

RECOGNIZING MR. MATTHEW
TRUESDALE

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Matthew Truesdale, from Altoona, Pennsylvania, as one of 20 national winners in a new award program called The Alexander Hamilton Citizenship Achievement Award. The award is sponsored by a new 501(c)3 non-profit organization, The Alexander Hamilton Friends Association (AHFA) of Seattle, Washington. Fourteen States were represented and amongst the 20 winners, Pennsylvania had three, all whom happened to be from Altoona Area High School. Over 200 candidates were considered for the award and it is a remarkable achievement for these three students and the Altoona Area school district.

The Alexander Hamilton Friends Association is a non-profit organization incorporated under the laws of the State of Washington. The AHFA's goal is to preserve Alexander Hamilton's legacy by recognizing and honoring young people who share Hamilton's strong sense of integrity, achievement, pragmatism, and service. For a student to win the award the student needs to exhibit a high degree of personal integrity and receive an outstanding rating in two of the five areas, which are: Community service, school-related extra-curricular activity, entrepreneurial skill, scholastic record, and personal achievement. George Cox, president of AHFA said, "The key question we asked ourselves was this: If a young Alexander Hamilton were placed in a situation like this student, would he have responded in a similar manner? In the case of our winners, we think the answer is yes."

Mr. Matthew Truesdale is a sophomore at Altoona High School. He started and completed a project to help the Blair County Wildlife Refuge of Blair County, Pennsylvania. This organization needed primate cages. Truesdale made and sold 38 food trays embellished with the American flag and the Pledge of Allegiance, solicited other donations, negotiated material discounts, and organized and supervised a constructor crew. Over \$1,150 was raised, and today the Refuge has four new large primate cages. Truesdale is an eagle scout and mentors at scouting activities in his region.

Mr. Speaker, we would like to congratulate Mr. Matthew Truesdale on his outstanding achievements in community service and we are proud to have him as one of our constituents.

GUILFORD COLLEGE WINS SECOND
NCAA DIVISION III GOLF TITLE

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, the Sixth District of North Carolina is proud to report another national championship win in men's golf. And I am proud to report the school is my alma mater. On May 12, 2005, the Guilford College men's golf team won its second NCAA Divi-

sion III national championship in 4 years with a 25-stroke win over the second place Redlands at the Mission Inn Golf and Tennis Resort near Orlando, Florida. We are equally proud of Greensboro College for its third place finish. This Quaker victory margin is the seventh largest in NCAA Division III history and the largest since the 1999 tournament.

First-place efforts by golfers Colin Clark and Dave Patterson helped lead the team to a 290, 2-over-par championship win. Clark and Patterson battled for the best score of the day with the two returning to the 18th hole after regulation play for a playoff. Clark finished in first place earning him the medalist title, as well as the Outback Steakhouse Arnold Palmer Award. Clark, Patterson, and junior teammate Brant Stovall also earned First Team PING All-America recognition.

Outstanding coaching by Jack Jensen, who has completed his 29th season as Guilford's coach, also contributed to the team's success. Jensen has received his second Eaton Golf Pride NCAA Division III Coach of the Year Award from the Collegiate Golf Association. Jensen began coaching the Quakers in 1976 and built a powerhouse team which finished no lower than sixth at the NAIA tournament from 1985-1990. He has coached many award-winning golfers throughout his career including PGA Tour member Lee Porter.

Guilford's 2005 NCAA Division III national championship team consists of golfers Colin Clark, Daniel Day, Earlie Gilley, Chris Lowman, Jeff Osberg, Dave Patterson, Joseph Poplin, Brant Stovall, Matt Tipton, Blake Wagner, Steve Walton, and Spencer Witherspoon. Each member of the team played a valuable role in the team's performance throughout the season and at the tournament.

This NCAA Division III men's golf team brings honor to the golf program at Guilford College and to the Sixth District of North Carolina. We congratulate the team and Coach Jack Jensen for an outstanding season, another national championship title, and a job very well done.

HONORING SERGEANT FIRST
CLASS CHRISTOPHER W. PHELPS

HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to honor the life of Sergeant First Class Christopher Phelps. SFC Phelps was killed June 23, 2005 while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom. On July 1, 2005, friends and family in Pine Ridge will pay tribute to Christopher.

