

recognize noteworthy and extraordinary leadership of citizens in communities across the United States. This award is only given out every few years to honor business and community leaders who have made substantial impacts in their communities and its residents. The Distinguished Citizen Award is a very prestigious award, which Bob Hammerschmidt undoubtedly deserves.

Currently, Bob Hammerschmidt is the president of the Springfield Region of Commerce Bank. Commerce Bank is located in Springfield, but its professional reputation precedes it throughout the state of Missouri. He is also the former council president of the Ozark Trails Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Bob's community service includes an extensive and impressive list of organizations that have benefited by his service to the communities in which he has lived over the years.

Bob Hammerschmidt exemplifies the values taught by scouting, including the scout oath and law. These qualities include service to the community, good citizenship and strong leadership. Bob Hammerschmidt's track record makes it easy to see why his peers unanimously selected him as the recipient of the Distinguished Citizen Award.

I am honored to recognize Bob Hammerschmidt for his service and leadership to the community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall votes 188 through 193. If present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 191, 192, and 193, and "nay" on rollcall votes 188, 189, and 190.

LTC DENIS DESCARREAU'S PROMOTION

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, The United States Army, the U.S. Military medical community, and a grateful nation, are united in their support of LTC Denis Descarreaux attaining the rank of Colonel.

Colonel Descarreaux exemplifies the values that are near and dear to the Army: Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, Personal Courage.

Denis Descarreaux has always displayed an enduring work ethic and a commitment to serve others. His time in uniform is marked by distinguished service on behalf of the American people.

Dr. Denis Descarreaux exemplifies one seeking and obtaining the American Dream and presents as a model Soldier, citizen, husband, and father. Colonel Descarreaux has brought virtue to himself, his family, his uniform and his nation. We are assured that he will continue to be an invaluable asset to the United States Army.

Congratulations on your lifetime accomplishments and your promotion to Colonel in the United States Army.

With God's blessings.

TRIBUTE TO U.S. ARMY SERGEANT LAUREN MONTOYA

HON. BILL FLORES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service and sacrifice of U.S. Army Sergeant Lauren Montoya who was recently wounded while serving her nation in Afghanistan.

Sergeant Montoya, from Austin, Texas, attended Texas A&M University for two years prior to joining the Army in January of 2011. Texas A&M has a long history of students who have answered the call to service, and Sergeant Montoya has kept that tradition alive.

After completing basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, the Army sent Sergeant Montoya to Fort Huachuca, Arizona where she was trained in the Military Intelligence field as a Human Intelligence Collector. She was subsequently stationed at Fort Drum, New York to serve with the combat-proven 10th Mountain Division. It was there that she continued to distinguish herself as an exemplary soldier. Ms. Montoya's superiors quickly noticed her leadership ability and promoted her to Sergeant in just two short years of service.

Due to her dedication, professionalism and leadership ability, Sergeant Montoya was selected to participate in the Army's Cultural Support Team assisting a Special Forces unit conducting counter-terrorism operations in Afghanistan. Her unique abilities as a Human Intelligence Collector and devotion to selfless service led to her assignment as an advisor to a Special Forces unit deployed to carry out volatile missions in Afghanistan.

In November 2013, Sergeant Montoya deployed with her Special Forces unit to Afghanistan where they spent five months conducting missions in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. During that deployment, Sergeant Montoya's unit was attacked by an improvised explosive device while traveling from a mission in southern Afghanistan. Sergeant Montoya was injured in the attack but survived and was transported to the Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas to recover.

Sergeant Montoya's commitment to duty and selfless service demonstrate her caliber as a soldier, Texan and American. During the tenure of her brief military career, Sergeant Montoya earned numerous awards and decorations including the Purple Heart, the Meritorious Unit Commendation, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon, the Army Service Ribbon, the Marksmanship Qualification Badge—Marksman with Recoilless Rifle, and a meritorious count of five Army Achievement Medals.

With the prayers and love from family and friends, Sergeant Montoya continues to recover at Brooke Army Medical Center and looks forward to the next steps in her future. Upon completion of her military service, she hopes to return to Texas A&M University and finish her degree.

Her service and sacrifice to this country cannot be measured. On behalf of a grateful

nation, I want to wish her a speedy recovery and all the blessings God may grant unto her.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS STAMP OUT HUNGER FOOD DRIVE

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the National Association of Letter Carriers Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. On the second Saturday of May for the last twenty-two years, letter carriers and volunteers across the country help to collect food donations and deliver them to various food banks in their areas. This year, the food drive will be held on Saturday, May 10th.

