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Port of Palm Beach Celebrates Centennial with New Cruise Ship & Record Breaking Numbers

Riviera Beach, Fla. – (February 26, 2015) **February 2015 marked two milestones for [The Port of Palm Beach](#):** The Port’s Centennial Celebration and the maiden journey of the [Grand Celebration](#) cruise ship. The official announcement of the Centennial anniversary took place on February 12, 2015 and was followed by a record-setting number of passengers aboard Bahamas Paradise Cruise Line’s Grand Celebration on February 13 – where some 1,600+ passengers passed through the Port of Palm Beach en route to the Bahamas.

“It is an honor to announce the Port’s Centennial Celebration,” states Manuel Almira, Executive Director of Port of Palm Beach. “The Port is thriving, serving more than 50 tenants and users and creating more than 2,500 direct jobs. Further, the recent addition of the beautiful Grand Celebration cruise ship adds another 750 jobs.”

Almira continues, “The Grand Celebration is the perfect fit for our Port, adding diversity to our revenue sources and tapping into the regional market demand for ‘staycations.’ Port of Palm Beach is approximately the same distance from Freeport, Bahamas as it is to Miami, Florida. Grand Celebration guests can board the ship after work on a Friday and be back for brunch on U.S. soil on Sunday.”

The Port of Palm Beach was established in 1915 by citizens of Palm Beach County and is governed by a five-member elected Board of Commissioners. Although a Special Taxing District, operating as a Sub-Division of the State of Florida, the Port has not levied ad valorem taxes since 1975.

Port of Palm Beach Board of Commissioner Chairman Blair J. Ciklin remarks on the Port’s Centennial, “From the humble beginnings of a harbor with a 4-foot deep channel, the Port of Palm Beach has grown to become the fourth busiest container port in Florida and one of the top 20 in the nation. Now, adding the Grand Celebration cruise ship to the mix of tenants adds to the Port’s diversity and financial strength.”

Ciklin continues, “It is without a doubt that I say over the past 100 years, the Port of Palm Beach has proven itself to be an asset to Palm Beach County by contributing to its vast development and economic growth.”

For more information on the Port of Palm Beach please visit www.PortofPalmBeach.com. For more information on the Grand Celebration, please visit the [Bahamas Paradise Cruise Line](#) website.

About the Port of Palm Beach

The Port of Palm Beach is a 162-acre, full-service, diversified port, handling a full range of cargos and moving \$4 billion worth of commodities, two million tons of cargoes and more than 340,000 passengers annually. The Port is committed to the highest levels of service and to fiscal and environmental responsibility while ensuring the utmost safety and security.