

for it. I am glad and honored to have served with him.

WORLD SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY AND FIREARM SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY

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

Mr. MOULTON. Mr. Speaker, today is World Suicide Prevention Day and Firearm Suicide Prevention Day.

In 2022, almost 50,000 Americans died by suicide. 1.6 million Americans attempted suicide.

More than half of all gun deaths in the United States are by suicide. On average, we lose 74 people to a firearm suicide every single day. The firearms suicide rate among children in the U.S. is growing.

More younger Americans are struggling with their mental health than ever before, and we know that when there is a gun in the home, the risk of suicide death jumps by 300 percent. The result is tragedy.

Each of us here in this Chamber has an enormous responsibility to serve here in Washington and to help Americans, yet Americans are dying, and we are doing little to stop it. Something is seriously broken.

Gun deaths are not just a fact of life we should accept. Every gun death is preventable, including self-inflicted ones. Mr. Speaker, 70 percent of those who survive a suicide attempt never attempt it again. That is a remarkable statistic. Mr. Speaker, 70 percent of those who survive a suicide attempt won't try it again.

Reducing gun deaths in our country isn't a zero-sum proposition. We have to address gun safety and the mental health crisis. It is not getting too political or a copout to talk about both.

First and foremost, reducing firearm-related suicides can be as simple as storing firearms safely and securely, which means locked, unloaded, and separated from ammunition. Simple, practical steps can reduce impulsive decisions and save lives.

The 988 mental health lifeline is already making a huge difference. Not only are millions of Americans calling and texting to get help in a moment of crisis, but even more simply know where to get help if they need it.

We also have to get back to watching out for one another, to building strong, resilient communities where people aren't lonely and isolated behind their screens, and where friends and neighbors recognize the signs when someone is struggling and find the courage to speak out.

We can stand together to create a future where no one feels like they have no other choice. Together we can offer hope, and together, we can save lives.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT PETRY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. DE LA CRUZ). The Chair recognizes the

gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, it is with immense sadness that I rise today to mark the passing of one of my very best friends, a true community and family man and a beloved member of my entire community, Dr. Robert W. Petry.

One of my dearest friends, Bob and I bonded over so much—our love for the outdoors, fishing, hunting; of food and travel; and most importantly, our bonding over family.

Bob was a loving husband to Rosie and father to Katie, Robbie, and Denise. Yet, for a man who lived such a full life in the nearly 73 years the good Lord provided him, Bob's greatest prize on this Earth may have well been his grandchildren, who he spent a great deal of time with, and he took a great deal of pride in being with them.

All those who knew and loved him will forever miss Bob Petry. His legacy, the Petry way, will live on in those who served in his practice, those he loved, raised, and inspired throughout his life like he inspired me.

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Madam Speaker, as we say farewell for now to this wonderful man, we will keep Rosie, Katie, Robbie, Denise, and the entire Petry family close by and embrace them in our own families. We will forever be grateful for the life of Robert Petry, and one day we will see him again.

May God bless him.

HONORING JOYCE FLEMING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI) for 5 minutes.

Ms. BONAMICI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a longtime staff member of my office, Joyce Fleming, and to offer her most heartfelt congratulations on her retirement.

Joyce embodies what it means to be a public servant. As an outreach and constituent caseworker in my Beaverton office for the past 12 years, she treated all Oregonians with courtesy, respect, and empathy.

Like most of our best congressional staff, Joyce understands that advocacy for our constituents often takes more time and effort than one letter or phone call.

She patiently navigated Federal agencies, looked for creative solutions to complex problems, and she explored every avenue possible to find a positive outcome for the people we serve in northwest Oregon. In fact, during the last townhall meeting I hosted, it seemed that more constituents showed up to see Joyce and seek out her assistance than to talk with me.

I am grateful for her work serving the First District of Oregon for the past 12 years, but Joyce's career in public service began well before my service in Congress and has spanned decades. She began her congressional

career in the office of U.S. Senator Mark Hatfield before we had email and iPhones. Senator Hatfield was a former Governor who spent 30 years in the U.S. Senate where he ultimately chaired the powerful Appropriations Committee. He was a special kind of public servant, a statesman who worked across the aisle and focused on getting things done for Oregonians.

