

Hailed by medical consumer groups as a significant advance in protecting the rights of consumers and the privacy of medical records, some have expressed concern that the regulations are cumbersome or don't go far enough. Before HIPAA, however, there were few rules in place to the coherence of patient safety. Consumers now will find great comfort in knowing significant protections are being undertaken to protect their personal medical information.

As we move forward with implementation of these new privacy regulations, I will continue to monitor these new rules and solicit feedback from consumers and health providers alike about medical and other privacy issues so critically important to our everyday lives.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF WILLIAM W. FENNIMAN, POLICE CHIEF OF DOVER, NH

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contribution to public safety and community building made by Dover, NH, Police Chief William W. Fenniman.

Chief Fenniman was first appointed as a Dover police officer in 1981. He rose through the ranks and in 1991, just 10 years later, was appointed the chief of police in Dover. Chief Fenniman has led his Department to become only the 49th police department in the country to be nationally accredited three times by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. Under Chief Fenniman's leadership, the Dover police department has also had the distinction of being the first police department in the State of New Hampshire to be accredited through the State accreditation system. Chief Fenniman's success at the helm of the police department is a testament to his dedication, hard work and determination to strengthen the community through an expansive and effective law enforcement agency that truly is an integral part of the community.

Chief Fenniman has concentrated on fostering strong ties to and within the community. Chief Fenniman's focus on creating lasting and positive relationships between the community and law enforcement has brought crime levels down and improved community spirit. The creation of a youth safe haven and police ministration in partnership with the city housing authority to provide outlets and activities for children after school hours continues to flourish each year.

I am honored to participate in the Afterschool Alliance "Breakfast of Champions" event to present Chief William Fenniman with the 2003 Afterschool Community Champion award. Chief Fenniman has made a significant commitment to helping the children of his community find positive activities to do after their school days are over, and his work has helped to increase community ties and reduce crime.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### CITIZENS BANK DOES THE RIGHT THING

• Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I welcome this opportunity to commend Citizens Bank for the strong support it is giving to its employees who have been called up for active duty in connection with the Nation's military deployments in Iraq.

Many of us in Congress continue to be concerned that many members of the National Guard and Reserves have been activated with too little of this needed support, or even none at all. We have introduced legislation, S. 647, to deal with these urgent problems for all activated Guard and Reserve members and their families.

Citizens Bank deserves credit for strengthening its personnel policies to support its brave men and women called to serve. Unfortunately, too many Guard and Reserve families are not as fortunate, and I hope Congress will act quickly to provide this needed relief.

I ask that a statement by Citizens on February 10 announcing its impressive policy may be printed in the RECORD.

The Statement follows.

##### CITIZENS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. ENHANCES MILITARY LEAVE POLICY, FEBRUARY 10, 2003

Citizens Financial Group, Inc. announced today it has enhanced the company's existing military leave policy to offer additional support to any employee/reservist activated during Operation Enduring Freedom.

"These are difficult and uncertain times in our nation. The current situation in the Persian Gulf has made real the possibility that Citizens' colleagues or family members may be called to serve their country," said Lawrence K. Fish, Chairman, President & CEO.

"We are concerned about our employees and providing benefits that match their needs," said Fish. "We hope it won't be necessary for employees to use these benefits, but we are offering the support in the event it is needed."

In its new military leave policy, Citizens Bank will: Pay the difference between employees' Citizens pay and the military pay for the duration of the active duty. This benefit is currently only available for the annual summer camp; offer the continuance of medical, dental, vision and life insurance coverage; and provide a comparable job upon return.

Citizens will also offer support to employees whose spouse, domestic partner or child is called to duty. Citizens will grant a paid leave of absence for five consecutive days to coincide with an in-service leave by the family member. If travel is necessary, Citizens will also pay a portion of their travel expenses.

Citizens Financial Group, Inc. is a \$56.5 billion commercial bank holding company headquartered in Providence, RI. It is one of the nation's 20 largest commercial banks with 850 Citizens Bank branches, more than 1,700 ATMs and more than 15,000 employees in seven New England and Mid-Atlantic states. It operates as Citizens Bank in Connecticut, Delaware, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island. Citizens is owned by The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc. •

#### TRIBUTE TO PULASKI COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to the Pulaski County School System for receiving the Public Education Achieves in Kentucky Award from the Kentucky School Boards Association. The Pulaski County School System has distinguished itself through its outstanding efforts to promote gifted and talented students.