Christopher was from Colorado Springs, Colorado. He is survived by his wife Bobbi Red Cloud-Phelps; one son, Christian Phelps; three daughters, Taymarie Phelps, Raeseana Phelps and Jeyavani Phelps.

Every member of the House of Representatives has taken a solemn oath to defend the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic. While we certainly understand the gravity of the issues facing this legislative body, SFC Phelps lived that commitment to our country. Today, we remember and honor his noble service to the United States and the ultimate sacrifice he has paid with his life to

defend our freedoms and foster liberty for others.

The lives of countless people were enormously enhanced by Christopher's compassion and service. Christopher, who represented the best of the United States continues to inspire all those who knew him. Our nation and South Dakota are far better places because of his life, and the best way to honor him is to emulate his commitment to our country.

I join with all South Dakotans in expressing my sympathies to the family of SFC Christopher Phelps. His commitment and sacrifice to our Nation will never be forgotten.

FBI MAKING PROGRESS ADAPTING
TO NEW ROLE, BUT MORE NEEDS
TO BE ACCOMPLISHED

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I held a news conference today to provide an update on actions taken by the Science-State-Justice-Commerce, SSJC, Appropriations subcommittee, which I chair, in assisting the FBI in its transformation efforts since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

I submit for the record my press statement as well as a white paper which outlines in detail the SSJC subcommittee's work:

PRESS STATEMENT

(By Representative Frank R. Wolf)

Good morning. Thank you for coming.

As chairman of the subcommittee with oversight of the FBI, I wanted to provide you with an update of the Science-State-Judiciary-Commerce subcommittee's role in the transformation of the FBI since 9/11 now that our bill has cleared the House.

9/11 changed America forever. Terrorism is no longer just something you read about happening somewhere else in the world. Terrorism came to our shores on 9/11. Everyone always will remember where they were and what they were doing on 9/11. More than 30 people from my congressional district were killed on 9/11; the pilot of the plane flown into the Pentagon lived just a short distance from my house.

Sadly, several more of my constituents have made the ultimate sacrifice fighting the war on terror. The servicemen and women from across the country serving in harm's way in Afghanistan and Iraq deserve our deepest gratitude. They are doing an incredible job.

It is also important that we recognize those people protecting us here at home. The FBI along with other federal, state and local law enforcement agencies are doing good work to ensure that terrorists don't strike again on American soil. They all have tough jobs and are all making great sacrifices.

I have the highest respect for the thousands of FBI agents serving their country. I know many of them. They are extremely dedicated and work incredibly long hours to protect our country and their fellow citizens. The price they and their families are paying is enormous.

Prior 9/11, the FBI's primary charge was solving crimes. Now, preventing crimes—more specifically, acts of terrorism—is priority one. This is a monumental shift, and runs counter to everything almost every FBI agent in the past was trained to do.

While the FBI is making progress adapting to its new role, it also has made some missteps. Director Mueller deserves a lot of the credit for the changes that already have been made at the bureau. He also would be the first to admit there is still a long way to go.

Change is never easy. We all resist it. But the changes being asked of the FBI are critical to the safety of every American.

Some believe an MI-5 approach would be better. But both the 9/11 Commission and the WMD Commission recommended against implementing such a plan. The Bush Administration also is opposed to the idea. That debate is over. It's time to move forward.

The task at hand is not easy, and I know FBI agents are working round-the-clock—and around the globe—to ensure our safety. We have to remember that transforming the FBI is an ongoing process, and is not going to happen overnight.

I take my role as chairman of the SSJC subcommittee very seriously. I have worked hard to learn everything I can about the FBI and the other law enforcement agencies under the jurisdiction of the subcommittee. I am also deeply committed to ensuring that Congress provide the proper—and necessary—oversight of the transformation of the bureau.

I, and the subcommittee staff—both majority and minority—have spent countless hours with Director Mueller and the leadership of the FBI over the last 3½ years. We have pushed the bureau, the Justice Department and the Bush Administration to do the very best job possible—and more.

As you will recall, it was the SSJC subcommittee that asked for the full House Appropriations Committee's Surveys and Investigations staff to study the failure of the bureau's Virtual Case Files program, including the FBI's contracting procedures and management procedures related to the computer system.