Joyce's service has followed this model. She also spent more than 12 years in the Oregon office of my friend and colleague, Congressman EARL BLUMENAUER, and took a brief hiatus from Federal service before coming to work in my Oregon office in 2012.

A talented professional, Joyce was always one of the first staffers on my team who has always conducted herself with kindness and integrity. She has helped guide and mentor many new staff members and has been a steadfast advocate for the people of northwest Oregon.

In closing, and on behalf of my entire team and the people of northwest Oregon, I would like to reiterate my gratitude and appreciation to Joyce Fleming who made it possible for me to do my job well and to help the people I am so honored to represent.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Joyce on her retirement and on her exemplary career serving the people of our State and country.

MISHANDLING OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION BY THE FBI

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

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to a recent report from the Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General putting the Biden-Harris two-tiered justice system on full display.

The recent report reveals that the FBI inadequately handled sensitive and classified materials. I repeat: the FBI mishandled classified documents according to their own inspector general report.

According to the memo: "Electronic storage media slated for disposal are not physically secured. Nonaccountable assets slated for destruction were stored on pallets without sufficient internal physical security for an extended period of time. For example, a pallet containing extracted internal hard drives marked nonaccountable had been stored for 21 months and had wrapping that was torn and left open."

This you can see on the poster, Madam Speaker.

The report continues: "This facility is shared with other FBI operations, such as logistics, mail, and information technology equipment fulfillment, and had almost 400 persons with access as of May 2024, including 28 task force officers and 63 contractors from at least 17 companies. Both the FBI supervisor and contractor confirmed that they would not be aware if someone was to

take hard drives from the pallets because these assets are not accounted for or tracked.”

Madam Speaker, think about that last line. An FBI supervisor admitted that if someone took a hard drive containing classified information from the pallet pictured in the poster next to me that almost 400 people had access to, no one would ever know.

Pictured is a pallet full of sensitive electronic storage media which most likely includes hordes of classified information. It is hard to know because the FBI didn't bother to mark the media in this pallet with standard classification markings. If you look closely, this pallet is marked “nonaccountable,” which is a perfect metaphor for the Biden-Harris FBI: unaccountable.

Unfortunately, this is yet another example of the Biden-Harris two-tiered justice system. The FBI was giddy to rush to prosecute the former President for allegedly mishandling classified information. Yet, when the FBI is caught red-handed mishandling classified information by their own inspector general, there has yet to be a simple charge filed, leaving Americans wondering if there will ever be any accountability.

Will the FBI agents responsible for mishandling classified material be criminally prosecuted?

Will anyone hold senior leadership at the FBI accountable for allowing for the widespread mishandling of classified information?

“Rules for thee, but not for me” seems to be the motto at the J. Edgar Hoover Building these days.

As a result of these troubling revelations, I have sent a letter to FBI Director Wray highlighting the hypocrisy of the FBI's swift action against the former President, while individuals at the FBI have mishandled classified information with no accountability at all.

Madam Speaker, I include in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the text of my letter to Director Wray.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, September 9, 2024.

In re Mishandling of Classified Information
by the Federal Bureau of Investigation
(FBI)

CHRISTOPHER WRAY, *Director,*
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, DC

DEAR DIRECTOR WRAY, I am writing to express my deep concern and disappointment regarding the findings of the Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General's (DOJ OIG) Management Advisory Memorandum, which highlights the FBI's inadequate inventory management and disposition procedures for electronic storage media containing sensitive and classified information.

The report's findings are alarming and suggest a lack of accountability and physical security over sensitive materials, including hard drives, thumb drives, and floppy disks. The fact that extracted internal hard drives are not tracked, and the FBI cannot confirm their proper destruction, is unacceptable.

