

Greg's end of watch was September 30, 2015, when he was shot while pursuing a suspect. He is survived by his wife, Kassy; parents, Richard and Alexis; and his young son, Sal. Kassy continues to promote Greg's legacy of service through the Heroes in Blue, an organization dedicated to sharing the caring and courageous stories of police officers across the Nation. As we mark National Police Week, I am grateful to have officers who risk their lives every day to protect our families.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

Congratulations to the newly crowned Miss USA, Kara McCullough, a South Carolina State University graduate who represented the District of Columbia. Also, congratulations to Miss South Carolina USA, Megan Gordon, of North Augusta, who placed in the top five.

SERIOUS QUESTIONS ABOUT PRESIDENT'S CARELESSNESS AND LACK OF JUDGMENT

(Mr. KILDEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, in revealing classified information to the Russians, President Trump has compromised our ability to defend ourselves against ISIS to gather intelligence against them, and he has jeopardized our relationships with allies across the globe.

Make no mistake about it, the President's actions were reckless. They are indefensible, and they make America less safe.

Republicans cannot stay silent. There are serious questions about the President's carelessness, about his lack of judgment. In fact, last July, the Speaker said that individuals who are extremely careless with classified information should be denied further access to it.

Even the President's own Chief of Staff said those who mishandle classified information have had their security clearances revoked. They have lost their jobs. They have faced fines. Some have gone to prison.

I have to ask my colleagues, shouldn't the President of the United States be held to that same standard? They say he can do what he wants, but does that make it smart? No. Does that make it right? No. Does it make it less safe? Absolutely.

JUDGES THREATEN OUR DEMOCRACY

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in their coverage of the President, the liberal media have given up being objective, and their credibility is now at an all-time low.

Are the courts next?

When considering the President's written immigration orders, some judges are basing their decisions not on the actual text but on what was said during the heat of the campaign.

This is a dangerous development, dangerous to our judicial system and dangerous to our democracy. The judiciary's role is to interpret the law and decide whether it is constitutional.

When judges decide to become politicians, injecting their own political bias into a decision, our Constitution and our government are at risk.

If the media and the judiciary cease being objective, we should fear for the future of our country.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

(Mr. BILIRAKIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, this week recognizes National Police Week. I would like to especially highlight the small but significant things officers do for our communities.

Police officers in Clearwater, Florida, surprised a 10-year-old robbery victim with lunch after his lunch money was stolen as he walked to school.

Hillsborough County sheriffs will drive homeless men and women to the Social Security office and help them with paperwork.

These are extraordinary individuals, Mr. Speaker. There are countless examples of local law enforcement doing good every day.

This week we commemorate the fallen officers. Florida lost 11 officers in the past year, including Deputy Sheriff John Robert Kotfila from Hillsborough County who was killed after a collision with a wrong-way driver.

We also remember the Tarpon Springs officer, Officer Charles Kondek, who was fatally shot by a fugitive while on duty in 2014.

Thank you to our law enforcement officers in Florida and nationwide who keep us safe.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 15, 2017.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on May 15, 2017, at 2:44 p.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 1083.
With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 16, 2017.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on May 16, 2017, at 9:40 a.m.:

Appointment:
Health Information Technology Advisory Committee.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1601

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DUNN) at 4 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 16, 2017.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on May 16, 2017, at 3:44 p.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 139.
With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Mariel Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings

today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

RAPID DNA ACT OF 2017

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 510) to establish a system for integration of Rapid DNA instruments for use by law enforcement to reduce violent crime and reduce the current DNA analysis backlog.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 510

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Rapid DNA Act of 2017”.

SEC. 2. RAPID DNA INSTRUMENTS.

(a) STANDARDS.—Section 210303(a) of the DNA Identification Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14131(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(5)(A) In addition to issuing standards as provided in paragraphs (1) through (4), the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation shall issue standards and procedures for the use of Rapid DNA instruments and resulting DNA analyses.

“(B) In this Act, the term ‘Rapid DNA instruments’ means instrumentation that carries out a fully automated process to derive a DNA analysis from a DNA sample.”.

(b) INDEX.—Paragraph (2) of section 210304(b) of the DNA Identification Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14132(b)(2)) is amended to read as follows:

“(2) prepared by—

“(A) laboratories that—

“(i) have been accredited by a nonprofit professional association of persons actively involved in forensic science that is nationally recognized within the forensic science community; and

“(ii) undergo external audits, not less than once every 2 years, that demonstrate compliance with standards established by the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; or

“(B) criminal justice agencies using Rapid DNA instruments approved by the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in compliance with the standards and procedures issued by the Director under section 210303(a)(5); and”.