When Director Mueller began submitting his plans to reorganize the bureau in the spring of 2002, I wanted to be confident that the path being pursued was the correct one. Toward that end, I put together what I call the "FBI Transformation Task Force." Made up of staff from the Government Accountability Office, the National Academy of Public Administration, the Congressional Research Service, the FBI, the Justice Department and majority and minority staff of the House Appropriations Committee, the task force regularly reviews the bureau's progress.

We also have consulted with staff from both the 9/11 Commission and WMD Commission as well as staff from the Department of Justice's Office of the Inspector General.

In June of 2002, the subcommittee held the first of what have now become annual hearings to review the FBI's restructuring. Director Mueller testified at that first hearing and appeared again in 2003 and 2004. This year's hearing is slated for September.

These hearings are different from the annual budget hearings held each spring where agency heads come up to the Hill and layout their spending priorities. These hearings have focused solely on the transformation of the bureau. The assessments of task force members such as GAO's David Walker and NAPA's Dick Thornburgh—the attorney general under President George H. W. Bush—have been candid and often times pointed.

Not only has the task force served as a "review" board for the FBI, it has developed a number of proposals that ultimately have been incorporated into the annual spending bills that fund the bureau. I should note that the subcommittee has provided the bureau with a significant increase in funding, from \$3.2 billion in FY 2001 to \$5.2 billion in FY

2005, to help meet the new challenges it faces. That is an increase of 61 percent.

Attached to the copy of my remarks you have is a white paper that breakdown the FBI changes by categories—such as "Organizational Change," "Training," and "Inter-agency Counterterrorism Task Forces"—to help you better grasp the scope and breadth of these reforms. I won't go through every one of the reforms listed on the white paper, but I do want to highlight some, such as:

Creating a Directorate of Intelligence (Service-within-a-Service) to specifically focus on intelligence analysis;

Funding a portion of the National Counterterrorism Center to bring agencies from throughout the government to work together to combat terrorism;

Creating the Science and Technology Advisory Board made up of former senior-level intelligence and DOD staff to provide independent advice to the director on emerging issues;

Among the members of the advisory board: Arthur Money, former assistant secretary of defense for command, control, communications and intelligence and DOD's former chief information officer.

Craig Fields, former chairman of the Defense Science Board.

John Hamre, president of CSIS and former deputy secretary of defense.

Providing new personnel authorities and increased funding to attract and retain agents, analysts and support staff;

Mandating joint training between agents and analysts and with other members of the intelligence community;

Transferring more than 500 agents from working drug cases to terrorism;

Creating the College of Analytical Studies to train intelligence analysts;

Enhancing the FBI's capability to communicate classified information with the intelligence community and state and local law enforcement;

Increasing the number of translators by 79 percent, including a 269 percent increase in Arabic translators from the levels funded in fiscal year 2001;

Creating the University Education Program, the Sabbatical Program, and the Fellows Program to enhance opportunities for employees to receive advanced degrees, and

Changing the FBI's budget structure to match its new mission.

There are more reforms proposed in the FY 2006 bill, which the House approved on June 16.

Among them:

The creation of an associate deputy director for national security to oversee and coordinate the activities of the executive assistant director for counterterrorism and counterintelligence and the national security activities of the Directorate of Intelligence, as recommended by the WMD Commission and accepted by President Bush yesterday.

The FY 2006 bill also requires the U.S. attorney general to submit a report to the subcommittee on its actions to implement the recommendations of the WMD Commission.

I should note that in a recent speech before the First Circuit Judicial Conference, Judge Silberman, the co-chair of the WMD Commission, clearly advocated the need for the attorney general to exercise more authority over the FBI.

As former deputy attorney general himself, Judge Silberman told the conference "attorneys general in my view have exercised far too little management supervision over the bureau. I actually think the DNI's (Director of National Intelligence) influence will enable the attorney general to have greater visibility into the bureau's operations." I agree that the attorney general has to be se-

riously engaged in the transformation of the FBI.

In addition, the bill provides the FBI with additional resources to improve information technology oversight and program management and requires the DOJ inspector general to provide regular reports to the subcommittee on the FBI's progress in replacing its case management system.

I wanted to take this opportunity to point out what is happening at the FBI because sometimes the 'good' things are not considered news and are often overlooked. I think that once you look at the attached white paper you will agree that a great number of positive, forward-leaning steps are being taken at the FBI.

Yet, more still needs to be accomplished. Some other ideas that should be considered:

Creating a DARPA-like organization for the FBI.

