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## News Release

### **THREE CRUISE SHIPS TO DOCK AT CRUISE COMPLEX ON SATURDAY Thousands of cruise passengers will embark and disembark**

**Galveston, Texas...December 17, 2004...**On Saturday, December 18, 2004, three cruise ships will be arriving early in the morning to dock at the Port of Galveston, the first time that three cruise ships have been in port simultaneously to load and unload passengers.

Approximately 6,500 passengers will be disembarking from the ships and approximately 6,500 will be arriving on Galveston Island to board the vessels and begin their cruise vacations.

“Tomorrow, Carnival Cruise Lines, Celebrity Cruises and Princess Cruises will be in port to load and unload passengers,” stated Steve Cernak, Port Director. “This is the first time that we have had the opportunity to berth 3 ships at our cruise facilities and we have had to change our normal pattern of cruise operations to fit this situation. We have planned for the additional cruise traffic both on the street and in the terminals. Because of the additional visitors, embarkation will possibly be delayed, allowing for additional time for the arriving visitors before they get on the ships. We hope that many of these visitors will take advantage of this opportunity to visit the many amenities and attractions on Galveston Island.”

The ships are due in port in the early morning. All disembarkation operations will be completed before embarkation will begin. It is projected that Carnival Cruise Line’s *Ecstasy* will depart at 4:00 p.m. Celebrity Cruises’ *Galaxy* will depart at 5:00 p.m. and Princess Cruises’ *Grand Princess* is expected to leave the Port of Galveston at 6:00 p.m.

During October and November, the Port of Galveston was busy with an abundance of cruise activity. The Port marked the last sailing of Galveston’s first year-round cruise ship and the arrival of three new cruise ships. The Port said bon voyage to Carnival Cruise Line’s *Celebration*, Galveston’s first cruise ship. Then Carnival’s *Ecstasy* arrived to replace the *Celebration*. In the beginning of November, Celebrity Cruises’ *Galaxy* arrived for the winter cruise season as did Princess Cruises’ *Grand Princess*, the largest cruise ship to dock at the Port of Galveston.

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