In my district, donations are delivered to the North Texas Food Bank and local pantries to provide food to people in need. In Dallas County alone, 450,000 residents are food insecure, including 300,000 children. Of the 1.8 million Texas children, one in four live in food insecure households.

Hunger in Texas remains a systemic problem. With the help of food drives like the one organized by the National Association of Letter Carriers, many families are able to put nutritious meals on their tables. Last year, letter carriers collected 74.6 million pounds of food to deliver to local food pantries.

I commend the National Association of Letter Carriers for their efforts and for their commitment to help stamp out hunger nationwide. Their service is extremely valuable and we can all contribute to their efforts by donating to the food drive. More than 1,200 branches nationwide will be participating in this year's food drive activities.

Our letter carriers not only provide a valuable service each day, but also strive to supply basic necessities to those in need during their annual food drive. I urge my colleagues to support the National Association of Letter Carriers Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF ST. PAUL POLICE OFFICER JOSH LYNAUGH

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and public service of all the brave men and women in law enforcement who have given their life in the line of duty.

As we celebrate National Police Week 2014, let us take time to recognize that law enforcement officers all across America risk their lives every day to protect our families and keep our communities safe. Every peace officer serving in Minnesota, or any community across this country, knows that wearing a uniform carries a special responsibility and exceptional risk. I salute their courage, commitment, and exceptional public service.

Today marks almost a year and half since St. Paul Police Officer Josh Lynaugh suffered a fatal heart attack after an on-duty police chase in East St. Paul. This was a time of great pain and loss for his family, constituents

in my district, as well as Minnesotans all across our state. Today, the law enforcement community continues to heal from this loss and it is my firm belief that they will ultimately do so because of their strength and resilience. We must never forget the heroic sacrifice of our fallen peace officers. The valiant bravery of these men and women helps ensure the safety of our families and communities.

Police officers bear an enormous responsibility for keeping our cities and towns safe. Throughout my career in public service, I have advocated for ensuring that local police departments have the funding resources they need to do their jobs successfully and compensate their officers fairly. From my work as a state legislator to the work I do here in Congress, supporting those who dedicate their lives to protecting the public has been, and will remain, a top priority.

This National Police Week, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the courage and sacrifice of all law enforcement officers and yield back the balance of my time.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4487) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Chair, earlier during debate colleagues criticized the production of secure credentials by the Government Printing Office for Federal agencies. Some of the statements, particularly the claim that this represents an “overreach” of the GPO’s statutory authority and that the GPO has a “monopoly on this issue” are simply not true, and I want to correct the RECORD.

At the request of then-Public Printer Robert Tapella, the Joint Committee on Printing, which I had the honor to chair during the 110th Congress, authorized GPO to perform this function. Since that time, every JCP chairman has overseen the GPO’s production of secure credentials and approved the GPO’s annual expenditures for this purpose.

Far from an “overreach,” secure credential work is firmly within the GPO’s statutory authority. GPO has a long history of secure credential work, such as with the manufacture of U.S. passport blanks since 1926. By definition, passports and all other forms of government credentials involve “printing,” the production of something in printed form. With secure credentials, intricate, multi-color modern printing embedded with anti-counterfeiting features is utterly indispensable to render a document immediately recognizable by handlers as the genuine article and thus inspire the confidence necessary to establish identity, facilitate border crossings and other purposes.

While serving as Public Printer, Mr. Tapella once declared that the production of secure credentials for the Federal Government does

not belong in the private sector. I happen to agree with him and believe Congress should direct as much secure credential business to GPO as possible. In my view, the production of Federal credentials is as inherently a government function as the production of United States currency, which is produced solely by the Treasury Department’s Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

But however much the former Public Printer and I may agree on this issue, the GPO today—under the leadership of Public Printer Davita Vance-Cooks—has taken a far more reasonable approach and simply makes the GPO available to all Federal agencies who wish to use its services. GPO asserts no “monopoly” nor can it as a practical matter, as Federal agencies are able to seek the services of either the public or private sector to meet their secure credential needs. With respect to the product at issue here, the GPO produces blank border-crossing cards for the State Department’s visa office, and the cards are subsequently personalized by the State Department’s own contractor, MorphoTrust. Moreover, the State Department continues to employ MorphoTrust to produce passport cards, another secure credential. As here, the State Department and a number of other agencies contract directly with private companies for many of their secure-credential needs. To say, therefore, that GPO has a “monopoly” on the work is silly.

