

wrong. Violent riots are wrong. Attempts to occupy college campuses, destroy property, break university rules, and interfere with the educations of your fellow students is wrong.

It is no surprise that the President was met with serious criticism and that his communications team seemed to shift to a new approach—this time, silence, radio silence. As rioters occupied a building on Columbia's campus and Jewish students endured threats, the President of the United States was eerily silent. It wasn't until a couple of weeks ago that he unequivocally condemned the threats against Jewish students. I am glad he finally came around to his senses, but he hardly deserves credit for reaching the obvious conclusion after so much damage has already been done.

The war initiated by Hamas against Israel last October 7 has exposed a startling lack of leadership from the Commander in Chief. The President is withholding military aid to our closest ally in the Middle East. He and his lieutenants have created fractures in the historically strong relationship between the United States and Israel. They have failed to show resolve when it comes to quashing anti-Semitism on college campuses, and intentionally or not, they have allowed violent protests to terrorize college campuses.

Over and over again, the Biden administration's response to the war between Israel and Hamas has fallen short. Again, there is no equivalency. There is no on one hand it is Israel and on the other hand it is Hamas. This is a conflict not only between Hamas and Israel—the proxy of Iran—but also between good and evil. We know President Biden is in campaign mode 6 months now before the election, but he cannot turn on one of his closest allies in an attempt to appeal to the most radical elements in his political party.

The fate of Israel—its existence—is at stake here. The safety of the Jewish people in America is at stake. The President needs to treat this issue with the seriousness and the clarity that it demands.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. President, I rise today to speak in recognition of National Police Week.

This week is a time for our Nation to collectively recognize and honor the bravery and dedication of the men and women who keep our communities safe.

I want to give special thanks to the law enforcement officers across my State of Nevada who serve every day with honor, integrity, and courage.

In Nevada, while we are a State that welcomes visitors from around the world, our policemen and women are critical for protecting our communities—not only our communities but also all of those visitors. It is a task that they have proven time and time again that they stand ready for.

More than 6 years ago, Las Vegas experienced the deadliest mass shooting in American history. And in that moment—in that moment—local police and first responders ran toward danger to neutralize the threat, to get people to safety, and to save countless lives. Do you know why? That is what they are trained to do.

Whether it is a major emergency or a domestic dispute or a routine traffic stop, every day they put on their uniform and leave their homes—the brave men and women of Nevada's law enforcement community—and put their lives on the line. These officers know the risk of the job, but their sense of service is even stronger.

I want Nevada law enforcement to know: I have your back.

As I have met with police officials across my State of Nevada, they have consistently told me one of the biggest challenges they are facing is the dire shortage of officers and support staff. We must tackle this head-on. That is why I am working across party lines to make sure we take action here in Congress to hire and to retain more officers.

I signed on to bipartisan legislation—the Recruit and Retain Act—which will establish a Federal pipeline between local police departments and schools to help facilitate recruitment activities and encourage young people into these careers.

It is going to also help cover some of the costs associated with recruitment and onboarding, making it easier to bring on these new officers.

I was proud to help pass this bipartisan legislation here in the Senate nearly a year ago, and I call on the House of Representatives to take action on this critical legislation as soon as possible.

I will keep pushing to see that our law enforcement officers have access to resources, training, and recruitment support—the kinds of things that they need to do their jobs safely.

While we work to support our police, we must also remember to honor fallen officers. These are our heroes who left behind families, friends, colleagues, and communities they serve and help to protect.

Earlier this month, my team attended an annual Law Enforcement Officers Memorial ceremony to pay our respects to the memory of the five new officers whose names were added to the memorial this year.

Mr. President, to honor their lives and their bravery, I ask unanimous consent to submit a list of the names of the five fallen law enforcement officers who were added to the Nevada Law Enforcement Officers Memorial to be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

Sergeant Michael Abbate, Nevada Department of Public Safety, Highway Patrol. Trooper Alberto Felix, Nevada Department of Public Safety, Highway Patrol. Trooper

Clifford Fontaine, Nevada Department of Public Safety, Highway Patrol. Officer Anthony Francone, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Police. Corrections Officer Victor Hunter, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department.

