

# Proclamation

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



WHEREAS, GRIDLEY DDG101 is a new, guided missile destroyer 511 feet long, displacing 9,200 tons and bristling with state of the art offensive and defensive weapons, she is a marvel of modern technology and naval prowess; and

WHEREAS, GRIDLEY is named after Navy Captain Charles Gridley - whose USS Olympia fired the opening salvos in a key 1898 Spanish-American War battle in the Philippines made memorable by Commodore George Dewey's command: "You may fire when you are ready, Gridley" that started the battle in the Philippine harbor; and

WHEREAS, GRIDLEY'S young, talented crew represents 45 different states and 10 different countries, characteristic of the diversity found in our great country; and

WHEREAS, GRIDLEY'S Commanding Officer, CDR Steve Shinego, was raised in Hallandale, Florida and will bring this new greyhound of the seas to South Florida for its official commissioning on Saturday, February 10, 2007 ; and

WHEREAS, the commissioning ceremony represents the ships official birthday. From that day onward, she will formally be in the service of her country and the "USS" Designation will preface her name; and

WHEREAS, the USS GRIDLEY DDG101 will likely serve our country for decades to come.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROBERT L. VERNON, MAYOR OF THE VILLAGE OF KEY BISCAIYNE, FLORIDA, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM FEBRUARY 10, 2007 AS

### "USS GRIDLEY DDG101 DAY"

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE VILLAGE OF KEY BISCAIYNE THIS 10th DAY OF February, 2007.

MAYOR ROBERT L. VERNON

**Conchita Alvarez**


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**From:** Robert Vernon [vernon@fir.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, January 08, 2007 10:06 AM  
**To:** Conchita Alvarez  
**Subject:** FW: Navy Ship Gridley Welcome Feb. 2  
**Importance:** High  
**Attachments:** FAQ\_GRIDLEY\_DDG\_101\_final\_print\_REV\_with logo.doc

Conchita,

I plan on attending this function. Can you prepare a proclamation that I will present at the ceremony.  
 Thanks,  
 Bob Vernon

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Annette Alvarez [mailto:agawaa@bellsouth.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 07, 2007 11:40 AM  
**To:** vernon@fir.com  
**Cc:** calvarez@keybiscayne.fl.gov  
**Subject:** Navy Ship Gridley Welcome Feb. 2  
**Importance:** High

Dear Mayor Vernon:

Miami-Dade County will make history when the United States Navy commissions the guided missile destroyer USS Gridley (DDG 101) here next month. This is a "first" for our county and as such a group of civic leaders and local citizens are working hard to make this a successful event for all involved. We hope to show the crew of the Gridley that our community supports and appreciates their dedication to defending our nation's freedom.

**Friday, February 2, 2007**, the Gridley pulls into the Port of Miami at Pier 56. There will be a **Ship Greeting Ceremony from 11:30 to 2:00 pm** at which time we invite ***you or an individual designated by you*** to present Commander Steve Shinego with a proclamation commemorating the occasion (this will remain on board the ship for the next 40 or 50 years.) The ceremony will be followed by a light lunch buffet.

More information on the Gridley may be found on [www.gridleymiami.org](http://www.gridleymiami.org) and I have also attached an informational sheet that will help in preparing a proclamation.

May I please have a reply from your office no later than **Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>** as to your decision to participate in this unique and historical event?

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to reach me on my cell: 305-299-9439 or via email: [agawaa@bellsouth.net](mailto:agawaa@bellsouth.net) I thank you in advance for your prompt consideration to this request.

Sincerely,

Annette G. Alvarez  
 Chair (volunteer) – Gridley Ship Greeting

T. 305-299-9439  
[agawaa@bellsouth.net](mailto:agawaa@bellsouth.net)