

that is dominant on Capitol Hill. It's that spirit that we saw in West, Texas. It's the spirit we saw in Boston. It's the spirit that we see here in New York City. And as I was driving up and saw the new Freedom Tower rising, it reminded me of just what it is that we're fighting for.

So thank you very much, everybody. God bless you. God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:29 p.m. at the Waldorf Astoria New York hotel. In his remarks, he referred to President Enrique Peña Nieto of Mexico.

Statement on the Internal Revenue Service *May 14, 2013*

I have now had the opportunity to review the Treasury Department watchdog's report on its investigation of IRS personnel who improperly targeted conservative groups applying for tax-exempt status. And the report's findings are intolerable and inexcusable. The Federal Government must conduct itself in a way that's worthy of the public's trust, and that's especially true for the IRS. The IRS must apply the law in a fair and impartial way, and its employees must act with utmost integrity. This report shows that some of its employees failed that test.

I've directed Secretary Lew to hold those responsible for these failures accountable and to make sure that each of the Inspector Gener-

al's recommendations are implemented quickly so that such conduct never happens again. But regardless of how this conduct was allowed to take place, the bottom line is, it was wrong. Public service is a solemn privilege. I expect everyone who serves in the Federal Government to hold themselves to the highest ethical and moral standards. So do the American people. And as President, I intend to make sure our public servants live up to those standards every day.

NOTE: The statement referred to Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration J. Russell George.

Remarks at the National Peace Officers Memorial Service *May 15, 2013*

Thank you, everybody. Please have a seat. Thank you, Chuck, for that introduction and, more importantly, for your leadership as National President of the Fraternal Order of Police. I want to recognize the entire order and all its leaders, including Jim Pasco, for everything that you do on behalf of the fine officers who walk the beat or answer the call and do the difficult work of keeping our communities safe all across the country.

I want to also acknowledge FOP Auxiliary President Linda Hennie for the good work that she and all her members do to support the families of police officers. We are very grateful to you. To Speaker Boehner, Leader Pelosi, Members of Congress, members of my administration who are here, to all the law enforce-

ment officials who are here, and most of all, to the survivor families: Scripture tells us, "None of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself." None of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. The brave officers we gather to remember today devoted themselves so fully to others—to serve and to protect others—that in the process they were willing to give their lives.

And so today let us not remember them just for how they died, but also for how they lived.

Officer Bruce St. Laurent of the Jupiter, Florida, police department was, according to a friend, "just what a cop should be: tough, compassionate, caring, and brave." But to his community, he was more than a cop. He was a cancer survivor. He was a guest teacher at Jupiter