



Mayor Steve Geller

Broward County Commissioner, District 5

115 S Andrews Avenue, Room 413 • Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301 • 954-357-7005

May 10, 2021

Rochelle P. Walensky, MD, MPH, Director
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road
Atlanta, GA 30329
(Via Email at director@cdc.gov)

Re: CDC Cruise Industry Guidance

Dear Director Walensky:

As Mayor of Broward County, Florida, I have been a strong advocate for vaccinations, masks, and social distancing. When I promulgated regulations for Broward's reopening (before our orders were overridden by Governor DeSantis) I consulted with Dr. Fauci, the CDC, HHS, Johns Hopkins, etc. While I agree with the CDC's current Cruise Industry Guidance that 95% of passengers and 98% of crew members must be vaccinated and that masks should be worn, I strongly urge you to consider adding Norwegian Cruise Line's (NCL) COVID-19 proposed safety protocols as an alternative option for the cruise industry. NCL has proposed requiring that 100% of its passengers and crew be vaccinated, and that masks are not required to be worn. Candidly, I believe their proposal would both be safer for passengers and crew, and would provide a better cruising experience for the passengers.

I believe that adding NCL's protocols as an alternative option will be helpful to the industry and to the safety of passengers and crew members.

Thank you again for all that you and the CDC are doing for our country.

Broward County Board of County Commissioners

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Sincerely,

/s/ **Steve Geller**

Steve Geller

Broward County Mayor

CC: Jonathan Daniels, Port Everglades Chief Executive & Port Director
Richard Vogel, President of Port Everglades Association
Frank J. Del Rio, President and CEO of Norwegian Cruise Lines
Lisa Lutoff-Perlo, President & CEO of Celebrity Cruises