



You are here: SunSentinel.com > Collections > Cruise Ship

Ads by Google

Norwegian Cruise Line
See Pics, Schedules & Itineraries. Guaranteed Lowest Price. Book Now!
www.CruiseWeb.com/NCL

AT&T International Plans
Works in over 200 Global Countries Including China! Official Site.
www.att.com/global

Princess Cruises®
Escape Completely & Explore Amazing Destinations at the Official Site!
www.Princess.com

2-for-1 Caribbean Voyage
The Most Unique and Luxurious Way to Experience the Caribbean!
www.WindstarCruises.com

Sailing in the Caribbean
Sail along Mexico's Tropical Coasts A New Experience in the Caribbean!
www.VisitMexico.com/Sailing

Find more stories about

- Cruise Ship
- Norwegian Cruise Line
- Norwegian Dawn

FEATURED ARTICLES

Cruise Ship Safety
March 24, 2006

Ruling On Cruise Ships
Appropriate
August 3, 1990

Bahamas Evacuees Cram
Cruise Ship
August 24, 1992

Ncl Negligent, Passengers Say

Cruise Line Sued Over Encounter With Rogue Wave

June 17, 2005 | By Tom Stieghorst Business Writer

Did the cruise ship Norwegian Dawn sail into a heavy storm to keep an appointment to appear in the TV show The Apprentice in April? Norwegian Cruise Line denies it.

But on Thursday, one passenger on the cruise said a lawsuit was the only way to get to the truth about what happened.

"We need answers," said Roseanne Hughes of Spring Lake Heights, N.J.

Hughes is one of two dozen plaintiffs that have signed onto a lawsuit filed by a Miami attorney this week. The suit alleges negligence by Norwegian in piloting Norwegian Dawn on its April 10-17 cruise from New York.

The ship, after enduring a pounding from the storm through the early hours of April 17, was hit by a 70-foot wave around 6:20 a.m. that flooded cabins, broke windows, tore loose the Jacuzzis on the pool deck and smashed furniture.

Ads by Google

The Behemoth Ship

Find The Best Travel Deals From All The Big Brands. Try Bing™ Today!

bing.com/travel

0

Recommend

Be the first of your friends to recommend this.

Advertisement



Instead of continuing from Miami to New York for its date with the Donald Trump reality show, Norwegian Dawn diverted to Charleston, S.C. Four passengers sustained minor injuries.

But the emotional trauma was far greater, said Brett Rivkind, who along with a New Jersey law firm is pursuing a \$100 million suit that he hopes will be certified as a class action covering all 2,000 passengers aboard the cruise.

"Most of all, passengers feared for their lives," Rivkind said at a news conference Thursday. "There were passengers calling their loved ones, saying their goodbyes."

In a statement issued Thursday, Norwegian referred to a Bahamas Maritime Authority report that said the Dawn's captain acted appropriately and that "there is no evidence that any real or perceived urgency to arrive at New York earlier was a factor in the handling of the ship."

Norwegian said it considers the matter closed.

Not Rivkind.

A maritime attorney for 20 years, he said the Bahamian report released May 11 was surprisingly speedy. "We're interested in finding out to what extent the Bahamian government really investigated the matter," he said.

The Bahamas had jurisdiction because Dawn and other Norwegian Cruise Line ships are flagged there.

Hughes said the cruise line's assurances the night of the storm that everyone was safe had a chilling resonance. "This is what they told people on Sept. 11. 'Go back to work. You're safe.'"

Hughes said her husband, a painting contractor at Windows on the World restaurant, was killed in the Sept. 11 attacks. The

April cruise was the first vacation she had taken apart from her teenage children since then.

Tom Stieghorst can be reached at tstieghorst@sun-sentinel.com or 305-810-5008.

Ads by Google

[Norwegian \(NCL\) Cruises](#)

Over 4,200 NCL Cruise reviews and Norwegian Cruise deals to compare.

www.CruiseCritic.com



[Index by Keyword](#) | [Index by Date](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms of Service](#)