In 1892, my grandfather, Thomas Crowley, bought a Whitehall rowboat and went into business for himself shuttling personnel and supplies between the San Francisco waterfront and the tall sailing ships that would anchor in San Francisco Bay. It was a very physically demanding job, requiring a strong back and arms because business was typically won by the boatman who could row out to the ships faster than his competitors. Fortunately, my grandfather was physically and mentally strong, with an unflinching work ethic, and he won his share of business. From these humble beginnings grew the company we know today as Crowley Maritime Corporation.

In a day and age where the average lifespan of a family-owned business is 24 years, I am very proud to say that we will mark our 125th anniversary of service in 2017. The year will be filled with great celebration and reflection on what we have accomplished, and how we have grown and prospered for well over a century. By taking a look back, we can better appreciate the work, sacrifice, and entrepreneurial spirit of those who came before us.

We will also be taking a look ahead, as 2017 will be a very big year for the company, particularly as we launch our new Commitment Class, LNG-powered ConRo ships in the Puerto Rico trade and begin using new and renovated port terminal facilities in San Juan and Jacksonville. The investment in this service alone is more than $500 million, and the result will allow us to deliver a transformational service that will be one of the cornerstones for our next century of service.

Company durability is important to me and to the continued success of our organization. The fact that we are on our third generation of Crowley family leadership is very heartening to me and inspiring to our employees.

Private ownership has benefitted us in a number of ways. We have been able to create a unique corporate culture that inspires great teamwork and loyalty. We have also been able to make decisions with a long-term view and not for short-term expediency or profit. And, we have reinvested profits back into the business to continue our growth trajectory.

The past 125 years have been filled with many milestones and accomplishments, which we will be highlighting as the year unfolds. We invite you to take this celebratory journey with us by connecting with us on our website and social media channels as we look confidently to the future and our next 125 years of service.

Sincerely,

Tom Crowley