

tragedy again struck my district on November 22, 2014, when a 12-year-old boy, Tamir Rice, was shot dead by a Cleveland police officer in a park outside the Cudell Recreation Center.

While my heart is still heavy, I believe some good will rise from the ashes of this tragedy.

On Thursday, December 4, Attorney General Eric Holder announced the Department of Justice had concluded its review and found that the Cleveland Division of Police had exhibited systemic deficiencies and engaged in a pattern of excessive force. The city of Cleveland is committed to righting these wrongs through a court-enforced consent decree.

The DOJ's announcement in Cleveland last week is an encouraging first step to tackling the systemic issues that are plaguing our communities. However, let us not for one second think our work is done. The use of excessive force, particularly when it comes to minority communities, is not a concern unique to Cleveland. The deaths of Michael Brown and Eric Garner are tragic reminders that this is a national concern.

The killing of men of color by those sworn to protect and serve must stay foremost in our minds until it stops.

I am encouraged by the young people who have taken to the streets to protest peacefully. They have finally found something that has energized them to be active and vocal about the change they seek. I urge them to continue to let their voices be heard to keep up the drumbeat for justice.

Having worked in the criminal justice system for many years, I understand more than most that police have a very difficult and dangerous job and deserve our respect and our thanks. Each day our police officers put their lives on the line to protect and serve, and they should be commended for the work they do. Yet we cannot ignore that there exists a feeling of distrust of police in many communities across the country. This must end today. A new era, an era of peace and collaborative community involvement, must begin now.

ENSURING GOVERNANCE OF THE NATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege as well to come to the floor of the House and pay tribute to our outgoing chair of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Before I do that, however, I believe it is important to say to this body that our charge and responsibility is to ensure the governance of this Nation. As the appropriations omnibus unfolded, I believe the continuing resolution that has been put forward is evidence of the nonresponsibility and the nonthought of those who have the obligation to govern this Nation. I believe it is im-

portant to raise the question of where is the objectivity.

The continuing resolution is to fund the Nation's homeland security. That means that we are saying to those who just lost their lives in Yemen, to the Americans who have been seen being beheaded by ISIL, to Boko Haram, al Shabaab, to al Qaeda, and many other franchise terrorists that America will stand bare and unprepared, that her national security will be in jeopardy. Mr. Speaker, it is crucial that we speak against a continuing resolution that funds homeland security partially.

Let me also say that I believe in this great Nation. I believe in the Constitution, and I fully realize that the executive order that was issued by the President dealing with the humanitarian relief and the discretion by agencies, prosecutorial discretion, is within the context of his authority under article II.

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I am fully aware that the President's executive order was well vetted by constitutional specialists, White House counsel, and the Department of Justice, objectively looking as to whether or not the President was making new law. In this executive order on immigration, no immigration status was conferred, no citizenship was conferred. The only thing that was determined in those executive orders is prosecutorial discretion on deporting individuals and deferring deportation.

I will tell you, Mr. Speaker, that the response is extreme. Not funding Homeland Security is extreme. I join with Secretary Johnson in standing against this discriminatory practice on an agency that is crucial to the security of airports and ports and the borders and protecting the American people.

As I ask for a reconsideration, it allows me to speak of a lady who represents the best of the Constitution, and that is Chairwoman FUDGE, who understood the quality of all and the importance of guiding this caucus, the Congressional Black Caucus, around the issues of justice. Let me thank her for the considerations made during tragedies like Trayvon Martin, as we began with briefings and involvement in that case, and looked to support members of the Congressional Black Caucus who were fighting in their districts to bring about justice; her continued support of Members when the tragedies of Michael Brown and Eric Garner occurred, and many other incidents; her balance, as we all have, respecting and appreciating the service of law enforcement officers, including those whom we oversee on the Judiciary Committee: the DEA, the FBI, the ATF, and many others, but recognizing that the Constitution, as she so understands it, must be a document for all.

