PRESIDENTIAL AWARDEE FOR EXCELLENCE

### HON. PETE STAUBER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2022

Mr. STAUBER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Abe Schwartz, a math teacher at Bemidji Middle School, who has been honored with the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

Our children are our future, and teachers like Abe are absolutely critical in developing young leaders with a passion to learn and grow.

This is the nation's highest honor for teachers of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, and I am incredibly proud knowing that we have such a talented and enthusiastic educator in our great Eighth District preparing our next generations for ingenuity and greatness.

Congratulations again to Abe on this amazing accomplishment, and I thank him for his steadfast dedication to the students at Bemidji Middle School. I wish him nothing but success as he continues to mentor and lead his students to a bright future.

CONGRATULATING DEPUTY CHIEF BRIAN JOHNSON ON HIS RETIRE-MENT FROM THE MOLINE PO-LICE DEPARTMENT

## HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2022

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Deputy Chief Brian Johnson, who is retiring from the Moline Police Department after 22 years of service.

Deputy Chief Johnson's career in law enforcement began in January 2000 when he joined the nearby Silvis Police Department, where he stayed for two years. His father, a former Sergeant in the East Moline Police Department, helped steer him toward a career in public safety. He became an officer in the Moline Police Department in February 2002. Always looking to rise above the call of duty in protecting and serving his neighbors, Deputy Chief Johnson worked his way through the ranks. He served as Patrol Officer, Street Crimes Detective, Patrol Sergeant, Juvenile Investigations Sergeant, Patrol Lieutenant, Accreditation and Standards Lieutenant and Operations Captain, before being promoted to Deputy Chief in 2021. He is a graduate of Kewanee High School in Kewanee, Illinois, Western Illinois University, and Northwestern Illinois University's School of Police Staff and Command. Deputy Chief Johnson's contributions to the Quad Cities community will never be forgotten.

It is because of noble and fearless leaders such as Deputy Chief Brian Johnson that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again, formally congratulate Moline Police Department Deputy Chief Brian Johnson on his retirement and thank him for his 22 years of service to our community. HONORING CITIZENS GUARANTY BANK

### HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2022

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Citizens Guaranty Bank on its 50th anniversary.

The bank was chartered in 1971 and Kentucky Governor Louie Nunn signed the charter. The bank opened in 1972 in Irvine, Kentucky. Over the years the bank has expended its reach and opened offices in Richmond, London, and Stanton. It serves many customers living in the 6th Congressional District. The bank is locally owned and operated, with over 75 team members and seven locations. The mission of the bank is "To help our customers enhance their lives and achieve their dreams while actively supporting our communities where we live and work". Kathy Samples, who started with the bank in 1977, serves as Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the bank.

It is my honor to recognize the dedicated leaders and team members of Citizens Guaranty Bank. I congratulate them on their 50year history, celebrate their many accomplishments, and look forward to a bright future of serving their customers.

RECOGNIZING THE SUFFERING OF THE SINDHI COMMUNITY IN PAKISTAN

## HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 14, 2022* Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Sindhi Sufi people in Pakistan, and against the unconscionable human rights atrocities that

have been inflicted upon them for years. There is perhaps nowhere in the world more important for the United States to battle extremism with public diplomacy than Pakistan, a nuclear-armed state where numerous extremists over the years have unfortunately sought refuge from justice. Pakistan's third largest province of Sindh is a place of particular concern, where members of the local Sindhi community find themselves subject to intense and unfair government scrutiny.

Sindhi persons have also been notably absent from the high echelons of Pakistan's government. As of 2022, there has not been a single Sindhi speaking judge on the Supreme Court of Pakistan. Of deepest concern however are the many instances of human rights abuses against the community, including exceptional jail times for trumped up crimes of "blasphemy", beatings, harassment, and forced disappearances. In 2017 alone, many activists, budding politicians, teachers, and students were forcibly disappeared by authorities. The Center for Research and Security Studies based in Pakistan has reported nearly 1,500 accusations and cases of blasphemy. Out of these 18 women and 71 men have been killed extrajudicially between 1947 and 2021

I was made aware of one such case by my constituents: the life sentence handed down to

one man, Notan Lal, the principal of a private school and member of Pakistan's Hindu minority who was accused of speaking blasphemously about the Prophet Muhammad. For this supposed infraction against the common good, he was arrested in 2019 and ultimately sentenced in February 2022 to 25 years in prison. No one should ever have to face a life in prison on such trumped-up charges.

There is a silver lining however, as Congress continues to hear the cries for help from the Sindhi community, we are answering with greater efforts to recognize and promote their importance. Sindh Caucus Co-Chair Representative Brad Sherman and I were especially grateful to see that our Caucus' efforts to see Voice of America promote additional material and resources in the Sindhi language. Nearly 14 percent of Pakistanis-over 30 million people-speak Sindhi, but there has unfortunately never been significant material in the language from VOA until now. With this new material, it will become easier to reach out to the Sindhi community in Pakistan, and for them to reach out into the world in turn.

The people of Pakistan—especially those in the Sindhi community—deserve respect for their human rights, regardless of creed or conviction. I urge my colleagues to continue to speak out for the Sindhi community in Pakistan and ensure that their human rights are respected.

#### HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF DARRELL FONSECA

# HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2022

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Darrell Fonseca who is retiring after 32 years as the City Manager of Dos Palos, California. Darrell Fonseca is currently the State of California's longest serving City Manager in a single city.

Born and raised in Dos Palos, Darrell Fonseca graduated from Dos Palos High School and attended Fresno State. After obtaining a minor in Philosophy and a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science, Darrell Fonseca went on to University of California Berkely, and received a Management of Water certificate, and graduated from Cal's Goldman School of Public Policy in Strategic Management of Public Organizations.

Darrell was a part of successful political campaigns, including the "Great Speakership War". One of his employees was a college student who later became President Barack Obama. He served as a floor manager at the National Convention for Gary Hart and was a key player in Hart's California primary campaign for president. At 28 years old, he was elected as a Delegate from the 15th Congressional District. Darrell knows how to work in many governmental positions. He was an intern for State Senator George Zenovich, a Legislative Assistant to then Assemblyman and future Congressman Jim Costa, an Associate Consultant to the Assembly Committee on Aging and Long-Term Care, Chief Consultant to the Select Committee on Energy & Agriculture, Assistant to the Majority Whip, and Administrator to Congressman Richard Lehman. Fonseca also worked for the Fresno