

recognize outstanding community leadership in building bridges of understanding.

Dexter has been recognized numerous times for his outstanding work bringing people together for the common goal of justice and peace. He was awarded the Outstanding Leadership Award by the Sacramento Area Congregations Together, the Distinguished Award by the Sacramento Area League of Associated Muslims, the Building Unity Award by the Sacramento Housing Alliance, and the Community Leadership Award by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Dexter organized the Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster for Sacramento from 2005–2008, and chaired the California Interfaith Power and Light working group from 2005–2008, which worked to raise awareness of global warming and climate change. He served on the Wells Fargo Community Advisory Board, the Family Support Collaborative Board, the Sacramento City Mayor's Youth Task Force, and the local Childcare and Development Planning Council.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize the Reverend Dexter McNamara for his outstanding work with Sacramento's Interfaith Service Bureau, and in bringing people of different faiths together to work towards bettering our community and understanding of one another. I once again ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Reverend Dexter McNamara for all that he has done for the people of Sacramento.

LETTERS TO PRESIDENT OBAMA, GENERAL JONES, DIRECTOR MUELLER, AND DIRECTOR PA- NETTA ON STRENGTHENING OUR NATIONAL SECURITY

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I want to share the following letters that I have sent to President Obama, National Security Advisor General Jones, FBI Director Mueller, and CIA Director Panetta last week urging the implementation of four bipartisan proposals to strengthen our national security.

Following the failed attack on Times Square in New York City, it is more important than ever that we implement these proposals that would make our country safer.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
May 5, 2010.

Hon. BARACK H. OBAMA,
The President, The White House,
Washington DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: In light of the attempted terrorist bombing in Times Square in New York City, I urge you again to implement four bipartisan steps that would help make our country safer. If we fail to learn the lessons of the attempted attacks on Christmas Day and Times Square, we will continue to repeat the same mistakes that compromised our preparation for and response to these two incidents. The latest attack underscores the need for the rapid adoption of bipartisan solutions that strengthen our national security.

As you know, I have repeatedly urged the administration to bring back the co-chairs of the 9/11 Commission—Lee Hamilton and

Thomas Kean—for a six-month review of the progress that has been made in implementing the commission's recommendations. To date, I have seen no effort by the administration on this front.

I have spoken with Lee Hamilton and he believes this is a good idea. In fact, Mr. Hamilton underscored the need for this when he told ABC News yesterday that, "the 9/11 commission recommended that you had to have biometric evidence, documentarian evidence of people coming in and exiting [the country.] We've done a pretty good job on the first part of it people entering the country. But with regard to those exiting the country we simply have not been able to set up a system to deal with that and it showed in this case."

Given our failure to prevent both alleged terrorists—Faisal Shahzad and Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab—from boarding their flights, it is critically important that our transportation security structure have strong leadership and coordination. In both cases, the alleged terrorists slipped through security despite appearing on the "no fly" list.

I have repeatedly urged the administration to support legislation to establish a more professional and independent administrator of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), by setting a 10-year term, akin to the appointment process for the director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). In fact, I introduced legislation, H.R. 4459, in early January to do this. After two withdrawn nominations, the position remains vacant and the administration continues to oppose efforts to professionalize this position.

In the wake of the attempted Christmas Day bombing, there were many serious questions regarding the administration's deployment of the new High Value Detainee Interrogation Group (HIG). Five months later, these same questions surround the administration's response to the Times Square attack. The Washington Post noted in its editorial today, "Nor has [the administration] said whether its High Value Interrogation Group (HIG)—a group of law enforcement and intelligence experts specially trained for terrorism cases—was up and running and deployed in the Shahzad case."

I have repeatedly urged the administration to collocate the HIG at the National Counterterrorism Center to facilitate information sharing and cooperation among intelligence agencies. Again, I have seen no effort by the administration to do so.

Perhaps most importantly, I have repeatedly urged the administration to create a "Team B" of outside advisors to bring "fresh eyes" to U.S. counterterrorism strategy. The team would represent a "new approach to counterterrorism" which focuses not just on connecting the dots of intelligence, but which seeks to stay a step ahead in understanding how to break the radicalization and recruitment cycle that sustains our enemy, how to disrupt their network globally and how to strategically isolate them. This would help us better anticipate the type of threats that occurred on Christmas Day and in Times Square.

