

In 1956, Bishop Woods joined his brother Reverend Abraham L. Woods, Jr., and Reverend Fred L. Shuttlesworth to co-found the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights (ACMHR). Through this work, Bishop Woods began the journey of what would become six decades of courageous leadership throughout the Civil Rights Movement. Working closely with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and supporting the work of Reverend Fred L. Shuttlesworth, Bishop Woods challenged segregation directly, participating in numerous demonstrations, including the Birmingham Campaign and the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom in 1963. Though his participation in the Movement resulted in him being beaten, arrested, and fired from his job, he continued to fight for justice and equality for all. He planned strategies for public protests following the shooting of five African Americans who had been protesting at a supermarket during the 1960s and filed a lawsuit on behalf of the youth suspended from school during the demonstration to ensure that they could be reinstated.

As a result of his tenacity and dedication, Bishop Woods was appointed by Dr. King as the SCLC City Convener for the Birmingham Ministers Leadership Conference. In this position, Bishop Woods was responsible for educating ministers concerning Black History, picketing, housing, direct non-violent protesting, voter registration, and negotiations to ensure that they were fully equipped to continue leading their congregations throughout the Movement.

In addition to his work as a Civil Rights leader, Bishop Woods played a vital role in the Birmingham community through his various community affiliations and as the pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, where he led the congregation for more than three decades. Throughout his life, Bishop Woods served in many leadership capacities, including as the Discipline & Administration and Evening Supervisor for Community Ed School at Parker High School, a board member of the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, the President of the New Era Baptist State Convention of AL, the Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees of Birmingham Easonian Baptist Bible College, and a member of the National Baptist Convention, USA Inc. Board of Directors.

Mr. Woods is preceded in death by his beloved wife, Lucille Grayson Woods; his parents, Rev. Abraham Lincoln Woods, Sr. and Maggie Woods; his brothers, Rev. Abraham Lincoln Woods, Jr., Dr. Roy Woods, Sr., Franklin Delorna Woods, and Dr. Dwight Edward Woods; his sisters, Mary Ruby Woods Hutchinson, Melzer Woods Luke, and Lois Woods, his daughters, Linda Cal Woods Holt, and Shelia Vanessa Woods Minter; his son, Dr. Freedom Progress Woods, Sr., and his granddaughter, Tamecia LaShun Woods. He is survived by his children, Jeanette Marie Woods Smith, Judy Kay Woods, Dr. Calvin Wallace Woods, Jr., (Minister Constance), Carlton Wayne Woods, Sr., Rev. Byron Elliott Woods, Christopher Wyatt Woods, Minister Joyce Elaine Woods Lewis (Dr. Tommie), Minister Angela Gay Woods McClure (Dr. Micheal), Dr. Timothy Justice Woods, Sr., and Dr. Quintin Prescott Woods, Sr. (Tramella); his thirty-seven grandchildren, his sixty-eight great-grandchildren, his eleven great great-grandchildren; his two daughter-in laws, his

two son-in laws, his thirty-three nieces and nephews, his sixty-one great nieces and nephews, and a host other ministers of the gospel, cousins, family, and dear friends.

On a personal note, the contributions that Bishop Woods made to ensure the equal rights of all Americans during the Civil Rights Movement were truly exemplary. I know that I get to represent my home district as Alabama's first Black Congresswoman because of his courageous efforts. To call him an icon of the Movement is an understatement. His unwavering commitment to improving the lives of black Alabamians had a profound effect on our community and will continue to be felt for generations to come. His life stands as a testament to the power of ordinary Americans to achieve extraordinary social change. His legacy will live on with every vote cast and in the many lives he impacted. May he rest in peace and power.

On behalf of Alabama's 7th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the extraordinary life and legacy of Bishop Calvin W. Woods, Sr. for his contributions to generations of civil rights leaders and decades of exemplary service to our Nation in our fight for liberty, equality, and justice for all.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO REQUIRE MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES PERFORMING ACTIVE SERVICE IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA IN RESPONSE TO AN ORDER OF THE PRESIDENT WHICH RELATES TO CRIME OR CIVIL DISTURBANCE IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TO PARTICIPATE IN A PROGRAM SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR TO THE BODY-WORN CAMERA PROGRAM OF THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 26, 2025

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce a bill that would require members of the Armed Forces, including the National Guard, deployed in the District of Columbia in response to an order of the President relating to crime or civil disturbance in D.C. to participate in a program substantially similar to the body-worn camera program of D.C.'s police department, the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD). This bill would apply to the current deployment of troops and any future deployment.

The use of body cameras by troops during deployments related to crime or civil disturbance in D.C. would promote transparency in the troops' interactions with the public and protect the public and the troops. MPD has a well-established program for the use of body cameras, as well as for the preservation and disclosure of body camera footage.

The Trump administration has deployed more than 2,000 National Guard troops in D.C. This deployment is a raw assertion of power over the more than 700,000 disenfranchised D.C. residents, a majority of whom are Black and Brown; a politicization of the military; a disservice to the members of the National Guard and their families, unwar-

ranted, and possibly unlawful with respect to both the D.C. National Guard and the state National Guards. I have urged the administration to remove these troops immediately.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING KATE LOUISE PATE-WALKER

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 26, 2025

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true American hero from Southeast Texas—PFC Kate Louise Pate-Walker.

