

02/25/2025

Carl Uchytel
Port Director
Docks and Harbors Board
76 Egan Drive
Juneau, AK 99801
carl.uchytel@juneau.gov

Dear Mr. Uchytel and Members of the Docks and Harbors Board,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing on behalf of Auk Ta Shaa to formally appeal for a Waterfront Vendor permit for the 2025 season. Regrettably, we acknowledge that we have missed the renewal deadline and have surpassed the official application period. We deeply regret this oversight and sincerely hope to seek your understanding and permission to submit our application despite the unusual timing.

Auk Ta Shaa has held a vendor permit for numerous past seasons, maintaining our status in compliance with all regulations and requirements. We have consistently demonstrated our commitment to upholding the standards of CBJ Docks and Harbors.

The Waterfront Vendor permit is critical to our company's operations. It not only impacts our ability to serve visitors and residents of Juneau but also affects our workforce, including three full-time seasonal jobs. We are the sole vendor of several unique tour products and hold long-standing sales partnerships with Juneau's major operators. Our annual acquisition of this critical permit not only results in the \$35,000 permit fee but also generates valuable sales tax revenue for the City and Borough of Juneau. The missed deadlines were a very unfortunate oversight, and we assure you it was never our intention to circumvent the application process, or the rules set forth.

We kindly and respectfully request the opportunity to apply for the Waterfront Vendor permit at this time. We are committed to upholding the standards expected by the Docks and Harbors Board and are eager to continue our partnership with your organization.

Thank you for considering our appeal. We believe that through collaboration and understanding, we can continue to play a vital role in our local waterfront community. I am available at your earliest convenience to discuss this matter further and answer any questions you may have.

Warm regards,

Seena Poopathi

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Vice President, Finance

Auk Ta Shaa

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