall be made annually via resolution of the City Commission.
Sec. 80-4. - Passenger healthcare services.
Vessels shall use best efforts to utilize on-board of life-threatening
healthcare services regarding the medical needs of its passengers, with the exception
of life-threatening
emergencies. With the exception
emergencies, Vessels shall transport any passenger-patient with COVID-19, or other confirmed or suspected highly transmissible illness requiring medical service, using an isolated emergency transportation method to a treatment facility outside of the City of Key West.
Sec. 80-5. -Enforcement.
The City of Key West shall coordinate with state and federal agencies to ensure that Vessel operations conform to all applicable laws relating to Sec. 80-2(2).
Section 3: If any section, provision, clause, phrase, or application of this Ordinance is held invalid or
Page 7 of 9unconstitutional for any reason by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions of this Ordinance shall be deemed severable therefrom and shall be construed as reasonable and necessary to achieve the lawful purposes of this Ordinance.
Section 4: All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances of said City in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby superseded to the extent of such conflict.
Page 8 of 9Section 5: This Ordinance shall go into effect immediately upon its passage and adoption and authentication by the signature of the presiding officer and the Clerk of the Commission.
Read and passed on first reading at a regular meeting

held this 10th day of March 2022.
Read and passed on final reading at a regular meeting
held this 5th day of April , 2022.
Authenticated by the presiding officer and Clerk of
the Commission on 7th day of April ------ --------
, 2 022.
Filed with the Clerk April? , 2022.
Mayor Teri Johnston Yes

Vice Mayor Sam Kaufman Yes

Commissioner Gregory Davila Yes

Commissioner Mary Lou Hoover Yes

Commissioner Clayton Lopez Yes

Commissioner Billy Wardlow Yes

Commissioner Jimmy Weekle
TE
CHERYL SMITH, CITY CLERK

Thanks,

Tina Wermuth