



**Passenger Vessel
Association**

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February 3, 2010

Ms. Karen V. Gregory
Secretary
Federal Maritime Commission
800 North Capitol Street, NW -- Room 1046
Washington, DC 20573-001

Dear Ms. Gregory:

The Passenger Vessel Association (PVA) – the national trade association representing owners and operators of U.S.-flagged commercial passenger vessels of all types – requests the opportunity to present testimony at the Federal Maritime Commission's March 3 public hearing on the Passenger Vessel Financial Responsibility Program.

Included within PVA's membership are several companies that operate U.S.-flagged overnight cruise vessels required to comply with the financial responsibility statute. Such PVA members predominantly operate "small ship" cruise vessels. PVA companies subject to the Commission's regulations are

American Cruise Lines, Inc.
American Canadian Caribbean Line, Inc.
Cruise West
Lindblad Expeditions
NCL America, Inc.

PVA participated in the Commission's previous inquiry on this topic several years ago.

The point of contact for this request is Mr. Ed Welch, PVA's Legislative Director. His phone is 703-518-5005 ext. 27, and his email is ewelch@passengervessel.com.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Bill Clark
President