Creating a Chief Operating Officer who would be responsible for overseeing the day-to-day management of the FBI, thereby freeing up the director and deputy director to focus on investigations and long-term strategic management issues.

This is one of the recommendations of the Science and Technology Advisory Board.

Pushing to expand the FBI's "bench" when it comes to information technology.

The Science and Technology Advisory Board believes the FBI is making progress but can go even further if it has the ability to go after the best and the brightest and provide them the same career opportunities as other branches in the bureau.

The FY 2006 House-passed bill provides a \$17 million increase for this, which is \$10 million above the request.

Change is not going to happen overnight nor will it be totally embraced by every agent in the field. It is going to take time. Unfortunately, time is not completely on our side. That is why the subcommittee pushes so hard and is why we continue to have these annual 'review' hearings.

I am committed to working to make the FBI better. This is all part of a process. It's long and it's involved. Strides have been made, but more still needs to be done. With the action of the subcommittee, the 9/11 Commission, the WMD Commission and the White House's recent decision to embrace nearly all of the recommendations of the WMD Commission, the key will be having the commitment to carry this out.

Thank you.

WHITE PAPER—FBI TRANSFORMATION SINCE 9/11

Since 9/11, the House Science-State-Justice-Commerce (SSJC) Appropriations subcommittee has worked with a number of groups and organizations, including the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA), the Government Accountability Office, the Congressional Research Service, the 9/11 Commission, the WMD Commission and the Justice Department's Office of the Inspector General, to review the FBI's plans to transform itself from an organization that solves crimes into one which prevents crimes.

Below is a listing of steps the SSJC has taken to assist in the FBI's transformation:

FUNDING

Provided the FBI with a 61 percent funding increase between FY 2001 and FY 2005.

FY 2001 funding: \$3.2 billion.

FY 2005 funding: \$5.2 billion.

FY 2006 funding (House-passed): \$5.7 billion.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGE

Approved the transfer of more than 500 agents from drugs to terrorism.

Created the Directorate of Intelligence (Service-within-a-Service) to exclusively focus on intelligence.

The FY 2006 bill creates an associate deputy director for national security to oversee and coordinate the activities of the executive assistant director for counterterrorism and counterintelligence and the national security activities of the Directorate of Intelligence, as recommended by the WMD Commission and accepted by President Bush yesterday.

The FY 2006 bill requires the U.S. attorney general to submit a report to the subcommittee on its actions to implement the recommendations of WMD Commission.

Created the Science and Technology Advisory Board to provide independent advice to the director on emerging issues.

INTERAGENCY COUNTERTERRORISM TASK FORCES

The SSJC subcommittee approved and funds:

- 103 Joint Terrorism Task forces.
- National Joint Terrorism Task Force.
- Participation in the National Counterterrorism Center.
- Foreign Terrorist Tracking Task Force.
- Terrorist Screening Center.

TRAINING

Created an FBI training program at Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management.

Created the College of Analytical Studies to focus on analytical training.

Continued to fund training programs above the level requested.

FY 2005 funding: \$10 million above the budget request. (\$85 million)

FY 2006 funding (House-passed): \$10 million above the budget request. (\$102 million)

Fully funded requests to renovate Quantico, the FBI's training facility.

FY 2005 funding: \$21 million.

FY 2006 funding (House-passed): \$15 million.

The FY 2006 House-passed bill:

Directs the FBI to work with NAPA to improve training programs for first-line supervisors, mid-level managers and executives.

Directs the FBI to create a management succession plan.

Directs the FBI to ensure that analysts and agents train together and that the FBI conduct joint training sessions with other intelligence community agencies.

Directs the FBI to expand the University Education Program, the Sabbatical Program, the Fellows Program and the use of the Foreign Service Institute.

Directs the FBI to develop experienced FBI employees to teach analytical classes at the College of Analytical Studies instead of depending on contractors and personnel from other agencies.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Directed the full House Appropriations Committee's Surveys and Investigations staff to study the FBI's failure to implement a new case management system.

Increased funding above the request to improve information technology management FY 2006 funding (House-passed): \$10 million above the budget request. (\$21 million)

Increased funding to improve access to information and information sharing.

FY 2005 funding: \$12 million. (\$13.5 million)

FY 2006 funding (House-passed): \$11 million above the budget request. (\$54 million)

Funded the bureau's new Integrated Data Warehouse project to data mine counterterrorism data to find terrorism connections.