Let me, particularly, thank Chairwoman FUDGE for her dedicated commitment to the nutrition of children across America. She is almost like

Shirley Chisholm, who came to the Agriculture Committee. People wondered what she would do there. But she understood, as a local elected official, that food stamps were not a handout, they were a hand-up. I thank her for that.

And then to lay a marker for the issues of all Members, her understanding of the energy industry, particularly in States like Louisiana and Texas, where she encouraged Members to introduce the energy industry to the Congressional Black Caucus in terms of giving information. That is what we are: we learn, we get information.

And then, of course, her commitment to having an international presence, that people would know that the Congressional Black Caucus cares about the international community. That is an important step.

As we move forward in 2015, I wish the incoming chair much success. I think it is extremely important that we say thanks where appreciation is due, and I want to say, "Thank you."

Many people claim friendship, but I will say to you, Chairwoman FUDGE, you have now gotten 40-plus new friends to your portfolio, and we will claim you as a friend because, as we worked together in this last Congress, as we worked with the United States President, President Barack Obama, as we worked with the Senate, as we worked with Federal agencies, as we worked with our community, you became a friend to us.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSWOMAN MARCIA FUDGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. ADAMS) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend and colleague, a distinguished congresswoman with a sweet name, MARCIA FUDGE, as her tenure as chair of the Congressional Black Caucus ends.

First of all, I want to thank MARCIA FUDGE for welcoming me to Capitol Hill, for being such a good friend and mentor. In my short time in Congress, she has been an invaluable resource to me, and I truly appreciate that.

As a servant of the people, I have long admired her as a woman for not just talking the talk, but for walking it, too.

Secondly, I want to thank MARCIA FUDGE for her phenomenal leadership. She has successfully guided the Congressional Black Caucus in promoting some of the most pressing issues and concerns of the people in our communities. She has been the collective voice of the caucus, bringing light to necessary issues of social and economic justice.

As we have seen with the recent events in the Michael Brown and Eric Garner cases, it is absolutely critical that we have a strong and collective voice to shed light on these injustices

and to make positive change in our communities.

She has certainly put the caucus on a solid foundation, which I know my North Carolina colleague, G.K. BUTTERFIELD, will continue.

On behalf of the residents of North Carolina's 12th Congressional District, I salute Congresswoman MARCIA FUDGE on her great leadership as chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, and I say, "Thank you, thank you, thank you."

H.R. 5407 DESERVES A HEARING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to say without reservation, hesitation, or equivocation, I have preeminent respect for the constabulary. I have a relative who was a part of the constabulary. I believe that police officers have a very difficult job, and they do it under stressful circumstances, and I believe that most police officers are doing a good job every day.

I also want to say that there are many people without the constabulary, however, who would have us get over Michael Brown, get over Eric Garner, get on with it. And then there are those who say in the alternative—not in these exact words but with words connoting this—they say, if you can't get over Garner, get over Brown, because Garner is a better case for you to take to the court of public opinion.

To these people I say, we can't get over Garner and we can't get over Brown, because if the truth be told, Garner and Brown are two sides of the same coin, two sides of one coin. If the truth be told, without the eye of the camera, without what appears to be clear and convincing evidence, without what appears to be evidence that is beyond reproach, without the eye of the camera, Garner would be Brown. The Garner case is only what it is because the camera was there to capture the essence of what happened.

If the truth be told, without the camera, there would be questions about how Garner was arrested, there would be questions about how he was taken to the ground, there would be questions about whether he made comments about his inability to breathe. How many times did he say, "I can't breathe?" There would be questions about whether or not he made some effort to harm some officer. There would be questions about whether the guns were somehow at risk of being taken from an officer.

If the truth be told, without the eye of the camera, Garner would be Brown.

This is why, Mr. Speaker, I have made an appeal to this House to bring H.R. 5407 to the floor. Let it go to a hearing. H.R. 5407 is the TIP Act, the Transparency in Policing Act. H.R. 5407 would accord the Justice Department the opportunity to do a survey and ascertain the cost of equipping munici-

palities, counties, police departments—the constabulary, if you will—with cameras. Then it would go on to require those that can afford it to have the cameras, and those that cannot, it provides an exemption to them.

