

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF J.P. WILES

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 3, 2020

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memory of one of my closest friends and advisors, the late J.P. Wiles. He lived a life of service, first as a member of the U.S. Armed Forces, and later as a Pulaski County Magistrate and two-term Mayor of Somerset.

J.P. was a fiscally conservative leader who made a conscious effort to protect and promote the future success of Somerset and Pulaski County. He was adamant about transforming the Monticello Street intersection at South Main to improve traffic flow in and out of our beautiful downtown area, and I was proud to partner with him to build a bridge for our hometown. Another notable project that he worked diligently on, was the SomerSplash Water Park to give local families and young people a safe and fun place to spend time together. Those projects, coupled with his tireless efforts to expand low-income housing and reliable sewer service, serve as testaments of his passion and drive to make Somerset a better place to live and visit for years to follow.

In addition to our shared work on community projects, J.P. was by my side on the earliest campaign trails. He remained a loyal friend through every challenge and every victory. What set J.P. apart among leaders was his cheerful and encouraging spirit. He would often drop by for a visit with a bright smile, simply to share a friendly hello and dream of future projects, or to plan our next round of golf.

J.P. was a pillar of our community, beloved and respected by countless friends and colleagues. My wife, Cynthia, and I extend our heartfelt condolences to the entire Wiles family and his extended circle of friends.

CAPTAIN DELONG RETIRES FROM THE CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 3, 2020

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding law enforcement career of California Highway Patrol Captain Dan DeLong, who will retire after 29 years of service.

Captain DeLong graduated from the California Highway Patrol academy in March of 1991, spending his first few years in the Central Los Angeles, Santa Ana, and Riverside area offices. In August of 2004, Captain DeLong was promoted to Sergeant where he was once again assigned to the Central Los

Angeles area supervising offices in Westminster and Riverside, prior to his transfer to the CHP Inland Division Investigative Services Unit. Captain DeLong was promoted to Lieutenant in January of 2013 becoming the commander of the Morongo Basin area, and in 2014 becoming the San Bernardino County Auto Theft Taskforce Coordinator. In December of 2017, Captain DeLong was promoted to the rank of Captain, becoming the Commander of the Victorville Area, where he would finish his career.

On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I offer my sincere congratulations to Captain DeLong for his 29 years of service as a member of the California Highway Patrol and wish him an enjoyable and relaxing retirement. I thank him for his service and his commitment to ensuring the safety and security of our community with hard work, dedication, and professionalism.

HONORING THE LOWER DAUPHIN LADY FALCONS ON AN OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN THE PENNSYLVANIA INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION 3A FIELD HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 3, 2020

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, today I offer my heartfelt congratulations to the Lower Dauphin Lady Falcons on their inspiring play at the PIAA 3A Field Hockey Championship.

Led by legendary coach Linda Kreiser, the Lady Falcons were a force to be reckoned with in their 2019 campaign, winning 23 of 25 contests for a final record of 23–0–2.

Since 1997, the Lady Falcons have won ten (10) 3A Championships, with their most recent win in 2018. Hoping to repeat their success, the Lady Falcons fought valiantly towards a 1–1 tie after regulation. The Wilson Bulldogs emerged as the victors following a spirited 3–2 shootout.

The dedication and teamwork of the Lady Falcons says much about their character—individually, and as a team. “Semper Stellas Spectemus”—literally translated, means, “may we always reach for the stars.” That’s exactly what the Lady Falcons did, and I know will continue to do.

On behalf of Pennsylvania’s Tenth Congressional District, I commend and congratulate the Lower Dauphin Lady Falcons on their dedication to excellence, sportsmanship, teamwork and success.

THANKING KATIE HETHERINGTON-CUNFER FOR HER DEDICATION AND SERVICE TO THE 9TH DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

HON. DANIEL MEUSER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 3, 2020

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I rise today to recognize Katie Hetherington-Cunfer, my office’s Deputy District Director. Katie is moving on to serve our community in another capacity with the Greater Reading Chamber Alliance as their Director of Government and Community Relations.

A lifelong resident of the Ninth District, Katie has dedicated her career to the betterment of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. After graduating from Penn State University in 2006, she went on to dutifully serve our great Commonwealth in multiple positions at the United States Department of Agriculture, the Pennsylvania Landscape and Nursery Association, and later the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection serving as the Director of External Affairs for nearly five years.