Ms. ROSEN. These brave officers—these brave officers—they made the ultimate sacrifice for our communities, and they deserve our eternal gratitude.

I promise that I will keep working with my colleagues across the aisle to support our police departments, support the officers who serve, to support our staff, and to support all of their families.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. President, in my 12 years in Congress, like you, I have been blessed to participate in lots of events—large ones, small ones, medium-sized ones—in my State, throughout our Nation, even around the world.

It is difficult to rank them. Some of them are more memorable than others. They are all special. They are all important. Some of them are great celebrations. Others are more somber. Some are even sad, occasionally. But when these events are done, we go to the next thing on our very busy schedule that is prepared for us by someone we hire who is looking out for us. We trust that person with the irrevocable asset of our time, often with little opportunity to process or think much about what we have just done and what we have just participated in.

As you know, it is Police Week in our Nation, and, of course, the evidence of that is all around us here in Washington, DC.

I began my Police Week on Sunday, surrounded by heroes with badges at the 31st Annual TOP COPS Banquet. TOP COPS is a program hosted by the National Association of Police Organizations, which recognizes 10 heroic acts by local, county, State, and Federal law enforcement Agencies and officers during the previous year.

The reason I attended this year's TOP COPS banquet was to join Fargo Police Officer Zachary Robinson and his wife Ashley—who are in the Chamber with us today in the Members' Gallery—as Zach received one of the 10 TOP COPS recognitions. Also attending were his parents, colleagues, and friends—including Governor Doug Burgum; our attorney general, Drew Wrigley; the chief of police from Fargo; and many, many others.

Zach is a 7-year veteran of the Fargo Police Department, where he serves as a member of the honor guard, the crowd management team, and the Red River Valley Regional Bomb Squad. Officer Robinson, like so many of our law

enforcement officers, also serves in the North Dakota National Guard.

Mr. President, he epitomizes what it is to be a hero.

On July 14, 2023, nearly a year ago, Officer Robinson was one of four officers to respond to a routine fender bender. As the officers were wrapping up their handling of the accident, Officer Robinson moved his police vehicle out of the street. A shooter, who was not involved in the initial accident, ambushed the officers, firing on them and a bystander.

The shooter hit Zach's three fellow officers, killing Officer Jake Wallin and gravely injuring Officers Andrew Dotas and Tyler Hawes, both of whom attended the TOP COPS banquet with their spouses.

Zach radioed to "send everybody," as he engaged in a shootout with the assailant. Officer Robinson was literally the last man standing, but he did not hesitate as he moved toward—not away from, but toward—the gunfire, putting himself between the shooter and the innocent—finally, fatally wounding the assailant.

This senseless, premeditated attack targeted police officers who were simply doing what they do: their jobs protecting and taking care of citizens in need.

Evidence collected in the investigation revealed the shooter's fixation on mass shooting events and his likely intent to perpetrate an attack at a large event, like the Downtown Fargo Street Fair that was going on just a few blocks away or, in the next community over, the Red River Valley Fair. In his car alone, the shooter had more than 1,800 rounds of ammunition, multiple firearms, and several homemade explosive devices. This was a man intent on inflicting carnage on the community—a community that had never seen anything like this before.

Despite this quote—"it was a bad, bad day"—when Officer Robinson was asked if he had considered leaving law enforcement, he did not hesitate. He said he "wanted to come back right away. There was no question I wasn't going to not come back to work."

We will likely never know how many lives he saved that day—that his heroism protected that day—but his actions will never be forgotten by the Fargo community or the State of North Dakota. In addition to the TOP COP award, Officer Robinson earned the Medal of Honor from the Fraternal Order of Police, was named the Fargo Police Department's 2023 Officer of the Year and the 2023 National Rifle Association Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.

Several months after the shooting, he was asked what he thought of being called a hero and said he was "grateful to be in the right place at the right time to do what needed to be done. I was just able to react and eliminate the shooter before he had the chance to hurt anybody else."

