



December 30, 2014

Ms. Kimberly Kiefer – City Manager
City and Borough Manager's Office
155 S. Seward St.
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Ms. Kiefer,

The support from the Marine Passenger Fee Proceeds assists Airlift Northwest (ALNW) in providing critical care transport for cruise ship passengers from Juneau and also the surrounding communities. ALNW appreciates the opportunity to petition for \$50,000. The funding enables us to provide increased service during the cruise ship season.

ALNW is a Section 115 tax exempt governmental entity that has provided critical care, air ambulance service for Alaska and the Pacific Northwest for over 30 years. ALNW was established in 1993 following a tragic house fire in Sitka, AK where three children died. Dr. Michael Copass was in Sitka teaching during this time. He assisted with the care of the children and trying to get them transferred to the regional burn center in Seattle. His belief was that a dedicated air ambulance could have prevented this and founded Airlift Northwest. ALNW has transported over 95,000 patients since then.

During the cruise ship season 21% of our flights from Juneau were transports for cruise ship passengers. A flight from Juneau to Seattle takes approximately 8-9 hours to complete the mission, which may leave the community without immediate medevac availability. This can cause a delay in a critical patient getting the care they need. An example of this would be a patient who has a spontaneous head bleed or one from trauma. Depending on the severity, surgery may be the only option to treat this. Bartlett Hospital does not do brain surgery so these patients must be transferred. Delays can cause death or increased damage to the brain which impacts the patient's life.

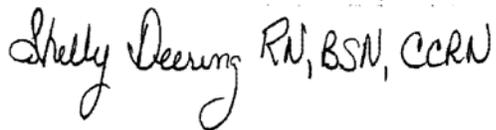
To improve availability and timeliness, ALNW added an additional aircraft in Juneau. This aircraft was added to support the additional increase of patients from cruise ships. The majority of the flights for this aircraft occur between May and September.

For 2014 the cost for supporting cruise ship passenger transports was \$389,877.00 which includes the following:

- Aircraft for May thru September
 - 21% of cost - \$122,475.00
- Additional Staff for May thru September
 - 21% of cost - \$5,922
- Uncompensated payment from cruise ship passengers or employees
 - \$282,862.00.00 as of 12/30/14

Thank you for your consideration of our request. Please call or email me if you have any questions.

Cordially,



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Airlift Northwest

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