



News Release

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For Immediate Release

Galveston, Texas...April 26, 2003...The Port of Galveston obtained a ruling in the 56th Judicial District Court of Galveston County, Texas on Monday, April 28, 2003 that resolves allegations that Galveston Waterfront Ventures (GWV) was trespassing over land and tracks under the management and control of the Port. The Court ruling enjoined Galveston Waterfront Ventures from using a road over Port property to access GWV's parking lot south of Harborside Drive in Galveston.

Don Schattel, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Galveston Wharves, commented on the ruling. "The Port is pleased that Judge Venso confirmed our position that Galveston Waterfront Ventures had no legal right to use the road in question to access its parking facility. We felt all along that what Galveston Waterfront Ventures was doing was wrong and the Board had an obligation as stewards of the Port to make sure that GWV was prevented from continuing their trespass on public property."

The case has been set for trial on May 19, at which time several remaining issues will be considered, including the Port's claim for damages against GWV. "GWV was notified by the Port not to trespass on the property before they began parking operations from their lot but ignored our request," said Steve Cernak, Port Director. "We initially had hoped to reach an agreement with GWV to resolve the problem before it got out of hand but unfortunately the parties were unable to do so. The Port is appreciative of the Court's ruling on these matters of law and its interest in protecting the citizens of Galveston from potential exposure. We look forward to putting this controversy behind us."
