

## THE RED DRAGON WAY

We are Red Dragons. We are **proud, bold, and ready**. We operate one of the most sophisticated warships in the world – able to dominate in the air, surface, subsurface, and space. If directed, we will promptly strike and soundly defeat our enemies.

**PROUD.** Our Sailors are the heart and soul of RUSSELL. We work tirelessly on behalf of our ship and shipmates and deserve to be treated with dignity and respect. We must continue fostering connectedness and organizational pride. These tenets underpin ownership of our people, equipment, and spaces. This happens by effectively planning, clearly communicating priorities, and holding each other accountable to shared high standards. Decide to have a positive attitude – it can be infectious! We are **proud**.

**BOLD.** Our Sailors have a voice aboard RUSSELL. Our daily engagement and buy-in unlocks our true strength and potential. We must continue communicating risks and advocating for positive change. Complacency is our greatest hazard in peacetime. Our courage to speak up could save the day, whether during a routine evolution or in the heat of battle. Courage comes from experience and knowing what right looks like. We grow this by creatively training in simulated and non-combat situations. We are **bold**.

**READY.** Our Sailors are the key to RUSSELL's mission readiness. We must prepare ourselves personally and professionally. Take care of yourself and loved ones. Learn each day and seek the next qualification. Additionally, our weapons must fire, our engines must run, and our gear must operate. Continue communicating issues and exhaust all resources to fix problems. Our topside appearance is a sign of our readiness. We will look sharp, bring honor to our nation and allies, and strike fear into our enemies. We are **ready**.

I am truly humbled and proud to serve with you – the most talented Sailors on the waterfront. What we do is hard, but we will do it together. This is *our* ship. I commit to giving you my best each day, and I thank you for all that you have done and will do for our nation and RUSSELL.

**Strength in Freedom!**

V/r



Mike McInerney, CDR  
Commanding Officer  
USS RUSSELL (DDG 59)

**PROUD**

**BOLD**

**READY**