Joining my staff as Deputy District Director when I took office in January 2019, Katie brought with her a wealth of experience and knowledge, and even more importantly a passion to serve our constituents. With her dedication to our office’s mission to serve the people of Pennsylvania’s Ninth District at the forefront, Katie has been a tremendous leader of our district staff and a fantastic representative of our office in communities throughout the district.

On behalf of myself and my staff, the U.S. House of Representatives and the citizens of The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Katie Hetherington-Cunfer for her service to the people of Pennsylvania’s Ninth District and wish her the best in her future endeavors.

HONORING THE CITY OF DANIA BEACH

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 3, 2020

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to recognize the 115th anniversary of the City of Dania Beach in Florida’s 23rd Congressional District.

Broward County’s first and oldest city, Dania Beach’s historic roots date back to the 1880s when 12 Danish families moved from Chicago to the area’s first planned settlement, Modello. It was soon after that A.C. Frost built the first home, the first general store, and became Modello’s first postmaster. It was Frost’s buildings that eventually housed the area’s first two schools.

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

The town incorporated in 1904, and since many of its 35 residents were Danes, the name changed from Modello to Dania.

In 1910, Russian immigrant Louis Brown moved to rural Dania. Brown was the first known Jewish settler in Broward County and opened Brown's Department Store on Main Street, which is now known as Federal U.S. 1.

Thanks to settlers such as Frost and Brown, Dania continued to thrive, soon growing to more than 1,200 residents, and nearly 30,000 today. It was a small yet resilient community that weathered fires and hurricanes that at times devastated the town.

Dania Beach is home to several historic properties and sites—the Bank of Dania, the Poinciana Hotel, the Dania Library & Women's Club, and several private residences once occupied by settlers and pioneers. Dania Beach is home to the first Florida state park named for African Americans. Von D. Mizell-Eula Johnson State Park was named for civil rights activists Dr. Mizell, the area's first black doctor and Johnson, Broward County's first NAACP president.

Madam Speaker, it is a great honor for me to represent the City of Dania Beach in our nation's capital. I thank Mayor Lori Lewellen, the Members of the City Commission, and the city's staff for their many accomplishments that have made the City of Dania Beach a wonderful place to live, work, visit and raise a family.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ANGELA
FENG FOR RECEIVING THE
STATE DEPARTMENT'S CRITICAL
LANGUAGE SCHOLARSHIP

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 3, 2020

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Angela Feng of Dawson High School in Pearland, TX and Princeton University for earning a State Department Critical Language Scholarship.

Angela is one of only 550 students to receive a scholarship, beating out thousands of applicants around the nation. She traveled to Baku, Azerbaijan where she spent the summer studying Turkish while immersed in their culture.

The Critical Language Scholarship is a merit-based award that gives American students the opportunity to study one of the fifteen critical languages to our nation's world engagement abroad. It aims to help students increase their fluency in the language they are studying and learn more about the culture surrounding it.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I congratulate Angela, on her incredible achievement. Her drive and dedication to her studies earned her this honor. Angela has made Pearland and TX-22 very proud.

SERGEANT WEICHERS RETIRES
FROM THE CALIFORNIA HIGH-
WAY PATROL

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 3, 2020

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding law enforcement career of California Highway Patrol Sergeant Todd Weichers, who retired on December 27, 2019 after 31 years of service.

After completing CHP Academy in 1989, Sergeant Weichers was assigned as a traffic officer to the Westminster Area. He spent five years at this first assignment area before being transferred to the Barstow Area. In 2008, Officer Weichers was promoted to Sergeant Weichers, and shortly thereafter was transferred to the Mariposa Area. After a brief stint back in the Barstow Area, he was transferred to the Victorville Area in 2011 where he has spent the remainder of his career.

On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I offer my compliments to Sergeant Weichers for his leadership, hard work, and dedication to keeping our roads safe. While retiring from a career is never easy, I wish him and his family a relaxing and fulfilling retirement.

HONORING FRANK BERTO

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 3, 2020

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of Frank Berto, who passed away on December 8, 2019, at the age of 90 after a lifetime of exemplary public service to his community.

