



USS New York (LPD 21) Commissioning Committee

NEW YORK JETS OWNER ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON IV NAMED CHAIRMAN OF USS NEW YORK COMMISSIONING COMMITTEE

Navy Ship to be Commissioned in New York Harbor in November 2009

Committee Responsible for Commissioning Activities

Will Establish Education Fund and Support for Crew

Avondale, LA-August 18—The USS NEW YORK Commissioning Committee today announced that Robert Wood “Woody” Johnson IV, the owner of the New York Jets and renowned businessman, has been named chairman of the Committee. The announcement took place aboard USS NEW YORK during a ship visit here at the Northrop Grumman shipyard. The committee is a non-profit, non-governmental organization that is responsible for organizing welcoming activities leading up to the formal commissioning ceremonies of USS NEW YORK in New York City in November 2009.

USS NEW YORK, a San Antonio Class amphibious ship designed to deliver Marines where and when needed in defense of the country, has 7.5 tons of steel from the World Trade Center buildings attacked on September 11, 2001 forged into the bow stem, the foremost portion of the ship that cuts through the water. When USS New York arrives in New York Harbor on November 2, 2009, the ship will pass under the Verrazano Bridge and be joined by a flotilla of boats from Federal, State and City organizations, as well as local municipalities, ferry companies and private boats.

“The USS NEW YORK Commissioning Committee is pleased to name Woody Johnson its chairman,” said retired Rear Admiral Robert A. Ravitz, , Co-Chairman and Executive Director of the USS NEW YORK Commissioning Committee. “Woody Johnson will be a true friend to the ship’s crew, and we are proud to have him at the helm of the committee. Mr. Johnson will not only ensure that the ship receives the send off it deserves, but more importantly, that that sailors and Marines who serve as her crew will receive the support they need.”

“I am deeply honored to serve as chairman of the USS New York Commissioning Committee,” Mr. Johnson said. “This ship will be the pride of New York. It will remind all those before it that we will never forget those we have lost and those serving to ensure



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our security. As the USS NEW YORK enters New York Harbor, I look forward to welcoming her and her crew along with all New Yorkers and all Americans.”

The Commissioning of USS NEW YORK will take place on November 7, 2009 on Manhattan’s West Side. Commissioning is the centuries-old ceremony in which NEW YORK will become a unit of the operating forces of the United States Navy. USS NEW YORK will be open for public visiting during the commissioning week.

Commander F. Curtis Jones, USN, a native of Binghamton, NY, will be the ship’s first Commanding Officer.

About the USS NEW YORK Commissioning Committee

The commissioning committee is comprised of a group of civilian volunteers who are responsible for the events surrounding the commissioning ceremony as well as fundraising to support the educational and special needs of the crew.

For more information on USS New York or to make a donation to the Commissioning Committee, please visit the official website of the commissioning: www.ussny.org

About USS NEW YORK

USS NEW YORK, a state-of-the-art stealth ship, is the sixth ship to bear that name. She is named for New York (State) because she contains 7 ½ tons of special steel from the World Trade Center forged into her bow. The ship has a crew of 360 sailors and Marines, and carries 700 Marines when deployed. Landing Craft Air Cushion (LCAC) and Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft are used to deliver the Marines. The ship will be home ported in Norfolk, Virginia.

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