SEC. 3. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO COLLECTION OF DNA IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION.

(a) FROM CERTAIN FEDERAL OFFENDERS.—Section 3 of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14135a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the following: “The Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation may waive the requirements under this subsection if DNA samples are analyzed by means of Rapid DNA instruments and the results are included in CODIS.”; and

(2) in subsection (c), by adding at the end the following:

“(3) The term ‘Rapid DNA instruments’ means instrumentation that carries out a fully automated process to derive a DNA analysis from a DNA sample.”.

(b) FROM CERTAIN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA OFFENDERS.—Section 4 of the DNA Analysis

Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14135b) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the following: “The Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation may waive the requirements under this subsection if DNA samples are analyzed by means of Rapid DNA instruments and the results are included in CODIS.”; and

(2) in subsection (c), by adding at the end the following:

“(3) The term ‘Rapid DNA instruments’ means instrumentation that carries out a fully automated process to derive a DNA analysis from a DNA sample.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on H.R. 510, currently under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The House of Representatives works on many important issues, but few are more important than making sure that innocent arrestees are promptly released and that culpable suspects are not released to strike again.

Rapid DNA technology has the potential to do both of those things and, as such, can be an important tool for law enforcement and a key component of this body’s ongoing efforts on criminal justice reform.

I applaud the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) for reintroducing H.R. 510, the Rapid DNA Act of 2017, in this session of Congress.

With Rapid DNA technology, it is possible to test the DNA of arrestees as soon as they are in custody and determine within hours whether they match the DNA profile from a crime scene or from other earlier crimes.

This technology would also enable police to check the Federal DNA database to see if an arrestee matches the DNA profile from previous crimes for which a DNA sample exists but no known suspect has been identified.

Rather than waiting weeks for a DNA sample to be processed and risk releasing a suspect back into the public to potentially reoffend, creating new victims, police will be able to determine at initial booking if the suspect is a person of interest in other crimes.

This bill will provide important tools for law enforcement. For instance, it will inform decisions about pretrial release or detention and their conditions. It will solve and prevent all crimes, including violent crimes. By freeing up forensic analysts, it will prevent DNA analysis backlogs.

I believe this is necessary, responsible legislation that will aid law enforcement and protect American citizens by keeping offenders off the streets. I again thank Congressman SENSENBRENNER for sponsoring this important legislation, and I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of H.R. 510, the Rapid DNA Act of 2017. I also want to salute Mr. SENSENBRENNER for his hard work on it.

This bipartisan legislation would integrate Rapid DNA technology into the FBI’s Combined DNA Index System, popularly known as CODIS, to enable law enforcement to perform valuable investigative functions faster and more efficiently.

DNA technology is a valuable, dynamic, and rapidly unfolding element of our criminal justice system. DNA technology helps us to identify suspects, eliminate false suspects, exonerate the innocent, and ultimately to convict responsible perpetrators of crime. My State of Maryland is home to the first capital prisoner in the United States who was exonerated while in prison for a homicide with DNA technology.

CODIS and the National DNA Index System play a critical role across the country in criminal investigations by Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies. Rapid DNA involves a fully automated, hands-free process designed to produce a DNA profile within minutes at the booking stage outside of a crime lab.

Existing law does not provide for the inclusion of Rapid DNA analyses into CODIS. H.R. 510 would bridge the gap between Rapid DNA technology and CODIS by authorizing law enforcement to conduct Rapid DNA analyses and upload the results to the national index, as long as the Rapid DNA machines that are used are accredited. This adds a real-time layer to CODIS and saves us all significant time and resources, improving efficiency in the criminal justice process.

H.R. 510 has significant practical and positive consequences for law enforcement and for public safety. For example, Detroit, as of this April, has tested approximately 10,000 backlogged sexual assault kits. As a result, there have been more than 2,600 DNA matches, including CODIS hits; the identification of nearly 800 potential serial rapists; 92 convictions obtained by the Wayne County Prosecutor’s Office; and DNA crimes linked to 40 other States and the District of Columbia.

The addition of Rapid DNA information to the CODIS database will help identify serial rapists if matches are made to the lab analyses of the sexual assault kit samples.

I hope that the use of Rapid DNA will allow other DNA labs to focus more of their resources on reducing the backlog