Born in 1929 in Vancouver, British Columbia, to Frank and Elsie Berto, Mr. Berto attended the University of British Columbia, graduating as a mechanical engineer. He soon started work for Standard Oil of New Jersey in Aruba where he met the love of his life, Connie. After marrying in 1956, the couple had their first daughter, Frances, and shortly thereafter moved to California where Mr. Berto obtained his Masters of Science in Mechanical Engineering at the California Institute of Technology. Mr. Berto then began working for Standard Oil of California/Chevron where he spent the next 28 years rising through the ranks to become a senior staff instrument engineer.

Finally settling in Marin County, CA, Mr. and Mrs. Berto would go on to have four more children: Joseph, Ben, Tom, and Louise. Mr. Berto quickly became active in their Sleepy Hollow community, serving as pool chairman, board member, and then president of the Sleepy Hollow Homes Association. He also spent 30 years on the Board of the Ross Valley Fire District and Paramedic Authority. A staunch advocate for proper fire and paramedic training, Mr. Berto served on the Sleepy Hollow Fire District Board for 32 years. He was also a scoutmaster for Sleepy Hollow

Troup 50, leading several bicycle, kayak, and hiking trips. In addition to his public service roles, he also served as a lector for St. Rita's Church in Fairfax, California.

In 1973, Mr. Berto started writing about his love of bicycles and engineering on a part-time basis for Bicycling magazine. Mr. Berto served as the magazine's engineering and west coast editor, writing over 160 articles for 19 different magazines in the United States and overseas, including re-writing the bicycle section in the Encyclopedia Britannica. Mr. Berto's passion for biking inspired him to present papers at several international bicycle history conferences and write four books on bicycles, two of which are considered definitive on the subject. After retirement, Mr. Berto enjoyed gardening, spending time with his grandchildren, and driving around Marin County in his 1916 Model T Ford.

Mr. Berto was a well-respected community leader who will be remembered for his generous spirit and commitment to public service. He is survived by his wife Connie, their children Joseph and his wife Dianne, Ben and his wife Marija, Tom and his wife Monica, and Louise and her husband Mack, and four grandchildren: Peter, Iris, John, and Alex. Mr. Berto was predeceased by his daughter Frances. While he will be greatly missed, Mr. Berto's legacy will live on through the indelible positive impact he had on his many friends and family and the community at large.

CONGRATULATING DEBORAH
HARTMAN ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. DANIEL MEUSER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 3, 2020

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, it is with great respect that I rise today to recognize Deborah A. Hartman of Berks County. Mrs. Hartman is retiring after over 40 years of dedicated public service with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms and the Defense Contract Management Agency.

Mrs. Hartman began her lengthy federal government service in 1975, during the Gerald Ford administration with the ATF. In 1985, she joined the Defense Contract Management Agency. There she served in a variety of positions starting in an administrative role and rising through the ranks, to her current position as Management & Program Analyst for the Quality Division of Defense Contract Management Agency. Throughout her career, Mrs. Hartman has received numerous awards and accolades, her dedication to her work and to the safety and our nation is evident.

On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives and the citizens of Pennsylvania's Ninth Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Mrs. Deborah Hartman for her many years of dedicated and honorable service, and I wish her the best in the next chapter of her life. I am confident that even though she is retiring, she will not slow down and she will continue to make many valuable contributions to our Pennsylvania communities.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK POCAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 3, 2020

Mr. POCAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to include in the RECORD how I would have voted during the first session of the 116th Congress for the following votes had I not been unavoidably detained: YEA on Roll Call No. 44, YEA on Roll Call No. 45, YEA on Roll Call No. 88, YEA on Roll Call No. 89, YEA on Roll Call No. 119, YEA on Roll Call No. 120, YEA on Roll Call No. 218, YEA on Roll Call No. 219, YEA on Roll Call No. 296, YEA on Roll Call No. 585, YEA on Roll Call No. 586, YEA on Roll Call No. 610, and YEA on Roll Call No. 611.

CONGRATULATIONS TO COREY
STANDLEY FOR RECEIVING THE
STATE DEPARTMENT'S CRITICAL
LANGUAGE SCHOLARSHIP

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 3, 2020

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Corey Standley of Seven Lakes High School in Katy, TX and the University of Oklahoma for earning the Department of State's Critical Language Scholarship last year.

Corey is one of only 550 students who received scholarships. Through the scholarship, he traveled to Dushanbe, Tajikistan over the summer where he was immersed in the culture and the Persian language.

