

breast cancer and to commit to taking steps to protect their health or to contribute in some way to creating and achieving a world without breast cancer.

RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATED EMPLOYEES OF THE WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION

HON. DONNA F. EDWARDS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the dedicated employees of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) in safeguarding the citizens of Prince George's and Montgomery Counties in Maryland.

In the early morning hours of July 1, 2010, a WSSC fiber optics monitoring system notified key WSSC personnel of impending danger involving a 96" water main located near Tuckerman Lane in Montgomery County, Maryland. This highly pressurized water main is one of the main distribution conduits serving both Counties, but is of particular importance to the citizens of Prince George's County. WSSC mobilized immediately coordinating with Maryland state and county officials to isolate the problem, dewater the main, replace the damaged section, and restore water service. This all occurred without a loss of water pressure in the system that could have impacted adversely critical services like hospitals and firefighting capabilities. WSSC instituted and enforced mandatory water restrictions over the holiday weekend to ensure adequate pressure was maintained for public health and safety.

WSSC is to be commended for their leadership and efforts throughout this incident. As Paul Hajek, Acting Director of Operations for the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) wrote to WSSC's General Manager, "I found WSSC to be highly professional, responsive and cautiously deliberate in how they handled the entire incident. From a State perspective, it was refreshing to work with a company that at every turn 'had it under control'. Your company's actions turned what was a probable 'emergency incident' into an 'event'."

WSSC Commissioners and General Manager Jerry N. Johnson honored WSSC employees for their efforts in this incident during the July 21, 2010 Commission meeting. In a communication from the General Manager to the employees honored, Mr. Johnson wrote:

"As you know, I believe that our employees are our most valuable asset. The members of the WSSC team demonstrate their commitment every day whether they are responding to a customer inquiry in the Call Center, inspecting a contractor's repair of a sewer lateral, turning valves to isolate a water main break or repairing a pump in the machine shop. I am proud to be a member of such a dedicated and capable workforce that so fully understands the critical nature of our work and how each of us plays an important role in fulfilling our obligation to provide high quality reliable services to our customers.

"Due, in part, to your hard work, WSSC averted a potentially catastrophic break in the

96-inch main. We know from past experience the destructive power of such a break. There is no doubt a sudden break at Tuckerman Lane and Gainsborough Road would have been devastating.

"We appreciate your personal sacrifices, including the physical demands of working long hours in near-record breaking heat, and the time that could have been spent with loved ones celebrating our Nation's Independence Day holiday. Your professionalism and work ethic personify the work ethic of the entire WSSC team. We are so very proud of our employees and the contractors who represented the Commission in all phases of the repair operation.

"On behalf of our customers and staff, we want to express our sincere gratitude for your excellent implementation of WSSC's customer service goals and expectations. You selflessly carried out our mission to provide safe and reliable water, life's most precious resource, in an ethically and financially responsible manner. We salute you for a job well done!"

One noteworthy individual is WSSC Customer Care West Group Leader, Hak Kwon. Nicknamed by many during and after this event as "The General," Mr. Kwon lead the WSSC Team working tirelessly and professionally to resolve the problem as quickly and as safely as possible.

In crisis situations such as this early July 2010 incident, it is comforting to know that the employees of the WSSC can rise to the occasion, make the difficult decisions, and safeguard our citizens.

Madam Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join General Manager Jerry Johnson and me in commending the WSSC and its employees on a job well done.

PROVIDING HONORARY TITLE FOR ARMY RESERVISTS

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3787, which I joined my colleague the gentleman from Minnesota in introducing. Our military increasingly depends on the National Guard and Reserve to keep our country safe. Men and women who served our country faithfully for decades deserve full recognition as veterans, even if they were never deployed. The legislation would extend full veteran status under federal law to retired members of the Guard and Reserve. Current law does not consider Guard and Reserve members to be veterans unless they were deployed for more than 30 days. The policy excludes many soldiers in the Guard and Reserve who, while never deployed for long periods of time, carried out critical support roles during times of war and peace, engaged in frequent and often dangerous training exercises, and stood ready to risk their lives to protect our nation during military careers that spanned decades. This legislation recognizes the service and sacrifice of National Guard and Reserve retirees and grants them the full honor of being called veterans that they have earned. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, which is a

matter of honor and fairness to our citizen soldiers.

