

more open, and more committed to the principles on which we were founded.

Thanks, and have a great weekend.

NOTE: The address was recorded at approximately 5:30 p.m. on January 25 in the State Dining Room at the White House for broadcast

on January 26. In the address, the President referred to Mary Jo White, partner, Debevoise & Plimpton LLP. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 25, but was embargoed for release until 6 a.m. on January 26.

## Statement on Senator Thomas R. Harkin's Decision Not To Seek Reelection *January 26, 2013*

By the time Senator Harkin finishes his fifth term, he will have represented the people of Iowa in the United States Congress for an incredible 40 years. He has served in the U.S. Senate longer than any Democrat in Iowa's history. During his tenure, he has fought passionately to improve quality of life for Ameri-

cans with disabilities and their families, to reform our education system, and ensure that every American has access to affordable health care. Senator Harkin will be missed, and Michelle and I join Iowans in thanking him for his longstanding service and wish him and his wife Ruth all the best in the future.

## Statement on International Holocaust Remembrance Day *January 27, 2013*

On January 27th, International Holocaust Remembrance Day, we honor the memories of the 6 million Jews and millions of other innocent victims whose lives were tragically taken during the Holocaust over 60 years ago. Those who experienced the horrors of the cattle cars, ghettos, and concentration camps have witnessed humanity at its very worst and know too well the pain of losing loved ones to senseless violence.

But while this is a time for mourning and reflection, it is also the time for action. On this day, we recall the courage, spirit, and determination of those who heroically resisted the Na-

zis, exemplifying the very best of humanity. And like these courageous individuals, we must commit ourselves to resisting hate and persecution in all its forms. The United States, along with the international community, resolves to stand in the way of any tyrant or dictator who commits crimes against humanity and stay true to the principle of "never again."

By remaining vigilant against those who seek to perpetrate violence and murder, we honor those we lost during one of the darkest periods in human history. And we keep their memory alive for generations to come.

## Remarks Prior to a Meeting With Law Enforcement Officials *January 28, 2013*

Well, Vice President Biden and I just want to thank the police chiefs and sheriffs who are here today representing law enforcement officials all across the country who obviously share our deep concern about issues of gun safety and how we can protect our communities and keep our kids safe.

A couple of weeks ago, I appeared along with Joe to present the administration's ideas in terms of steps that we have to take. And I issued a number of executive actions that could be taken unilaterally in order to improve our collection of data, to make sure that we're coordinating more effectively with State and