On December 4, 2013, the House Administration Committee, on which I serve as Ranking Minority Member, held an oversight hearing on the recent report by the National Academy of Public Administration entitled “Rebooting the Government Printing Office: Keeping America Informed in the Digital Age.” Congress ordered the study. Among other things, the Academy found that unlike with passports, “the GPO is not the sole provider of smart cards [secure credentials]. Agencies may obtain smart cards from private sector vendors as well.” The Academy’s report endorsed GPO’s work in that field.

I urge my colleagues to read the Academy report, currently available on the Academy’s web site. I also urge Members to review the response provided by the GPO to questions submitted for the record of the December 2013 hearing concerning secure credentials, reprinted below. Clearly the GPO does not deserve the criticisms lodged earlier and elsewhere. The men and women of the GPO perform a valuable and necessary service in providing secure credentials to support the missions of Federal agencies involved in securing our borders and other law enforcement tasks.

EXCERPTED QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD SUBMITTED TO THE PUBLIC PRINTER, DAVITA VANCE-COOKS, FOLLOWING THE HOUSE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE HEARING HELD DECEMBER 4, 2013

Question 7. GPO produces the millions of passports and related documents provided to Americans every year by the U.S. Department of State. You also provided sizeable quantities of other so-called “secure and intelligent documents” to the Department of Homeland Security. Do you foresee this portion of your business expanding in the future? Could GPO also produce such documents for state and local governments, as suggested in the NAPA study’s Recommendation #9?

Response. In the wake of 9/11 and the introduction HSPD-12 and related Federal identi-

fication requirements, there has been an increase in the Government’s need for secure credentials. With the approval of the Joint Committee on Printing, GPO implemented a capability in FY 2008 to help address this need. While GPO is far from the only provider of such requirements for Federal agencies, the volume of work processed by our capability has increased and is projected to increase in future years, as the report of the National Academy of Public Administration recently concluded. Regarding the production of secure credentials for state and local governments, GPO does not have the statutory authority to produce work that is not authorized by Federal law, nor are we equipped and staffed to handle secure credentials for all Federal agencies, much less for state and local governments.

Question 8. It is my understanding that aside from printing passports, GPO has also undertaken the manufacture of Border Crossing Cards and trusted traveler cards. Government agencies have been procuring from the private sector and issuing to their employees and contractors secure ID documents for decades. When did GPO get into the business of creating and providing secure credentials, other than passports? Can you please provide rationale as to why GPO believes that it should do this work for government agencies as opposed to the private sector, which has invested heavily to develop these new technologies?

Response. GPO provides a government-to-government solution to fulfill the requisitions of Federal agencies for secure credentials. Our program is staffed by cleared personnel and backed by a secure supply chain.

The establishment of our secure credential capability was endorsed to GPO management by GPO’s Inspector General in 2005. GPO’s proposal to set up a secure card center with its Security and Intelligent Documents business unit subsequently was approved in FY 2008 by the Joint Committee on Printing, which since then has also approved—on a bipartisan basis—all funding for this program in GPO’s annual spending plans. In 2010, we became the only Federal agency certified by the General Services Administration to graphically personalize HSPD-12 credentials. In 2012 the Joint Committee on Printing approved the establishment of a COOP capability for our secure credential operations.

GPO serves as a card integrator, working closely with private sector providers to obtain the products and services needed to fulfill requisitions submitted by Federal agencies. For several years we have been accepted member of the Secure Card Alliance, a consortium of private sector companies and Federal agencies including the National Institute for Standards and Technology, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of State, the Department of Transportation, and the General Services Administration (<http://www.smartcardalliance.org/>). We work with the private sector for consulting, fabrication, design, materials, and supplies, essentially incorporating the best that industry has to offer into solutions sought by Federal agencies that requisition the work from us.

GPO’s secure credentials capability serves as a valuable resource to a number of Federal agencies, including the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies and the U.S. Capitol Police, which relied on us to provide secure law enforcement credentials for the 2009 and 2013 Presidential inaugurations. In addition to satisfactorily fulfilling Federal agency requisitions for secure