Counterterrorism experts, including respected Georgetown University professor Bruce Hoffman, have publicly endorsed this proposal. They understand the need for a group of outside experts to challenge assumptions across the intelligence community to help us better prepare for future attacks. In light of the increasing pace in attempted attacks on U.S. soil, I believe this should be implemented as quickly as possible.

I cannot understand why the administration continues to refuse to adopt these proposals. In light of the latest attempted attack, I urge your action on these proposals—

each of which would receive broad bipartisan support from the American people.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

FRANK R. WOLF,
Member of Congress.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 6, 2010.

General JAMES JONES,
National Security Adviser, The White House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR GENERAL JONES: Enclosed is a copy of the letter I sent to President Obama yesterday urging him, again, to implement a series of bipartisan measures that would strengthen our national security.

In the wake of the attempted terrorist attack in Times Square, these proposals are timelier than ever. If we fail to learn from the mistakes of the attempted Christmas Day and Times Square attacks, we will be unable to anticipate and prevent future attacks.

Again, Jim, I urge you to ask the president to implement these much-needed proposals to protect Americans. I would appreciate your letting me know if you will recommend that the president implement these measures.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

FRANK R. WOLF,
Member of Congress.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 6, 2010.

Hon. ROBERT S. MUELLER III,
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. MUELLER: Enclosed is a copy of the letter I sent to President Obama yesterday urging him, again, to implement a series of bipartisan measures that would strengthen our national security.

In the wake of the attempted terrorist attack in Times Square, these proposals are timelier than ever. If we fail to learn from the mistakes of the attempted Christmas Day and Times Square attacks, we will be unable to anticipate and prevent future attacks.

Again, Bob, I urge you to ask the president to implement these much-needed proposals to protect Americans. I would appreciate your letting me know if you will recommend that the president implement these measures.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

FRANK R. WOLF,
Member of Congress.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 6, 2010.

Hon. LEON PANETTA,
Director, Central Intelligence Agency, Washington, DC.

DEAR DIRECTOR PANETTA: Enclosed is a copy of the letter I sent to President Obama yesterday urging him, again, to implement a series of bipartisan measures that would strengthen our national security.

In the wake of the attempted terrorist attack in Times Square, these proposals are timelier than ever. If we fail to learn from the mistakes of the attempted Christmas Day and Times Square attacks, we will be unable to anticipate and prevent future attacks.

Again, Leon, I urge you to ask the president to implement these much-needed proposals to protect Americans. I would appreciate your letting me know if you will recommend that the president implement these measures.

Best wishes.
Sincerely,

FRANK R. WOLF,
Member of Congress.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR
PROMPT RESPONSE TO AT-
TEMPTED TERRORIST ATTACK
IN TIMES SQUARE

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Homeland Security Committee, I rise today in strong support of House Resolution 1320, expressing support for the vigilance and prompt response of the citizens and law enforcement agencies in New York and Connecticut to the attempted terrorist attack in Times Square on May 1, 2010, their exceptional professionalism and investigative work following the attempted attack, and their consistent commitment to preparedness for and collective response to terrorism.

I would like to acknowledge Speaker PELOSI and Chairman THOMPSON for their leadership in bringing this important resolution to the floor. I would also like to thank my colleagues Congressman MCMAHON, Congressman HIMES, and Congressman HALL, who authored this legislation.

As Chair of the Homeland Security Subcommittee on Emergency Communication, Preparedness, and Response, I am an original cosponsor of this resolution. I am pleased to join my colleagues in recognizing the New York City first responders who safely evacuated hundreds of people from Times Square and responded in a prompt and effective manner, as the result of extensive terrorism preparedness efforts that are supported, in part, by the Department of Homeland Security. H. Res. 1320 recognizes the efforts of these men and women as well as the action of two alert citizens, Mr. Lance Orton and Mr. Duane Jackson, who notified the New York Police Department about a suspicious vehicle that was parked on 45th Street in Times Square. It is due to the exceptional professionalism and investigative work by the New York Police Department, the New York Police Department Bomb Squad, the Fire Department of New York, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Customs and Border Protection, the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, the New York Joint Terrorism Task Force, and other law enforcement agencies in Connecticut that a suspect was apprehended only 48 hours following the attempted bombing.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I support this bill because it is important to recognize and honor the men and women who put themselves in harm's way all day, every day, doing the important work to keep our homeland safe. I am proud to stand with my colleagues today in support of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 1320.