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. JUDY TUCKER, DIRECTOR OF CONSTITUENT SERVICES FOR U. S. REP. BOBBY L. RUSH, ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT AFTER 24 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, we live in an age where the average length of time that a typical American worker spends on a job is from three to five years. That's why, as this month comes to a close, it is all the more remarkable that one of my most respected employees, Mrs. Judy Tucker, has served me with distinction, honor and humility for 24 years—only one year shy of a quarter century. Her commitment to service and to the people of the 1st Congressional District of Illinois is truly remarkable in this day and age. And for that, I thank her for her service.

But there's so much more to Judy Tucker's story.

When the history of Chicago's African American political community is written, Judy Tucker's name will be an important part of that vast network of tireless, determined men and women who served with distinction in those all important "trenches"—you know, the nose-to-the grind, inner workings of government that mean the world to the typical voter, constituent and his or her family. Judy Tucker is the only employee to have served me, consistently, since I was first elected to the U. S. House of Representatives in 1992. That was 20 years ago. This tribute recognizes her for 24 years of service because, prior to my election to Congress, Judy served me capably and effectively, for four years, as my personal secretary in my Second Ward Aldermanic Office.

Judy's background in public service also includes playing key administrative leadership roles for my friend, Cook County Commissioner Jerry Butler, and, prior to that, working for several years for the iconic African American Member of Congress, Ralph Metcalfe, who also represented the people of the 1st Congressional District. It is my pleasure to note that through all of Judy's professional life she has prided herself on her service to the men and women of the City of Chicago, the State of Illinois and, for the past 20 years, the people of the 1st Congressional District that I'm so proud to serve.

As Director of Constituent Services, Judy managed those all important details of what it means to provide assistance to those constituents who need help. No matter the request, if it was within our power to assist a constituent, Judy Tucker made sure that their resource or information needs were addressed quickly, accurately and in a professional manner. There was never a request too large or too small for Judy to handle. In many ways, Judy's job is one of, if not the most important job that I have on staff. That's because her work hits home where it matters most—in the daily lives of the constituents that my staff and I are here to serve. Judy never forgot about the needs of my constituents and she worked tirelessly to

provide them with the information, services or access to resources and services that they needed for all the years I've been a member of Congress. Madame Speaker, I can't tell you how grateful I am for her capable service and how proud I am of the honor and distinction she has brought to my office.

In addition to being an effective Constituent Services Director, Judy is also a loving wife, mother and grandmother. Married to her husband, Elisheous Tucker for 38 years, she and her husband are faithful members of the Miracle House of Prayer Church. As she settles into her well deserved retirement, while my staff and I will miss her, I suspect she'll be able to spend more time with her church community, her family and friends. In addition to traveling, I can imagine her spending much more time tending to her garden, a hobby that I know she truly enjoys.

What more can I say other than every Member of Congress should be blessed to have someone of the caliber, grace and professionalism of Mrs. Judy Tucker. While my staff and I will miss her presence in our office, she will always be a valued member of the permanent "Rush Team" for years to come.

On behalf of my staff, my wife, Carolyn, and the people of the 1st Congressional District of Illinois, I wish Mrs. Judy Tucker all the joy and gifts that God can bestow upon her, and her family, for years and years to come.

Thank you so much, Judy, for a job well done. I value our friendship and you and your family are forever in my thoughts and prayers. My God richly bless you now and always.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RHAWNURST-BUSTLETON AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the Rhawnhurst-Bustleton Ambulance Association on its 50th anniversary. This volunteer ambulance corps, located in Northeast Philadelphia, serves the residents of the Bustleton and Rhawnhurst neighborhoods.

Fifty years ago Rhawnhurst and Bustleton were not served by the ambulances operated by area hospitals. This lack of emergency medical services was a serious safety and health challenge for these residents and businesses. Seeing this need, a small group of dedicated citizens took action. Five individuals met in the basement of a neighborhood home to take an oath to provide this much needed service. Six months later, with two ambulances in its fleet, the Rhawnhurst-Bustleton Ambulance Association incorporated as a non-profit organization.

The ambulance association is now state-licensed and certified, operating 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Over the past 50 years these dedicated volunteers have incorporated advanced technologies and practices into their daily operations. This neighborhood has been safer and more secure over these past 50 years because this small group of committed people decided to take an extra step to care for their neighbors.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating and wishing the Rhawnhurst-Bustleton Ambulance Association many more years of faithful service to the community.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING
GOLDIE MORROW LONG
BOERNER HARRISON ON HER
100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker,

Whereas, Goldie Morrow Long Boerner Harrison was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, on October 3, 1910,

Whereas, Goldie joined the SPARS during World War II, where she sang and danced in a show for enlisted personnel in the Coast Guard,

Whereas, Goldie opened a hair salon in Massillon where she styled the hair of the stars who performed at the Canal Fulton Playhouse, including Vivian Vance, Tammy Grimes, Imogene Coco and President Truman's daughter Margaret,

Whereas, Givin now lives in Dover, Ohio, where she will celebrate with close friends and family,

Resolved that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Goldie Harrison on achieving her 100th birthday, and for her contributions to her community and country.