Provided funding above the request for additional secure space to enhance the sharing of classified information within the intelligence community.

FY 2005 funding: \$20.5 above the budget request. (\$20.5 million)

FY 2006 funding: \$5 million above the budget request. (\$25.5 million)

The FY 2006 bill requires the inspector general to provide the subcommittee with regular updates on the status of the bureau's replacement case management system.

LANGUAGE TRANSLATION

Increased the number of translators by 79 percent, including a 269 percent increase in Arabic translators from the levels funded in fiscal year 2001.

Created the National Virtual Translation Center to work with other members of the intelligence community to address translation priorities.

RETENTION AND RECRUITMENT

Provided report language for retention and relocation bonuses, critical pay exemptions for intelligence staff (more than \$175,000 per year) authority to create an FBI Reserve Service and additional authority to waive mandatory retirements.

Provided funding to implement retention and recruitment programs.

FY 2005 funding: \$30 million above the budget request. (\$30 million)

FY 2006 funding (House-passed): \$5 million above the budget request. (\$35 million)

Directed the FBI to work with NAPA to ensure that new personnel authorities provided to attract and retain staff in FY 2005 are effectively utilized.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Recognized that analysts are required to perform too many administrative tasks and directed the FBI to focus its hiring efforts on filling vacant administrative and support staff. The FY 2006 bill provides \$5 million above the request for additional administrative staff.

HUMAN RESOURCES

The FY 2006 bill directs the FBI to establish an Office of Human Resources to be tasked with, at a minimum, (1) ensuring that employee rating systems match the FBI's priorities including intelligence and security; (2) ensuring the number of pay authorities and funding provided to attract and retain staff are used effectively; (3) developing leadership and succession planning programs, and (4) considering ways to give field offices more flexibility in hiring administrative staff.

INTRODUCING A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF INTERNATIONAL POLAR YEAR

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a concurrent resolution in support of the goals and aspirations of the International Polar Year. The International Polar Year will allow scientist to create a benchmark for the Polar Regions and study this remote area of the world through all the seasons.

The International Polar Year (IPY), co-sponsored by the International Council of Science (ICSU) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), will run from March of 2007 to March 2008. The IPY will afford an opportunity to engage the upcoming generation of scientists and focus public attention on the im-

portance of the Polar Regions and how much the cold ends of the sphere we all live on really do influence us.

I was recently in Norway and had the opportunity to talk about the significance of the IPY. The recognition of this important issue in all parts of the world further emphasizes why this resolution and issue is so important.

Mr. Speaker, this concurrent resolution lends Congress' support for the International Polar Year. Past worldwide initiatives have yielded unprecedented exploration and discoveries in many fields of research and fundamentally changed how science was conducted in the Polar Regions. Now, decades later, technological developments such as earth observation satellites, autonomous vehicles, and molecular biology techniques offer enormous opportunities for an unparalleled expansion of our understanding of these complex systems.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this concurrent resolution. Encouraging the studying the Polar Regions is crucial as it will lead to a greater understanding of how this area of the world affects the rest of the earth's ecosystem and in turn, human society. This concurrent resolution furthers that goal. That is why I look forward to working with my colleagues and moving this resolution forward.

TRIBUTE TO MITCH GEISLER

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death of the Honorable Mitch Geisler of Marshall, MO.

Mr. Geisler served a long and distinguished career in law enforcement. He was Chief of Police, President of the Missouri Chiefs of Police Association, and attended the FBI Law Enforcement Institution, from which he graduated in 1957. After his many years of service in the area of law enforcement, Mr. Geisler began a career in finance. He worked 27 years for Wood and Huston Bank, where he retired as senior vice president.

Mr. Geisler then served as Mayor of Marshall for 12 years. During his term as Mayor, Mr. Geisler held an active role in the expansion of the Marshall Municipal Airport. He also worked with Marshall-Saline Development Corporation to attract businesses and industry to the Marshall area.

Mr. Geisler was very dedicated to the growth and development of his community. He was a 15-year member of the church board at St. Peter Catholic Church and the first president of the Mercy Academy School Board. Mr. Geisler was also a 50-year member of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association. This allowed him to fly with the Blue Angels Navy acrobatic and demonstration team.

Mr. Speaker, Mitch Geisler had a steadfast dedication to his family, church, community, and career. I know the members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his family.