It has been said that heroes are ordinary people who do extraordinary

things, and while Zach's extraordinary act of heroism is what was celebrated Sunday night in Washington, DC, it is his humility that stands out the most to me. This is a characteristic, by the way, that is shared by his fellow officers who were involved in the horrific events of that day in Fargo. Officers Hawes and Dotas project this quiet strength and a noble concern for others, never shining the spotlight on themselves. And while it is not surprising, it is always encouraging.

Officer Robinson's story—his refusal to yield, his swift action in the face of grave danger—captured the essence of why we must back the blue, always supporting our officers not just in words but in actions and deeds, ensuring that they have all they need to carry out their duties safely and effectively.

During National Police Week, we honor Zach and his brothers and sisters in blue across the country who go to work every day to protect our communities, despite the dangers around the corner or across the street. This week is also a chance to remember the men and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice on our behalf.

At a time when police officers are all too often scoffed or defunded by the very people relying on them for public safety, we need to constantly remember the real-world impacts of their service. Every officer who is lost is a mother, father, sister, brother, a son, or a daughter taken too soon from a family who loves them and will miss them.

Mr. President, our officers and their families deserve to know we will always have their backs. The TOP COPS awards banquet at the Omni Shoreham Hotel on Sunday was not just one of the many special events we all attend in these jobs. For me, it was the honor of a lifetime to be there to pay tribute to the most extraordinary of the ordinary.

Congratulations to Officer Robinson for the TOP COPS award, to Chief Dave Zibolski and the entire Fargo Police Department, and thank you to all law enforcement officers for their everyday heroism. We love you, and we pray for you always.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Louisiana.

TRIBUTE TO ZOE AGUILLARD

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a staffer on my team, Zoe Aguillard, who has served the people of Louisiana for 7 years, the fourth-ranking member of my office, a staffer whom I relied upon during my time in the Senate, who is now leaving for what she thinks to be greener pastures.

It is always bittersweet when a staffer leaves. I had been teaching medical school for many years before coming here. You see talented younger people come on board, and you know they have a tremendous future ahead of them. So if they move on to that tremendous future, you can't cry; you must celebrate.

But, nonetheless, you regret losing someone who has grown so much, both as a person, but also in her achievements and in the affection your entire family has for her.

Zoe started as a scheduler, somewhat green. She quickly became the boss, making everything go on time. She had the honesty to tell me it would go even better on time if I showed up on time. But she had a real ability to speak honestly in a very tactful way to modify my behavior.

Whether it was meetings with constituents, townhalls, events, speeches, she worked behind the scenes to make it happen. And, importantly, she became very sensitive to the fact that I am a family guy who would like to be home for my grandson's graduation from fourth grade and would like to spend time with my wife—all those things that are beyond scheduling and move into trying to truly understand how someone lives their life.

The President of the Senate right now and all my colleagues know a scheduler and operations director makes or breaks your office. They help to squeeze the most out of every single day. And things you might find impossible, they find a way to get it done 7 days a week, every day of the year.

Examples: Zoe has been key in helping to plan the Senate's National Seersucker Day. I look forward to seeing my colleague from Vermont tricked out in his Seersucker suit for this year's Seersucker Day. It looks great on TV. She helped host Thursday Lunch Groups for my Republican colleagues and many other things we have done in-State and here to benefit our State and our Nation. Whether they realize it or not, nearly every office in the Senate has worked with Zoe at some point.

The difference she has made during my tenure cannot be summarized in one speech. But I don't get emotional because I will continue to work with Zoe. She is moving back to Louisiana—the State she holds in her affections—to the benefit of our State, our country, and our fellow humans. I wish her the best, and I wish her dog Louie the best. They will both be missed in our office.

(The remarks of Mr. CASSIDY pertaining to the introduction of S. 4329 are printed in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. CASSIDY. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). The Senator from Maryland.

NOMINATION OF COURTNEY DIESEL O'DONNELL

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I come to the floor today in strong support of the nomination of Courtney O'Donnell to be the U.S. Representative to UNESCO, the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

From threats to historic world heritage sites, to the dangers women and girls face across the globe, to the recent surge of anti-Semitism and intolerance around the world, it is critical