ONE CREW ONE VOICE

BANNED BY THE LINES. TRUSTED BY THE CREW.

Dear friend,

Thank you for holding these stickers. Let me tell you what they are for.

I spent seven years in the cruise industry, working on board ships and in shoreside management, travelling from ship to ship. I know what crew life is, because I lived it. The people who clean your cabin, serve your dinner and keep the ship running work months away from their families, and a lot of them are afraid to speak up about how they are treated. So I started One Crew One Voice to speak with them, and for the ones who cannot speak at all.

Here is the part the cruise lines do not advertise. When you prepay your gratuities or let the daily auto gratuities ride on your account, that money goes into a pool controlled by the company. On paper it is for the crew. In practice, the contracts let the lines count it toward the minimum they already owe, move it between departments, and keep what is left vague. The crew member smiling at your table may see very little of what you thought you gave them.

These stickers carry a simple fix, and they are not for wearing. They go on the money. Decline the auto gratuities at Guest Services, and tip the crew in cash instead, the old way, at least what you would have paid the cruise line. Then put one of these stickers on the bill before you hand it over, so the message rides the cash straight into the hand of the person who earned it. You already know the truth about the pool, or you would not be holding this letter. The crew are the ones who need to hear it: that passengers are learning, that cash in their hands is the whole point, and that someone out there is fighting for them. A sticker on the money says all of that in the one moment it matters most, when the tip changes hands.

The goal of this whole project is bigger than any one sailing. It is a crew that gets paid fairly and openly, rests the hours the law promises them, and is treated like people instead of a line on a spreadsheet. One crew. One voice. Every passenger who tips cash and spreads the word is part of it.

Use every sticker. One on each tip, each night, for your steward, your servers, the bartender who remembers your order. Pass the spares to someone at your dinner table so their tips carry the message too. And if you are crew, past or present, I want to hear from you.

With gratitude,

Richard Shillington

Founder, One Crew One Voice
OneCrewOneVoice.org
The No Pants Show on YouTube
richard@gotrichard.com
+1 786-282-6979
1193 SE Port Saint Lucie Blvd, Ste 407
Port Saint Lucie, FL 34952