TESTIMONY OF MR. CHRISTOPHER COATES BEFORE THE U.S. COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS REGARDING UNEQUAL ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAW

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I submit certain sections of the testimony of Mr. Christopher Coates before the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights in which he discusses the unequal enforcement of federal voting laws by political and career officials in the Department of Justice.

THE DECISION TO DISMISS AND TO LIMIT
INJUNCTIVE RELIEF IN THE NBPP CASE

It was within this atmosphere, with these managers, and with pressure being applied by an organization—NAACP LDF—that is close to the Obama Administration's CRD management, that the decision to gut the NBPP case was made. Although there have been recent reports that indicate that senior political appointees at higher levels in the Department were involved in the NBPP case, it was Ms. King, along with her Deputy, Steve Rosenbaum, who the Justice Department has claimed made the decision to dismiss three of the party-defendants in the case and ordered the limitation on the broader injunctive relief recommended by both Voting Section and Appellate Section attorneys against the one remaining defendant.

It is my opinion that this disposition of the NBPP case was ordered because the peo-

ple calling the shots in May 2009 were angry at the filing of the Ike Brown case and angry at our filing of the NBPP case. That anger was the result of their deep-seated opposition to the equal enforcement of the VRA against racial minorities and for the protection of whites who have been discriminated against. Ms. King, Mr. Rosenbaum, Mr. Kappelhoff, Ms. Clarke, a large number of the people who work in the Voting Section and the CRD, and many of the liberal private groups that work in the civil rights field believe, incorrectly but vehemently, that enforcement of the protections of the VRA should not be extended to white voters but should be limited to protecting racial, ethnic and language minorities.

The final disposition of the NBPP case, even in the face of a default by the defendants, was caused by this incorrect view of civil rights enforcement, and it was intended to send a direct message to people inside and outside the CRD. That message is that the filing of voting cases like the Ike Brown and the NBPP cases would not continue in the Obama Administration. The disposition of the NBPP case was not required by the facts developed during the case or the applicable law, as has been claimed, but was because of this incorrect view of civil rights enforcement that is at war with the statutory language in the VRA and with racially fair enforcement of federal law.

FAILURE TO ENFORCE SECTION 5

If anyone doubts that CRD and the Voting Section have failed to enforce the VRA in a race-neutral manner, one only has to look at the enforcement of the Section 5 preclearance requirements. Those requirements mandate that federal preclearance for voting changes within the covered jurisdictions be obtained for any covered change and that preclearance not be given for changes that have a racially discriminatory purpose or effect. The statutory language of Section 5 speaks in terms of protecting all voters from racial discrimination. But the Voting Section has never interposed an objection under Section 5 to a voting change on the ground that it discriminated against white voters in the forty-five (45) year history of the Act.

This failure includes no objections in the many majority-minority jurisdictions in the covered states. Indeed, the personnel in the Voting Section's unit which handles Section 5 submissions are instructed only to see if the change discriminates against racial, ethnic, and language minority voters. This practice of not enforcing Section 5's protections for white voters includes jurisdictions, such as Noxubee County, Mississippi where the Ike Brown case arose, where white voters are in the racial minority. It is in those jurisdictions the Voting Section's failure to apply Section 5's protections for the white minority is particularly problematic. On two occasions, while I was Chief of the Voting Section, I tried to persuade officials at the CRD level to change this policy so that white voters would be protected by Section 5 in appropriate circumstances, but to no avail. I believe that present management in both the CRD and the Voting Section are opposed to race-neutral enforcement of Section 5 and continue to enforce those provisions in a racially selective manner.

REASONS GIVEN BY THE DOJ FOR ITS ACTIONS IN
NBPP CASE

As I have indicated, I am not going to testify about the statements made during my meetings with Ms. King and Mr. Rosenbaum, because of the DOJ's assertion of the deliberative process privilege. However, the DOJ and Mr. Perez have publicly articulated the reasons for the disposition of the NBPP case, and I will therefore address here several of