The Kentucky School Boards Association's Public Education Achieves in Kentucky Award was first awarded in 1997 to bring statewide attention to public school programs that enhance the impact that elementary and secondary schools have on young people. This award was well earned by the members of the Pulaski County School System under the leadership of Superintendent Tim Eaton.

The faculty of the Pulaski County School System have demonstrated excellence in the classroom by making a difference in the lives of their students. Their commitment towards improving the quality of education in Kentucky's schools has proven their roles as educators. Furthermore, credit is also due to the Pulaski County School Board for implementing the higher standards necessary to meet the demands of gifted education.

I am glad the faculty and administration of the Pulaski County School System chose to work and make their home in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. It is a source of great pride to call attention to their excellence. The citizens of Pulaski County should be privileged to be served by such fine professionals, and their example should be followed by educators across Kentucky. •

#### HONORING OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM

• Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. President, I rise today with great pride to pay tribute to our Armed Forces involved in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Thanks to the dedication and valor of more than 200,000 of our brave men and women in uniform, the Iraqi people have been liberated from the oppressive and murderous grip of Saddam Hussein and, I believe, this Nation and the world are safer today than they were a few weeks ago.

The successes of our Armed Forces in Iraq are unprecedented. In 3 short weeks, our troops marched 300 miles to the heart of Baghdad, liberated fortified Iraqi cities along the way, and removed Saddam Hussein's entrenched, brutal regime from power. All the while, they worked honorably to minimize civilian casualties, preserve Iraq's infrastructure, distribute food and medical aid to innocent Iraqis, and treat enemy POWs with dignity and respect. In short, our troops engaged in battle with purpose, determination, and compassion. They not only defended but embodied American values.

Their service on our behalf should make all Americans proud.

Yet we know that this war, like any war, was not won without cost. Despite the unprecedented achievements of Operation Iraqi Freedom, both in terms of a mission accomplished and the relatively few coalition casualties, American lives were lost. More than 100 U.S. soldiers, who volunteered to trade the comforts of family and home for a desert battlefield halfway around the world, will not see the fruits of their sacrifice. They join those brave souls throughout our history who died for freedom's cause. As we salute the members of our Armed Forces for a job well done, we pay solemn tribute to all those whose ultimate sacrifice helped make victory in Iraq possible.

Moreover, Mr. President, as we honor the collective sacrifice by all our military men and women, we remember our fallen heroes as individuals. We recall the lives and legacy of those who died to protect us. Each name represents a life—a mother, a father, a sister, a brother, a son, a daughter, a husband, a wife. Each leaves behind someone who was touched by their goodness and sustained by their love. Each has a story that deserves to be told.

I would like to take a few moments to recall those fallen heroes from my home State of Illinois. Seven young men from various parts of my State have lost their lives in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Marine Captain Ryan Beaupre from St. Anne, IL, age 30, died piloting a helicopter that crashed a few miles from the Iraqi border. Ryan was an honor student and athlete at Bishop McNamara High School and received a bachelor's degree at Illinois Wesleyan College. He left a promising career in the insurance business to serve his country and fulfill his boyhood dream of flying. Ryan lived his dream as a pilot in the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force. According to friends and relatives, Ryan was the "boy next door"—red hair, freckles, and a wide smile. As one friend put it, Ryan "would be anybody's friend and apparently he was."

Marine Private Jonathan Lee Gifford from Decatur, IL, age 30, was killed in an ambush in Southern Iraq. Jonathan served in the 1st Battalion, 2nd Regiment, 2nd Marine Expeditionary Force, which suffered heavy casualties in the first days of the war. A 1991 graduate of Stephen Decatur High School, Jonathan joined the Marines in 2001, fulfilling an ambition he had harbored since he was a teenager. His loved ones say Jonathan was always for the underdog, an attitude which helped motivate his service in Iraq. He leaves behind friends and family, including a much loved four-year-old daughter.

Marine Corporal Evan James from La Harpe, IL, age 20, was killed trying to cross a canal in southeastern Iraq. CPL James, a recent graduate from La Harpe High School, served with the 6th Engineering Support Battalion based in Peoria, Illinois. Prior to being called

to active duty, Evan had been studying at Southern Illinois University to be a physical fitness trainer. According to those who knew him best, Evan was an incredibly giving young man. As one high school friend said, "Evan was an all-American boy. He would do anything for his country, for his school, for his friends."

