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***MEDIA ALERT***

**FIRST ARMY SHIP TO BEAR NAME OF AFRICAN AMERICAN  
DOCKS AT PENN'S LANDING**

*The vessel MG Robert Smalls will conduct tours Saturday, September 13th*

**WHEN:**       **ARRIVES:** Saturday, September 13th at 8:30 a.m.  
                  **DEPARTS:** Sunday, September 14th at 12:00 p.m.  
                  **TOURS:**       September 13th  
                                  1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

**WHERE:**       **South Quay, adjacent to Penn's Landing Marina**  
South of Ferry Terminal (Walnut Street) at the Delaware River  
Philadelphia, PA

**WHAT:**       The MG Robert Smalls is the first Army ship to bear the name of an African American and the first named for a Civil War Hero. The arrival also marks the first time an Army Reserve Vessel visits Penn's Landing. The MG Robert Smalls is a Support Vessel out of Army Headquarters in Baltimore, Maryland. The \$25 million Army Reserve vessel is the largest in the Army's floating watercraft inventory. It is used to re-supply troops worldwide. The ship is 313 feet long, with a beam of 60 feet and carries a crew of 39 individuals. Docked on the South Quay, adjacent to Penn's Landing's marina, the vessel will be open for FREE tours to the public one day only.

**BACKGROUND:**   MG Robert Smalls is named after the prominent African American civil war hero Robert Smalls who served as a Major General in the South Carolina militia. Major General Robert Smalls became the first black captain of a U.S. vessel, a South Carolina legislator and militia general. He served 5 terms in the U.S. Congress. The vessel was named as a result of a 7-year solo campaign to have a naval vessel named for this American hero.

**ABOUT PENN'S LANDING:** Public Programming at Penn's Landing would not be possible without our presenting sponsor Independence Blue Cross and the

continued support of PECO, Bank of America, Pennsylvania Lottery, Live Nation, and the Greater Philadelphia Tourism Marketing Corporation, all of whom are committed to serving the Greater Philadelphia community.

Penn's Landing Corporation is the non-profit organization responsible for funding and producing public programming on the Great Plaza, Philadelphia's Delaware Waterfront Park. All events produced by Penn's Landing Corporation are FREE to the public. For more information on event locations and event details, please call (215) 922-2FUN or visit [www.pennslandingcorp.com](http://www.pennslandingcorp.com).

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