Kate was part of the legendary Six Triple Eight, the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion. It was the only all-Black, all-female unit deployed overseas during World War II. Their mission was clear: sort and deliver a massive backlog of mail to nearly seven million U.S. troops. Morale depended on it.

They were given six months. They did it in three.

The work of the Six Triple Eight went far beyond mail—it was about dignity, hope, and connection. For soldiers far from home, a letter meant everything. Kate and her fellow women knew that, and their determination lifted the spirits of our fighting forces in Europe.

Kate earned multiple military honors for her service, and when the war ended, she returned home to Texas, married, raised a beautiful family, and continued a life of service to her community.

Born in Vidor and raised in Sour Lake, Kate was a trailblazer in uniform and a leader at home. She lived a life defined by faith, perseverance, and love for family and country.

And now—decades later—the women of the Six Triple Eight have finally received the Congressional Gold Medal. Though the recognition came late, it is highly deserved. Their bravery, sacrifice, and determination are part of our Nation's story, and Southeast Texas is proud to claim PFC Kate Pate-Walker as one of our own.

Mr. Speaker, may her memory and legacy of service continue to inspire future generations of Americans to answer the call of duty with courage.

HONORING MRS. MONZOLA RANDLE ROSS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 26, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a lifelong educator, community matriarch, and steadfast servant leader, Mrs. Monzola Randle Ross of Cruger, Mississippi.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "Longevity has its place." That truth finds a shining example in the remarkable career and impact of Mrs. Ross, who faithfully served 41 consecutive years with Central Mississippi, Inc. Head Start, shaping the lives of more than 2,400 children across Holmes County.

Mrs. Ross began her journey in early childhood education as a part-time secretary at the

Holly Grove Head Start Center. Through her dedication and love for children, she rose to become a teacher, then head teacher, and eventually center manager. Even after the closing of Holly Grove, her commitment never wavered. She continued to serve with excellence at the Goodman Head Start Center until her recent retirement.

More than an educator, Mrs. Ross was a life-mentor. From her handmade brown-paper-bag puppets “Mr. Do” and “Mr. Don’t,” to the life lessons she instilled in every classroom, she taught not only ABCs and 123s, but discipline, respect, and purpose. Her former students have gone on to become teachers, entrepreneurs, ministers, realtors, health professionals, farmers, public servants, and even Head Start managers themselves. In every one of their stories, her legacy endures.

She holds a national Child Development Associate credential and has received numerous awards throughout her career. Yet, her greatest reward came from the joy of watching children grow, thrive, and succeed—and from the unwavering support of her late husband, Mr. Albert Ross, her daughters Rose Berry, Lawanda Ross, and Pamela Wiley, and her beloved grandchildren.

Even in retirement, Mrs. Ross remains a pillar of the Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church in Lexington, Mississippi, where her celebration drew nearly 100 well-wishers—friends, family, and former students who came from as far as the West Coast and Chicago. The event featured touching tributes, musical performances, and reflections from those whose lives she touched most deeply.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and celebrating Mrs. Monzola Randle Ross for her extraordinary devotion to early childhood education, her love for her community, and her enduring legacy of compassion, excellence, and service. Mississippi is better because of her.

HONORING TONYA LACEY ON HER
YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. EUGENE SIMON VINDMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 26, 2025

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Tonya Lacey for her 33 years of service in the city of Fredericksburg, Virginia. A proud graduate of James Monroe High School here in Fredericksburg, Mrs. Lacey’s commitment to her local community has been nothing short of inspiring.

Throughout her career, she has demonstrated unwavering dedication to public service, embodying the spirit of community in every role she has held.

Beginning in 1992, Mrs. Lacey’s journey with the City of Fredericksburg began as a receptionist in the City Manager’s Office. She went on to serve as the Secretary of the Planning Department from 1999 to 2002, and as Secretary to the City Manager from 2002 to 2009. In her most recent role, she is the first African-American woman to serve as Fred-

ericksburg’s Clerk of Council, a groundbreaking achievement that broke barriers and paved the way for future generations.

In her years of service, Mrs. Lacey received several professional accolades including her Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) certification and Master Municipal Clerk (MMC) certification. Mrs. Lacey repeatedly demonstrated her commitment to excellence in effort and actions when it came to attending 411 City Council meetings and 452 work sessions, and processing and managing 797 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, and in documenting the factual record with over 7,617 pages of City Council meeting minutes in the historic record of Council.

As Clerk of Council, Mrs. Lacey guided our community by keeping the community informed about the operations performed by the government. She worked with the Mayor, Vice-Mayor, and City Council, keeping official records, responding to citizen inquiries and keeping citizens informed about City Council actions. She acted as the Freedom of Information Officer (FOIA) and Records Manager for the City of Fredericksburg, which was a vital position in the continuity of transparency and public access.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to personally thank Mrs. Lacey for her remarkable 33 years of service in our community. We are grateful for her tireless efforts to ensure that our government operates smoothly and that our citizens are well-served.