Marine Corporal Brian Matthew Kennedy from Glenview, IL, age 25, was killed when his helicopter crashed south of Iraq. Brian attended Glenbrook South High School in Glenview, where his grit and determination enabled him to be a successful starting offensive lineman for the football team at a mere 170 pounds. That same determination served Brian well throughout his all too brief life. Brian's friends and family describe him as an extraordinarily conscientious young man with a firmly positive outlook on life. As a member of the 3d Marine Aircraft Wing, Corporal Kennedy was the quintessential marine: He took pride in everything he did and met life's challenges with skill and determination.

Army Specialist Brandon Rowe from Roscoe, IL, age 20, was killed in an ambush near the Iraqi city of Najaf. A recent graduate of Hononegah High School, Brandon was the youngest of four siblings. Shortly after his high school graduation, Brandon joined the 101st Airborne Division based in Campbell, KY. Gifted with thoughtfulness and humor, Army SP Rowe was known for using wit and laughter to put others at ease. Brandon's family said he genuinely believed in his mission and knew his service would help liberate oppressed Iraqis.

Staff Sergeant Lincoln Hollinsaid from Malden, IL, age 27, was killed by enemy fire as he led his unit into combat. A soldier in the 11th Engineer Battalion, Lincoln joined the Army in 1995, shortly after graduating from Princeton High School in Malden. Lincoln's father has said his son loved two things: the military and the outdoors. When he wasn't marching for the Army, he was marching through the mountains, hunting and fishing. Never one to shy from duty, SSG Hollinsaid had transferred to a new military unit prior to the war to improve his chances for combat.

First Sergeant Edward Smith, age 38, grew up in Chicago. He died from wounds suffered in battle. Edward had been serving as a reserve police officer in Anaheim, CA before being called to active duty as a member of the 1st Marine Division. Edward's wife Sandy described her husband this way: "He was an unbelievable man. He had such a good heart. He cared about people. He was just the best man I've ever known." Edward leaves behind a loving wife and three young children.

Mr. President, these young individuals were ordinary men who lived extraordinary lives of service to America and the cause of freedom. They had many promising years ahead of them, and they leave behind family and

friends who will miss them dearly. As we mourn their loss, we honor their sacrifice. On behalf of the Senate and the proud state of Illinois, I salute these fine young men and all the other soldiers killed in combat, and wish their loved ones comfort, peace, and peace of mind. To them I say on behalf of our country: Your loved ones were truly heroes. Their bravery and dedication will live in our memories for all time.●

#### EINAR V. DYHRKOPP POST OFFICE

● Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, on May 8, 2003, John F. Potter, Postmaster General of the United States will formally designate and rededicate the post office in Shawneetown, IL in honor of Einar V. Dyhrkopp. This public distinction will recognize the exemplary contributions of Einar Dyhrkopp in his decade of service as a member of the Postal Service Board of Governors. This is certainly a fitting way to publicly express our gratitude to Governor Dyhrkopp for his commitment and dedication to the Postal Service by naming the post office in his hometown in his honor.

Governor Dyhrkopp was appointed a Governor to the U.S. Postal Service Board of Governors by President William J. Clinton on November 24, 1993. He served in this capacity with distinction until December 2002. During his tenure, he served as a member of the Capital Projects and Compensation Committees; Chairman of the Audit and Finance Committee; Vice Chairman; and Chairman of the Board of Governors for two terms.

Among the accomplishments of the Postal Service during his period of service was an unprecedented 5 straight years of positive net income for the Postal Service. In addition, the Postal Service improved performance to the point where 94 percent of first-class mail destined for next-day delivery received overnight service through most of the country. Also, the Postal Service achieved breakthroughs in productivity which allowed the Postal Service to reduce its workforce through attrition. Finally, the Postal Service created a comprehensive Transformation Plan, proposing a new business model that would maintain universal service and strengthen the mail system.

Governor Dyhrkopp is President of Tecumseh International Corporation, a coal marketing firm. Recently, he retired from an active banking career after nearly 35 years of service. Dyhrkopp's interests extend to agriculture, and he has been a livestock and grain farmer. In addition, Governor Dyhrkopp has initiated land development and managed a construction company specializing in commercial and housing building. For 22 years, he was chief executive officer and partner of a southern Illinois manufacturing firm specializing in electronic cabinetry for leading American firms.