

# COMMISSIONING ANCHORAGE

MAY 4, 2013  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

The commissioning ceremony for U.S.S. ANCHORAGE (LPD 23) will take place in her namesake city of Anchorage, Alaska on May 4, 2013. She is the second ship to be named after this great city, which had humble beginnings in 1914 as a tent city for workers on the Alaska Railroad. It emerged at the mouth of Ship Creek and has since grown to be Alaska's most populous city with nearly 300,000 residents, overcoming the devastating effects of the Good Friday Earthquake in 1964.

The city includes many cosmopolitan attractions including the Museum of History and Fine Art, the Alaska Native Heritage Center and a myriad of parks and wilderness that respects and celebrates the diverse culture of Alaska's 11 indigenous people.

U.S.S. ANCHORAGE has the distinction of being the first U.S. Navy ship to be commissioned in the state. To assist in this celebration, a committee was formed in January 2012 which brings together members of the Alaska chapter of the U.S. Navy League with representatives of the Municipality of Anchorage and the Port of Anchorage. The committee's main functions will be to coordinate crew activities, and community outreach projects during the 10-day commissioning celebration.



NIL FATO RELINQUEMUS  
WE LEAVE NOTHING TO CHANCE

# AMPHIBIOUS TRANSPORT DOCK LPD 23



## CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information about U.S.S. ANCHORAGE (LPD 23), please direct your correspondence to:

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# U.S.S. ANCHORAGE

## ANCHORAGE LEADERSHIP



**CAPT. BRIAN J. QUIN**  
COMMANDING OFFICER

Capt. Brian J. Quin received his commission in 1991 through the NROTC program at Northwestern University, where he earned a Bachelors of Arts degree (with honors) in History. In 2007, he earned a Masters of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies and graduated with distinction from the Naval War College. From 2009 to 2011 he commanded the guided missile destroyer USS Gridley (DDG 101), homeported in San Diego, Calif.

Afloat, Capt. Quin served in a variety of division officer billets in USS Callaghan (DDG 994), as fire control officer in USS Lake Erie (CG 70), as weapons and combat systems department head in USS Philippine Sea (CG 58), and as executive officer in USS Shiloh (CG 70) and the USS Cape St. George (CG 71). He has deployed to

the western Pacific, the Arabian Gulf, and the Mediterranean Sea. During his tours, Lake Erie participated in the 1996 Mountain Top advanced concept technology demonstration; Philippine Sea launched one of Operation Enduring Freedom's opening Tomahawk salvos into Afghanistan in 2001; and Shiloh participated in Operation Unified Assistance, the 2004-2005 tsunami relief effort in Indonesia.

Ashore, Capt. Quin served as maritime homeland defense officer in the operations directorate (J-3) of the Joint Staff, as deputy executive assistant and Flag aide to the commander, U.S. THIRD Fleet, and as combat systems officer (N65) on the staff of the commander, Naval Surface Forces. He also participated in the Office of the Secretary of Defense/Joint Staff intern program and served in the Joint Staff's systems integration division (J-6V).

Captain Quin's awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), the Joint Commendation Medal, the Navy-Marine Corps Commendation Medal (two awards), the Joint Achievement Medal, the Navy-Marine Corps Achievement Medal (two awards), the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (with three bronze stars), the Expert Rifle Medal, the Expert Pistol Medal, and various other personal and unit decorations.



**CMDR. JOEL G. STEWART**  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Cmdr. Joel Stewart, a native of Great Falls, Mont., began his Navy career by enlisting in 1985 as a Fire Controlman, trained to maintain and operate the Tomahawk Weapons Control System. He advanced to the rate of FC1 before he received his commission through the Enlisted Commissioning Program. He graduated from the University of New Mexico in 1996 with a Bachelors Degree in University Studies. He attended the Naval War College's Command and Staff College as a Halsey Scholar and graduated with distinction in 2007, earning a Masters of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies.

His operational tours include duty as a Tomahawk technician in USS Hewitt (DD 966); damage control assistant and operations officer in USS Fife (DD 991); operations officer in USS Chancellorsville (CG 62); as current operations action officer on Commander Multi-National Forces-Iraq's staff; future plans and public affairs officer for

Commander Standing NATO Maritime Group ONE; in USS Mahan (DDG 72) USS Normandy (CG 60) and USS Bainbridge (DDG 96); and commissioning navigator in USS Makin Island (LHD 8) before reporting as executive officer in USS Anchorage.

Ashore Cmdr. Stewart served on the staffs of Transient Personnel Unit San Diego (LPO & CMAA) and Navy Warfare Development Command, as the ballistic missile defense concept development lead.

Cmdr. Stewart's personal awards include the Joint Commendation Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal (7), the Navy-Marine Corps Achievement Medal (3), the Navy Good Conduct Medal (2), the NATO Medal, various unit citations and campaign awards.



**GMDCM(SW) PETE SANTOS**  
COMMAND MASTER CHIEF

MDCM Pete Santos enlisted in the United States Navy in August 1987. He completed Basic training in San Diego, Calif. His first duty station was USS Wisconsin (BB-64) Norfolk, Va. where he was assigned as a member of 5th Division. He then transferred to the USS Missouri (BB-63) Long Beach, Calif., assigned as a member of 3rd Division, where he achieved the rank of Petty Officer Third Class. His next assignment was NAS Sigonella, Sicily, where he was assigned to Security Department where he was promoted to Petty Officer Second Class.

His next assignment was Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit EIGHT Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily. There, he garnered the rank of First Class Petty Officer, receiving various assignments such as Leading Petty Officer (LPO) Maintenance Division and Command 3-M Coordinator. He then transferred to Readiness Reserve Center, Alameda, Calif., as LPO Training and Manpower Department. In September 2000, he transferred to

USS Elliot (DD 967) as Deck Division LPO. On there, he completed cruises in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, he then transferred to the USS Coronado (AGF-11). His genuine Sailization efforts were soon recognized by the Navy and he was therefore promoted to Chief Petty Officer (CPO). In 2003, he was assigned to the USS Higgins (DDG-76) as Deck Leading Chief Petty Officer (LCPO) completing several deployments, and later was promoted to Senior Chief Petty Officer. He reported aboard USS Pearl Harbor (LSD-52) in 2006, as Deck Department LCPO, also completing several deployments. In Oct 2008, he reported to the USS Cleveland (LPD-7) as Department LCPO, where he was promoted to Master Chief Petty Officer. In 2009, he was assigned to USS Boxer (LHD-4) as Department Leading Chief Petty Officer, where he was selected into the Command Master Chief program. GMDCM Santos is a March 2008 graduate of the Senior Enlisted Academy Non-Residence Course and Command Master Chief (CMC)/Chief of the Boat Class 73. Command Master Chief Santos served as the CMC for the USS Cape St. George (CG-71) prior to his current assignment as CMC for USS Anchorage (LPD-23).

His personal awards includes the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (3 awards), Navy Achievement Medal (5 awards), Good Conduct Medals (5 awards), and numerous campaign, personal, and unit citations. Master Chief Santos is a qualified Surface Warfare Specialist.

## COMMISSIONING COMMITTEE INFORMATION



For more information about the commissioning ceremony for U.S.S. ANCHORAGE (LPD 23), please direct your correspondence to:

U.S.S. ANCHORAGE Commissioning Committee  
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**Invitations**  
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