As you are undoubtedly aware, the Biden Administration and the FBI gleefully rushed

to charge President Donald Trump with allegedly mishandling classified information. Now that individuals at the FBI have clearly mishandled classified information, surely each culpable individual will be criminally prosecuted, correct? You must realize that failing to prosecute each individual involved in this reckless and wanton disregard for safe handling of classified information procedures will further erode the already significantly diminished trust Americans have left in the FBI.

I request that you provide answers to the following questions:

1. How did these inadequate procedures go undetected for so long?
2. What measures will be taken to ensure accountability for all electronic storage media containing sensitive and classified information?
3. How many individuals will be disciplined for their role in mishandling classified information?
4. Will any individuals face criminal prosecution for their actions?
5. What steps will be taken to improve physical security at FBI-secure controlled facilities?
6. How will the FBI ensure that all electronic storage media are properly labeled with classification markings?
7. What training will be provided to FBI personnel to address these deficiencies?
8. How will the FBI verify that all extracted internal hard drives have been properly destroyed?
9. What measures will be taken to limit access to sensitive materials at shared facilities?
10. What timeline can we expect for implementing the recommended improvements?
11. How will you ensure that accountability extends beyond lower-level employees and includes senior leadership, up to and including the Director's office, for the systemic failures identified in the report?

The Tennesseans I represent, as well as all other Americans, deserve a prompt response to these questions, and as their representative in Congress, I expect to hear from you soon with regard to the actions you will take to address these serious concerns.

Sincerely,

CONGRESSMAN JOHN ROSE.

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, it is time to end the two-tiered justice system in America exemplified by the FBI's prosecution of those considered political enemies by the Biden-Harris administration while the FBI has now been caught mishandling classified information in hordes.

I hope that the relevant congressional committees will hold hearings on this matter, and I call on FBI Director Wray to respond back to my letter as quickly as possible addressing the issues that I have outlined.

I am sorry to the American people for this abhorrent two-tiered justice system that we see on display from the Biden-Harris FBI and the Biden-Harris Justice Department.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would remind Members to refrain from engaging in personalities toward nominees for the Office of the President, including by making reference to other sources that would have been out of order if spoken in the Member's own words.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

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

Ms. LEE of Nevada. Madam Speaker, today I rise in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month to recognize the vibrant Hispanic community that makes southern Nevada an incredible place to live, work, and raise a family.

Hispanic Americans make up nearly one-quarter of my district and about 30 percent of Nevada. They are a testament to the American Dream that makes our Nation so strong.

From businesses of all sizes, southern Nevada would not be the same without the entrepreneurship and dedication of our local Hispanic community. Folks who literally built Vegas from the ground up continue to be an enormous part of our one-of-a-kind 24/7 economy.

Of course, these proud Nevadans aren't just creating businesses. They are transforming our local economy, fostering inclusive growth, and bridging cultural gaps between our communities.

I look forward to continuing to work alongside our families to strengthen our Hispanic voices and complement their hard work at home with the economic resources they need.

I look forward to being back in southern Nevada soon to celebrate this important month together.

CHILD TAX CREDIT

Ms. LEE of NEVADA. Madam Speaker, today I rise on behalf of working families across southern Nevada. I am talking about casino workers who work weekends, healthcare workers who often work through the night, or the entrepreneurs who take no breaks trying to launch their new businesses.

Each and every one of these parents are trying to do what should be a basic right in this country: to work one job and to raise a family. However, in order to do that, they need more money in their pockets and access to quality childcare.

We have a tool that can help make that a reality. It is expanding the child tax credit. That is why I was proud to vote for exactly that in the bipartisan tax package earlier this year that will lower costs and keep more money in Americans' pockets. Sadly, there are extremists right here in Congress who disagree. They want to cut the child tax credit, a proven tool for helping families who are struggling to make ends meet.

If Congress does not act, these extremists will win, and the child tax credit will be slashed.

I am calling on the Senate to get this legislation to the President's desk and deliver the relief that working parents in southern Nevada and beyond need.

CONGRATULATING CALEB GILBERT

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