RECOGNIZING CHARLY SKAGGS OF
JUVENILE SERVICES OF
WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. CARTER. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Mr. Charly Skaggs upon his retirement from Williamson County Juvenile Services after 32 years of service. Charly served 24 of those years as the chief probation officer. In the beginning of Charly's career there were only seven employees in the juvenile services department and the county had just broken ground on a ten-bed secure detention facility.

Williamson County grew a great deal during Charly's time of service resulting in operation of a detention center, a non-secure residential center, a juvenile justice alternative education program, a secure residential program, court services, probation services, community services, electronic monitoring and the first military model residential setting with 150 employees. Charly has spent many years traveling all over the U.S. training in the juvenile services field, as well as serving as the past president of the National and Texas Juvenile Detention Associations. I had the pleasure of working with Charly when I sat on the Bench as District Judge of Williamson County. It is an honor to congratulate my friend on his retirement and I wish him all the best.

CONGRATULATING THE 2010
MOUNT CARMEL SCHOOL WE THE
PEOPLE TEAM

**HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO
SABLAN**

OF THE MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Speaker, once again, the students of Mount Carmel School have won the honor to represent the Northern Mariana Islands in the annual "We the People" competition. Mount Carmel has a tradition of excellence in speech and debate and this year's group of orators continued that tradition with distinction.

The competition is directed by the Center for Civic Education and funded by Congress through the Education for Democracy Act.

This is a program we should continue to support. I watched the Mount Carmel students testify in a simulated congressional hearing on constitutional issues they had studied in the *We the People: The Citizen and The Constitution* textbook. The students are nothing short of impressive in their knowledge and their understanding of the historical bases and the philosophical concepts underlying the document that established our national government.

Eleven hundred students from around our nation earned the right to come to Washington for the final competition over the weekend of April 24th by competing against other schools in their congressional district and States. This

is but a fraction of the students who participate and benefit. In its 23-year history the *We the People: The Citizen and The Constitution* program has reached more than 30 million students.

A survey of program alumni demonstrates that students take to heart what they learn. Ninety-five percent of the respondents voted in the November 2008 election. Additionally, 76 percent voted in all previous elections for which they were eligible, and 56 percent had contacted a government official regarding a public issue during the previous 12 months.

As in years past the *We the People* program honored a member of Congress with the Dale E. Kildee Civitas Award. Chairman David Obey was this year's recipient for his contribution to the field of civic education. I congratulate the Chairman for this recognition; and, again, I urge my colleagues to support this worthwhile program.

Now I'd like to recognize the Mount Carmel team members by name: Matthew Aquino, Geza Baka, III, Maria Balajadia, Rynne Camacho, Ericka Celestino, John Edward Elenzano, Ji Yeon Kim, Min Seong Kim, Savana Manglona, Ivan Matala, Nicoli Matala, Anthony Sablan, Nicolas Sablan, Troy Villafuerte, Brittany Yamagata, Calvin Yang, Joseph Yoon; and their coaches: Keolester Buenapacifico, Rosiky Camacho, Justice John Manglona, Judge Ramona Manglona; and chaperones, Maggie Sablan, Velma Palacios.

HONORING THE NEW JERSEY
STATE POLICE INTERNET
CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN
TASK FORCE

HON. JOHN H. ADLER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the New Jersey State Police Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force for winning the Prosecutor's Unit Excellence Award. This award is given to a unit or group functioning within the criminal justice system in recognition of outstanding performance. They will be recognized at the Burlington County Prosecutor's Office 22nd Annual PROCOPS Award Banquet. PROCOPS, or Prosecutor's Recognition of Citizens or Public Servants, recognizes members of law enforcement and civilians whose significant actions, bravery and concern for the well being of society have made Burlington County, NJ a safer place to live.

The Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC) was created to aid law enforcement agencies in their investigations of offenders who use the Internet, online communication systems, or other computer technology to sexually exploit children. This group is important because it helps keep our children safe while they are surfing the internet.

Madam Speaker, I hope you will join me in recognizing the New Jersey State Police Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force for their outstanding performance.