



Dear Fellow Hoosiers,

Indianapolis citizens and military servicemembers have consistently demonstrated a commitment to our community, our state, and our country through selfless dedication of time, effort, and heart. It is my honor to celebrate the forthcoming commission of the USS *Indianapolis* (LCS 17), a Littoral Combat Ship that will serve as a symbol of our city's generosity of spirit. It is my hope that the crew of LCS 17 feel emboldened to serve our nation in this image.

This will be the fourth United States Navy vessel to share the name of our capital city, honoring a legacy of servicemembers who have protected our nation with honor and valor. The inheritance of the USS *Indianapolis* began with the World War I armed Cargo ship and continued with USS *Indianapolis* vessels that served in World War II and the Cold War. Ships boasting the name Indianapolis remind us of the Hoosier values of bravery, strength, ingenuity, and perseverance that the servicemembers of LCS 17 will embody.

Our city is proud to honor the sacrifice and bravery of our military servicemembers. Throughout Indianapolis, you will find numerous monuments doing just that, including one honoring the USS *Indianapolis* (CA 35). I am confident that the servicemembers of the USS *Indianapolis* (LCS 17) will make the Circle City proud.

Again, my heartfelt congratulations to the Commissioning Committee, servicemembers of LCS 17, and all those involved to complete this monumental project. Thank you for your commitment to our world-class city's namesake. I wish the crew all the best for success in future missions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph H. Hogsett". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joseph H. Hogsett
Mayor
City of Indianapolis