

WASHINGTON, DC - Congressman Lee Terry (R-NE) today released the following statement, responding to the United States Navy's announcement that a Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) - to be built in 2013 - will be named the USS Omaha. Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus also announced a Littoral Combat Ship would be named after Sioux City, Iowa.

"This is a proud day for the City of Omaha. To have a Navy Combat Ship named after our great city is an incredible honor."

"Omahans take the Nebraska motto of "The Good Life" seriously, and this has carried over into Omaha's low unemployment, clean streets, beautiful parks, and healthy economy. It is appropriate that Omaha – a city strongly embodying American ideals - has a ship defending those ideals bearing its name."

"I thank the United States Navy for giving the wonderful men and women of Omaha this major distinction," Terry said.

"I chose the name for LCS 11 and LCS 12 after Midwestern cities from America's heartland, to honor the patriotic, hard-working citizens of Sioux City, Iowa and Omaha, Nebraska, for their support of and contributions to the military," said Secretary Mabus.

"The Littoral Combat Ship is a major part of the future of our Navy," Mabus said, pointing out LCS is fast, agile, operates with a smaller crew and can perform operations in both shallow and deep waters.