

IN REPLY REFER TO:

FOIA-DOI-NPS-2019-00966

October 13, 2023

Via Electronic Mail: AKR\_FOIA@nps.gov

Subject: Response to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request DOI-NPS-2019-000966

MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 74995  
411A Highland Ave  
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Dear CJ Ciaramella:

The National Park Service-Alaska FOIA office received your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, dated June 7, 2019, and assigned it control number DOI-NPS-2019-00966. Please cite this number in any future communications with our office regarding your request.

You requested: *"All submitted proposals by cruise line companies to operate in Glacier Bay National Park as part of the park's solicitation for cruise ship services issued May 31, 2018. Any communications between January 1, 2018 and June 7, 2019 to or from NPS and Princess Cruise Lines Ltd, Holland America Line Inc., NCL (Bahamas) Ltd, Carnival plc (Cunard Line), Seabourn Cruise Line Limited, Viking Cruises Ltd and Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. regarding permitting to operate in Glacier Bay."*

We are writing today to respond to your request on behalf of the National Park Service. We have provided a SharePoint link that contains the requested records, consisting of 2,908 pages, which are being released to you in their entirety.

Portions of these materials are being withheld under the following FOIA Exemption 4 and Exemption 6.

Exemption 4 protects "trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person [that is] privileged or confidential." [5 U.S.C. § 552\(b\)\(4\)](#). The withheld information is commercial or financial information. The company that supplied this information (the submitter) is considered a person, because the term "person," under the FOIA, includes a wide range of entities including corporations. Also, the submitter does not customarily release this information to the public, so the information is confidential for the purposes of Exemption 4.

Exemption 6 applies to "personnel and medical files and similar files" when disclosure of such information "would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy." 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6).

Peter Christian, NPS FOIA Coordinator for Alaska is responsible for this partial denial. Jason Hartz, in the Office of the Solicitor was consulted.

You may appeal this response to the Department's FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer. If you choose to appeal, the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer must receive your FOIA appeal **no later than 90 workdays** from the date of this communication. Appeals arriving or delivered after 5 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, will be deemed received on the next workday. **Your appeal must be made in writing.** You may submit your appeal and accompanying materials to the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer by mail, courier service, fax, or email. All communications concerning your appeal should be clearly marked with the words: "FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPEAL."

You must include an explanation of why you believe this response is in error. You must also include with your appeal copies of all correspondence between you and the National Park Service concerning your FOIA request, including your original FOIA request and this response. Failure to include with your appeal all correspondence between you and the National Park Service will result in the Department's rejection of your appeal, unless the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer determines (in the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer's sole discretion) that good cause exists to accept the defective appeal.

Please include your name and daytime telephone number (or the name and telephone number of an appropriate contact), email address and fax number (if available) in case the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer needs additional information or clarification of your appeal.

*DOI FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Office Contact Information*

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Solicitor  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
MS-6556 MIB  
Washington, DC 20240

Attn: FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Office

Telephone: (202) 208-5339  
Fax: (202) 208-6677  
Email: [FOIA.Appeals@sol.doi.gov](mailto:FOIA.Appeals@sol.doi.gov)

The 2007 FOIA amendments created the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation. You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways:

Office of Government Information Services  
National Archives and Records Administration  
8601 Adelphi Road - OGIS  
College Park, MD 20740-6001  
E-mail: [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov)  
Web: <https://www.archives.gov/ogis>

Telephone: 202-741-5770  
Fax: 202-741-5769  
Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448

Please note that using OGIS services does not affect the timing of filing an appeal with the Department's FOIA & Privacy Act Appeals Officer. If you have any questions about our response to your request, you may contact Peter Christian by phone at 907-644-3512 or by email at [peter\\_christian@nps.gov](mailto:peter_christian@nps.gov).

Contact information for the Department's FOIA Public Liaison, who you may also seek dispute resolution services from, is available at <https://www.doi.gov/foia/foiacenters>.

Sincerely,

Bella Furr  
AK Region FOIA Team