The Critical Language Scholarship is a merit-based award that gives American students the opportunity to study one of the fifteen critical languages to our nation's world engagement abroad. It aims to help students increase their fluency in the language they are studying and learn more about the culture surrounding it.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I congratulate Corey on his outstanding achievement. His commitment to learning and diligence in his studies earned him this honor. Corey has made Katy and TX-22 very proud.

IN HONOR OF LEONARD
BERNHARDT

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 3, 2020

Ms. BONAMICI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Mr. Leonard Bernhardt, who passed away just before Christmas.

Last year, I was pleased to nominate Leonard and his late wife, Georgene, for the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute's Angels in Adoption award. Each year, the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute selects individuals, families, and organizations from across the nation who have dem-

onstrated a commitment to improving the lives of children in need of permanent, loving homes.

Leonard and Georgene worked tirelessly over the years with Holt International Children's Services to find homes for orphaned and abandoned children. They supported family preservation programs for children and families in Korea, Vietnam, Mongolia, Romania, India, and Uganda. Their generosity, compassion, and dedication to adoption and helping birth families made them stand out in Beaverton, Oregon—and around the globe—as an extraordinary couple, very deserving of this award.

I was honored to meet Leonard Bernhardt in November when he visited Washington, D.C. with his family to receive this award. I am saddened by his loss and so grateful for the service of Mr. Bernhardt and his family to Beaverton, the nation, and countless children and families across the world.

HONORING THE LOWER DAUPHIN
FALCONS' BOYS SOCCER TEAM
ON THEIR CHAMPIONSHIP SEA-
SON

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 3, 2020

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, today I offer my heartfelt congratulations to the Lower Dauphin Falcons on their inspiring play at the PIAA 3A State Soccer Championship.

Led by coach Gerry Lynch, the Falcons were a force to be reckoned with in their 2019 campaign, winning 18 of 22 contests for a final record of 18-3-1.

This is the Falcons' fourth championship season in five years, and their first win since 2017. This year, the Falcons contested successfully against Northern York's stout defense, scoring three goals to close out the first half. The Falcons held their advantage for the remainder of the game.

These remarkable young men put in their full effort and resolve this season—and we are incredibly proud of them for their performance, success, sportsmanship and teamwork.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's Tenth Congressional District, I commend and congratulate the Lower Dauphin Falcons on their dedication to excellence. We look forward to their continued success.

OFFICER ROB GRIEVE RETIRES
FROM THE CALIFORNIA HIGH-
WAY PATROL

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 3, 2020

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding law enforcement career of California Highway Patrol Officer Rob Grieve, who retired on December 27, 2019 after 28 years of service.

After completing CHP Academy in 1992, Officer Grieve was assigned as a traffic officer to the Baldwin Park area. He spent four years in Baldwin Park before briefly transferring to the

Rancho Cucamonga area. Officer Grieve was then transferred to the Victorville area in 1997, where he spent the remainder of his career as a peace officer.

On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I offer my sincere gratitude to Officer Grieve for his 28 years of protecting and serving our community, and I wish him an enjoyable and relaxing retirement. Over the course of his career he has personified the California Highway Patrol motto "Safety, Service, and Security" with hard work, dedication, and professionalism.

CONGRATULATING SHERIFF RAY
C. GERRINGER ON HIS RETIRE-
MENT

HON. DANIEL MEUSER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 3, 2020

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, it is with great respect that I rise today to recognize Sheriff Ray C. Gerringer of Montour County. Sheriff Gerringer is retiring after 40 years of dedicated service to the Montour County community. His bravery, compassion, and commitment to public safety has made our communities safer and stronger.

A lifelong resident of Montour County, Sheriff Gerringer has been a leader in law enforcement throughout his long tenure of service to our great Commonwealth. After graduating from Columbia-Montour Vocational-Technical School, he began serving the citizens of Montour County in 1977 as a part-time dispatcher. Shortly after he served as a full-time correctional officer at the county prison.

In 1986, Sheriff Gerringer became the Chief County Detective for the Montour County District Attorney's office. There he participated in hundreds of criminal investigations that resulted in convictions. Sheriff Gerringer was elected Montour County Sheriff in 2004 a position he has honorably held for the last 15 years.

Sheriff Gerringer has dedicated his life to protecting and defending the Montour County community. The many years he has spent on the frontlines of public safety demonstrates his selflessness. He has truly answered the call to serve.

