

CONGRATULATING HENRY S. BARBOSA ON RECEIVING THE ORANGE COUNTY CONSERVATION CORPS LEGACY AWARD

**HON. KATIE PORTER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 4, 2019*

Ms. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize Mr. Henry S. Barbosa as the recipient of the Legacy Award, which will be presented during the 25th Anniversary Celebration of Orange County Conservation Corps (OCCC).

Mr. Barbosa has served for seven years on the Board of OCCC, which is a voluntary work and learn program that provides an opportunity for at-risk and disadvantaged youths, age 18 to 25. Corpsmembers have a chance to earn a living while learning valuable employment skills through job training and attending an on-site charter school.

Mr. Barbosa's long and distinguished record of service to his community stretches well beyond his time with OCCC. His legal career began as a Deputy District Attorney for Los Angeles County and continued over 27 years in private practice, primarily representing cities and other public agencies throughout California. Mr. Barbosa also acted as Assistant General Counsel to the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

In recognition of his community leadership, Mr. Barbosa was designated as a member of the Los Angeles Board of Police Commission's Blue Ribbon Panel to analyze the causes of and response to the Rampart area police corruption scandal. He was an elected public official for 10 years, serving as the President and a Director of the Three Valleys Municipal Water District representing Rowland Heights and as a member of the Board for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Mr. Barbosa was appointed to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee that developed statewide regulations for landfills management.

Mr. Barbosa continues to advocate for inclusion in our communities. He has served for 10 years as Vice-Chair of the National Hispanic Media Coalition, a nation-wide advocacy group for greater access by minorities in film and broadcast media.

I thank Mr. Barbosa for his leadership and commitment to service and congratulate him on this well-deserved award.

HONORING SANTA ANA POLICE DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN RUPERT VEGA

**HON. J. LUIS CORREA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 4, 2019*

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Santa Ana Police Department Chaplain Rupert Vega, a true hero of our community.

Chaplain Rupert Vega was born and raised in Santa Ana. He, along with his family of six, lived in the Artesia Pilar neighborhood, near El Salvador Park. He received his education from the Santa Ana Unified School District. Chap-

lain Vega, with his wife, raised their two children in Santa Ana, where he continues to live to this very day. His children, now adults, also reside in Santa Ana.

At age 57, Chaplain Vega retired from his 25-year career in the medical field, but retirement has done nothing to slow him down. He has been a licensed ordained chaplain and minister for many years and has worked as a Santa Ana Police Department Chaplain for the last five years, volunteering well over 5,000 hours to date.

Chaplain Vega was recruited as a Police Chaplain, by his friends, Ed and Maria Martinez—two long time employees of the Santa Ana Police Department.

As a Police Chaplain, Rupert has volunteered his time to the community of Santa Ana and the members of the Santa Ana Police Department. However, Chaplain Vega is so much more than a chaplain—to our community, he is a vision of hope in times of tragedy, to the members of the Santa Ana Police Department, he is a big brother, a guiding light, and even a shoulder to cry on when times get tough.

With much humility, Chaplain Vega would say that he has been blessed beyond measure to have been commissioned by the Lord to work as a Police Chaplain, but it is really the community and the members of Santa Ana Police Department that are blessed to have him as their chaplain and as a part of our community.

RECOGNIZING INTERNATIONAL PLASMA AWARENESS WEEK

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 4, 2019*

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, today, as every other day throughout the year, patients suffer from rare diseases that need cures, cures that are sometimes elusive. But patients that need plasma protein therapies have hope; and on October 7 to 11, 2019, across the United States and throughout the world, patients, plasma donors, and plasma collection centers will join together to observe International Plasma Awareness Week (IPAW).

There will be events to raise global awareness of the crucial need for plasma to create life-saving therapies, recognize that plasma donors contribute greatly in saving and improving lives, and increase understanding of the many rare diseases and plasma protein therapies that help to treat them. Plasma-derived therapies and recombinant blood clotting factors, collectively known as plasma protein therapies, are unique, biologic medicines that are either infused or injected to treat a variety of rare, life-threatening, chronic, and genetic diseases including bleeding disorders, hereditary angioedema, immune deficiencies, pulmonary disorders, neurological disorders, shock and trauma, liver cirrhosis, and infectious diseases such as tetanus, hepatitis, and rabies.

Plasma-derived therapies save and improve lives of individuals throughout the world, including in emergency and surgical medicine. Plasma protein therapies have significantly improved the quality of life, markedly improved patient outcomes, and extended the life expectancy of individuals with rare, chronic dis-

eases and conditions. Healthy, committed donors provide the plasma essential to manufacture these lifesaving therapies; and there are now more than 780 plasma collection centers in the U.S. that have demonstrated their commitment to plasma donor and patient safety and quality by earning International Quality Plasma Program (IQPP) certification.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me and rise in commemoration of International Plasma Awareness Week, honoring those committed donors and collection centers who make and collect needed and lifesaving contributions.

