Robert J. Stevens

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

January 10, 2011

The Honorable Steve Kagen 1712 S Mason Street Appleton, WI 54914

Dear Representative Kagen:

As the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress has come to a close, I want to extend my heartfelt appreciation for your tireless efforts in bringing home a victory -- the award of our Nation's Littoral Combat Ships.

The energy that you and your constituents brought to the table in highlighting the importance of the Littoral Combat Ship program for the Navy and for the economic prosperity of Wisconsin and the Great Lakes region was extremely important in enabling this important program to proceed.

The contract award would not have been possible without two key ingredients: the outstanding professionalism and workmanship demonstrated by the Marinette Marine shipyard in constructing the *USS Freedom* and the *USS Fort Worth*; and your leadership in amassing delegation support for the program.

I wish you the very best in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Robert 1. Stevens