On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives and the citizens of Pennsylvania's Ninth Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Sheriff Gerringer on his retirement and thank him for his many years of dutiful and honorable service.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF ATTORNEY MORRIS REED, JR.

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 3, 2020

Mr. RICHMOND. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Mr. Morris Reed, Jr., a personal injury and criminal defense attorney, and dedicated community leader. After serving in the New Orleans legal community, Mr. Reed passed away on Monday, December 23, 2019 at the age of 42.

Mr. Reed was a beloved father of one and husband of Mrs. Alisha Reed. A native of New Orleans and a graduate of St. Augustine High School and Louisiana State University, his passion for the law became paramount when he earned his Juris Doctorate from Southern University. With much perseverance and enthusiasm, Mr. Reed soon delved into the challenging world of criminal cases at the Orleans Parish Criminal District Courthouse, where he once clerked. He was also a proud member of the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee (OPDEC), the Louis A. Martinet Legal Society, and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Mr. Reed was a treasure to us all. He lived a fulfilled life doing what he loved to do. We are forever grateful to Mr. Reed for his eternal impact and we keep his friends and loved ones near and dear to our hearts.

Madam Speaker, I celebrate the life and legacy of Mr. Morris Reed, Jr.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO NIRDESH
OSWAL FOR RECEIVING THE
STATE DEPARTMENT'S CRITICAL
LANGUAGE SCHOLARSHIP**

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 3, 2020

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Nirdesh Oswal of Sugar Land for earning a State Department Critical Language Scholarship.

Nirdesh is a student at the University of Texas at Austin and one of only 550 students to receive a scholarship. Over the summer, he traveled to Nizhny, Novgorod in Russia where he was immersed in the Russian language and culture.

The Critical Language Scholarship is a merit-based award that gives American students the opportunity to study one of the fifteen critical languages to our nation's world engagement abroad. It aims to help students increase their fluency in the language they are studying and learn more about the culture surrounding it.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I congratulate Nirdesh. He earned this incredible achievement through his hard-work and dedication to his studies. Nirdesh has made Sugar Land and TX-22 very proud.

**IN RECOGNITION OF BATTALION
CHIEF ROBERT K. BROOKS**

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 3, 2020

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Battalion Chief Robert K. Brooks as he retires after 35 years of dedicated service to the Flower Mound Fire Department. Over the course of his career, he demonstrated continued commitment to the Fire Department by preserving the safety of citizens in Denton County and by educating future generations about the importance of fire safety.

Mr. Brooks began his career as a dedicated volunteer firefighter in January of 1983, earning a position as a paid firefighter in 1984. His continued service to the Fire Department resulted in a promotion to Shift Lieutenant and service as the Department's Emergency Medical Service coordinator. In addition to his duties as a firefighter and paramedic, Mr. Brooks played an integral role in the development and supervision of the Department's Safety and

Fire Education Team as well as the clown program.

In 2014, Mr. Brooks received the honor and responsibility of serving as the Training Battalion Chief for the Flower Mound Fire Department. In this position, he undertook the task of instructing 112 certified firefighters and mentoring new recruits. Throughout his service as Training Battalion Chief, he served as a leader and role model to all firefighters of the department.

In addition to his duties at the Fire Department, Mr. Brooks never hesitated to invest time educating local youth. For over 15 years, Mr. Brooks conducted engaging fire safety programs for Flower Mound and Highland Village elementary school children while dressed as Smokey the Bear. In addition to portraying Smokey himself, Mr. Brooks wrote the scripts. As a commendation for his investment in children's education, he was twice awarded the Flower Mound Fire Department Educator of the Year award. His service-orientation ultimately also earned him the Rotary Vocational Service Excellence Award in 2018.

From his entry into emergency response as a volunteer firefighter to his current position as Battalion Chief, Mr. Brooks dedicated his life and career to the safety of his community. Thanks to his encouragement and commitment to education, his influence not only challenged young firefighters to become reliable and competent defenders of public safety, but also encouraged children to learn of fire dangers and implement safety plans. The quality of life and community safety Flower Mound residents enjoy today is a tribute to Mr. Brooks' dedicated leadership, determination, and work ethic. It is my honor to recognize Battalion Chief Robert K. Brooks for his public service and for the role model he leaves for future responders to follow.