REMEMBERING SANDEEP DHALIWAL, HOUSTON, TEXAN AND HERO

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 4, 2019*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a hero, a Deputy with the Harris County Sheriff's Department, Deputy Sandeep Dhaliwal.

Deputy Sandeep Dhaliwal was a Houston resident and public servant who died while in the line of duty on September 27, 2019, in Houston, Texas, at the age of 42.

Sandeep Dhaliwal was a trailblazer for the Sheriff's Department of which he served in for a decade.

Sandeep Dhaliwal was the first member of the Sikh community to become a Harris County Sheriff's deputy.

In the Sikh religion, men and women do not cut their hair; they cover their head with turbans.

Out of piety, the men refrain from shaving their beards.

Deputy Sandeep Dhaliwal garnered national attention in 2015, after the sheriff's office allowed him to wear his traditional articles of faith, including a turban and a beard, while on patrol.

Sandeep educated us as a city and county and taught us all about the humility and beauty of the Sikh faith.

Through his example and grace, Sandeep Dhaliwal taught of the virtues and symbolic power of the turban and stood as a bulwark against the nasty racism that has been visited on Sikhs.

Even more notable, the Harris County Sheriff's Office was the largest in the country to have a full-time Sikh American officer with his articles of faith intact due to a religious accommodation exception to their dress code policy.

On the afternoon of September 27, 2019, Deputy Sandeep Dhaliwal pulled over a silver Nissan Altima for a routine traffic stop on Willacy Court near Cypress.

After speaking with the driver, Deputy Sandeep Dhaliwal turned to walk back to his patrol car, the driver got out of the vehicle and ran at the Deputy shooting him twice from behind in the head.

The shooter, then returned to his car, driving away.

Deputy Sandeep Dhaliwal died after being airlifted to a hospital.

The assailant had a violent past and was convicted of two felonies in 2002 for an episode in which he shot a man and then barricaded himself in his home with his 4-year-old son, with an intent to use him as a shield.

The assailant was sentenced to 20 years in jail but served only 12 years before getting out on parole in 2014.

In January of 2017, a warrant was issued for parole violations of assault and possession of a prohibited weapon, the warrant was still active Friday when Sandeep Dhaliwal pulled him over.

Deputy Sandeep Dhaliwal was a hero to many through his actions, organizing a tractor-trailer of supplies to be delivered from California after Hurricane Harvey, and had traveled to Puerto Rico to help a colleague with hurricane relief efforts there.

Prior to serving as a law enforcement officer, Sandeep Dhaliwal owned a successful trucking business.

Sandeep believed that the Harris County Sheriff's Office needed someone to build bridges with the Sikh community, so he sold his business and took a lower paying job.

Sandeep Dhaliwal represented the community's diversity and inclusiveness well, as a practicing Sikh he embodied the articles of faith, equality, service, and justice while serving in his position.

I attended the candlelight vigil held in his honor the day after his tragic death.

The vigil was not just a moment to remember the bravery of Deputy Sandeep Dhaliwal, it was also a moment for our community to remember the impact he had on our civic life and the decency he had for his fellow man.

This is because the site of the vigil was named after another fallen officer, Deputy Darren Goforth, based, in part, on Deputy Sandeep Dhaliwal's advocacy.

The impact made by Deputy Sandeep Dhaliwal, during his short time with us, has been profound, and it compelled me to come to offer condolences to the Sikh National Center, the Gurudwara where Sandeep Dhaliwal's family worships and where I was honored to recognize him for his kindness, strength, service, and involvement in the community.

It was important for Deputy Sandeep Dhaliwal's family to know that America mourns with the Dhaliwal Family.

America is a place of justice and she will not rest until justice comes to the Sikhs of America.

Sandeep Dhaliwal was more than a public servant, he was an outstanding member of the community, a hero to many, a loving husband, and a father to three.

Sandeep Dhaliwal will forever be in the hearts and memory of so many he touched.

My heart breaks for his family and loved ones. I offer my deepest condolences as they mourn his loss.

#### HONORING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF GATEWAY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES

#### HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 4, 2019

Mr. CROW. Madam Speaker, in honor of October being National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, I rise today to recognize Gateway Domestic Violence Services.

In addition, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Gateway Domestic Violence Services on its 40th Anniversary. Since

1979, Gateway has steadfastly provided services to over 400,000 adults and children who are experiencing family violence throughout the City of Aurora and Arapahoe County.