H.R. 5407 is good legislation. It is not a panacea; it won't cure all. For those who are concerned about the camera not being enough to cause a proper decision to be reached before a grand jury, it may not be, but it sure does provide the opportunity to galvanize the country around the notion that something needs to be done. It is not a panacea, not a cure-all, but it does present an opportunity for officers to be exonerated.

H.R. 5407 would do more to help officers than anything out there right now that I can see, because it gives the evidence of what actually occurred at an event, it can cause officers not to be questioned about what they did, and it will cause those who would perpetrate dastardly deeds and fraudulent circumstances upon officers to be properly prosecuted.

H.R. 5407 is a bill that is before the House and has a good many supporters right now, more than 40.

I believe that H.R. 5407 deserves a hearing. I make an appeal, I beseech, and I implore my colleagues, who have the preeminent authority to make a decision as to whether it moves forward, to please give H.R. 5407 an opportunity to be heard. This is not an appeal from one Congressperson; this is an appeal from those who are concerned about proper policing.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSWOMAN MARCIA FUDGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. BEATTY) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I come today unscripted to speak to you about a lady that made a difference in the lives of this Nation. Fifty-nine years ago, one week ago, Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat so she could make a stand for civil rights and justice. She said she was only tired of giving in.

That day, her remaining in her seat, made a difference for a person like me, a young girl in 1955, who vowed to make a difference because this woman, known as the "Mother of the Modern Civil Rights Movement," took a stand.

In the Third Congressional District last week, Governor Bob Taft, the Central Ohio Transit Authority, my Third Congressional District, and the Ohio State University stood together and hosted hundreds of individuals to talk about redefining our communities, standing up for justice.

I am proud that Congressman HAKEEM JEFFRIES joined a panel with other scholars like Sharon Davies and Curtis Austin as we talked about moving forward, as we talked about moving forward from the Trayvon Martins, from the Michael Browns, from the Eric Garners, and the list goes on, across this Nation.

We must come together for our children, for our families, and, yes, we must also stand up for justice that meets the standards of the values of this Nation.

Today, I join my colleagues of the Congressional Black Caucus to thank another woman, our Rosa Parks, our Sojourner Truth—Congresswoman MARCIA FUDGE, for being the seventh woman to be the president and the leader of the Congressional Black Caucus.

To you, Congresswoman FUDGE, to you, Mr. Speaker, I say, thank you for the Congressional Black Caucus through her leadership being more than the conscience of the Congress, but for being scholarly, for standing up for justice, for daring to be different, and, also, for understanding agriculture, the judiciary system. You see, she is not only a Member of Congress, she has served as a mayor, she has served as a judge, she is a prominent lawyer. But, more important than all of these, she is a crusader for children, she is a crusader for the least of us, and she understands relationships and partnerships, and working far beyond the CBC. She reaches across both sides of the aisle because, at the end of the day, she really realizes the fight is not about one of us, the fight is for all of us.

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CONDEMNING ANTI-SEMITISM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MURPHY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, a few months ago, I stood here on the House floor to speak out against the troubling surge in global anti-Semitic demonstrations that followed the latest confrontation between Israel and Hamas terrorists. Crimes ranged from the desecration of synagogues and other Jewish institutions and businesses, to murders and acts of violence and terrorism against Jews.

At that time, I had just led a bipartisan coalition of over 70 Members of Congress in speaking out against the rise in anti-Semitism and calling on the United States to continue to be a global leader in combating such acts of hatred wherever they occur. The United States must lead by example which is why I am proud this body has continued to condemn anti-Semitism and support efforts to combat such actions.

With little agreement between the parties and Congress currently, I have been proud to see continual bipartisan cooperation on this issue that not only impacts Jews, but all ethnic, religious, and minority groups; unfortunately, with anti-Semitic violence and incitement continuing to increase dramatically, leading by example is not enough.

That is why I have joined with my good friends, the gentlemen from Florida, Mr. DEUTCH and Mr. DIAZ-BALART,