IN AND FOR THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA MIAMI DIVISION

CASE NO.: 10-22241-CIV-KING

JUNE BRIDGEWATER,

Plaintiff,

v.

CARNIVAL CORPORATION, RAPSODY TOURS, CHARTERS & CRUISE LIMITED, DREAMER CATAMARAN CRUISES, and XYZ CORPORATION,

Defendants.		
		/

ORDER DENYING DEFENDANT CARNIVAL'S PARTIAL MOTION TO DISMISS

THIS CAUSE comes before the Court upon Defendant Carnival's Motion to

Dismiss (DE #58), filed March 28, 2011. Therein, Defendant seeks dismissal of Count

V of Plaintiff's Amended Complaint (DE #57), which purports to state a claim for Third
Party Beneficiary. In large part, Defendant claims dismissal is warranted because of

Plaintiff's failure to allege in Count V that "there is a provision in the alleged contract

between [Defendants] which guaranteed the Plaintiff safe passage on the shore excursion

boat ..." (DE #58 at 5). Additionally, Defendant claims dismissal is appropriate because

maritime law prohibits implied breach of contract actions. ²

¹ Because Defendant Carnival's Motion seeks dismissal only of Count V, Defendant has waived its basis for dismissal at this stage of any other counts applicable to Carnival.

² The Court declines to address Defendant's second contention at this time, as the record is insufficiently developed regarding the specific contractual provisions at issue.

Upon consideration of Plaintiff's Amended Complaint, the Court cannot concur.³ Carnival concedes that Plaintiff's Amended Complaint states that Carnival's co-Defendants were alleged to have an obligation towards Plaintiff, (DE #68 at 2, citing DE #57 ¶57), yet Carnival claims that there are no such allegations regarding Carnival itself. However, Paragraph 57, when read in conjunction with the remainder of the Complaint, alleges that "Defendant Carnival[] was the owner or co-owner of the subject excursion." (DE #57 ¶13). As such, any obligations arising from Carnival's co-Defendants also arose from Carnival. Insomuch as Count V alleges certain duties owed by the Defendants, Carnival is encompassed by those allegations. Therefore, notwithstanding Defendant's contention otherwise, the Amended Complaint has provided sufficient notice of both the basis for Plaintiff's claim and given Carnival an opportunity to respond thereto. The case cited by Defendant, Rinker v. Carnival Corp., -- F. Supp. 2d ----, 2010 WL 4811760 (S.D. Fla. Nov. 19, 2010), is distinguishable on the basis that only one defendant in that case breached the alleged third-party beneficiary contract. Id. at 2010 WL 4811760, at *4-5. Here, however, Plaintiff's allegations apply equal to Carnival and its co-Defendants.

Accordingly, having considered the parties' legal filings and being otherwise fully advised on the premises, it is **ORDERED**, **ADJUDGED**, and **DECREED** that:

- 1. Defendant Carnival Corporation's Motion to Dismiss (DE #58) be, and the same is hereby, **DENIED**.
- Defendant shall ANSWER Plaintiff's Amended Complaint (DE #57)
 within twenty days of the date of this Order.

³ Plaintiff filed a Response (DE #65) on April 25, 2011, to which Defendant filed its Reply (DE #68) on May 5, 2011. The matter is therefore ripe for determination.

DONE and ORDERED in Chambers at the James Lawrence King Federal Justice

Building and United States Courthouse in Miami, FL this 9th day of May, 2011.

JAMES LAWRENCE KING
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

cc:

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