Gateway has assisted these individuals through their 24/7 Crisis Line, Emergency Shelter, Extended-Stay Shelter, Nonresidential Counseling Program and Court Advocacy Program. These services have resulted in allowing individuals and families to live a life free from violence in their homes.

The scourge of domestic violence is widespread and affects people of all ages, races, religions, and socio-economic backgrounds. It is estimated that 50 percent of all families in the United States are impacted by intimate partner violence. A woman is assaulted or beaten every 9 seconds and approximately 4 victims are killed each day by an intimate partner. The trauma suffered by children who witness domestic violence can result in their inability to form healthy relationships.

Today, it is my honor to commemorate Gateway's 40th anniversary. The work they do in our community is necessary and impressive. In 2018 alone, they answered just under 8,000 crisis calls, served 789 individuals between their two shelters, counseled 229 adults and children, walked through the court process with 2,925 victims, and presented on the issues of family violence 102 times to groups throughout the community.

Gateway diligently strives to ensure that every victim that reaches out for help is treated with dignity, respect and given the tools to help break the cycle of violence they are experiencing. Furthermore, their work helps ensure victims are not blamed for the violence they experience and will not have to continue to live in fear of abuse in their own home.

I am confident that Gateway Domestic Violence Services will continue to provide quality services to victims throughout the community, as they have done for the past 40 years.

#### SECURE AND FAIR ENFORCEMENT BANKING ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

#### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I submit the following letters of endorsement for H.R. 1595, the SAFE Banking Act.

THE SCOTTMIRACLE-GRO COMPANY,  
February 12, 2019.

Re Challenges and Solutions: Access to Banking Services for Cannabis-Related Businesses Hearing.

Hon. GREGORY W. MEEKS,  
Chair, Subcommittee on Consumer Protections & Financial Institutions, House Committee on Financial Services, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MEEKS: I am writing regarding the upcoming hearing of the Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Financial Institutions titled "Challenges and Solutions: Access to Banking Services for Cannabis-Related Businesses."

The ScottsMiracle-Gro Company is the quintessential American business. Established in 1868 in Marysville, Ohio, the ScottsMiracle-Gro name is synonymous with America's love for lawns and gardens. We are also a leader in the evolution and emergence of indoor and greenhouse gardening through

our subsidiary, The Hawthorne Gardening Company.

With approximately 6,000 associates at more than 65 U.S. locations in 26 states, ScottsMiracle-Gro has small and large manufacturing plants that create products for American consumers. The vast majority of our business is based on a wide range of products for lawn and garden care. However, we are also the country's largest manufacturer of hydroponic growing systems, nutrients, lights, filters and components for indoor growing. These products can be used to nurture a wide variety of plants, including cannabis. Our hydroponic division is expected to generate revenue this year of approximately \$600 million, or about 20 percent of company-wide revenue.

While ScottsMiracle-Gro does not directly participate in the U.S. cannabis industry, this rapidly growing and critical business unit is nonetheless impacted by the existing conflict between federal and state laws. Our concern is particularly acute when it comes to our relationships with our banking partners. We know that state-law-authorized cannabis cultivators are among those who use our products to grow their crop. However, we are unable to sell equipment to them directly because of the current banking rules. In order to satisfy our banks' compliance requirements and maintain our banking relationships, we are required to use a costly two-step distribution process to serve these end customers.

We share these experiences to help the committee understand the vast implications and challenges to the current system. While the committee may hear from many cannabis companies, we also want to highlight the inefficiencies ScottsMiracle-Gro faces as a provider to this industry.

We applaud the Committee for taking the time to learn more about the challenges of this current arrangement and encourage you to examine the many different aspects of this banking issue during your evaluation of the topic, including the needs of ancillary companies like ScottsMiracle-Gro. We also thank Congressmen Perlmutter, Heck, Stivers, and Davidson for their leadership on this important issue through their work on the SAFE Banking Act and look forward to additional discussion on this measure as a means to address concerns raised in this letter.

As an American company with over 150 years of business experience, we have many unique insights about this emerging industry and would be happy to share those perspectives as the Committee continues to learn more and develops solutions to address this issue.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

JIM KING.

SEPTEMBER 23, 2019.

Hon. ED PERLMUTTER,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR REP. PERLMUTTER: In June of last year, at the 86th annual meeting of the U.S. Conference of Mayors in Boston, we formed a first-of-its-kind local government coalition of mayors to establish a national framework to prepare governments for the implementation of legalized marijuana. Our coalition is writing to you today to encourage congressional support for passage of the SAFE Banking Act. As mayors of many American cities leading the implementation of safe and successfully regulated cannabis markets, we believe it is long overdue for marijuana businesses to have the same access to banking and financial services as all other legitimate U.S. businesses. Passage of this Act would add important protections against an illegal market and bad actors, as well as allow for