

The Rockville Channel, TRC 11, was recognized in 5 different categories at the awards banquet of the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors. The Rockville Channel consistently produces outstanding programming for the Rockville area and has often been recognized for excellence over the last 11 years.

I am also pleased that the City's Divisions of Graphics and Printing and Public Information recently combined to win two national awards at the City-County Communications and Marketing Association Conference in Atlanta. The Rockville Communications Teams provide a valuable public service and play a key role in my congressional district in keeping the public informed.

I applaud all members of the Rockville Communications Team for their outstanding efforts.

HOUSTON POLICE OFFICER  
MUZAFFAR SIDDIQI

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2005*

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, on October 1, 2005, the National Association of Police Organizations will honor law enforcement agencies and officers at the 12th Annual Top Cops Awards Ceremony here in Washington, DC. Officer Muzaffar Siddiqi of the Houston Police Department, a great man whom I have the privilege of knowing personally, is receiving an award at this prestigious event, and I join the city of Houston and all Texans in honoring this outstanding achievement.

As a former prosecutor and criminal court judge in Houston, TX, I have had a long-standing relationship with the Houston Police Department. I have witnessed many great works by police officers in Houston and the surrounding communities, and I can say without hesitation that Officer Siddiqi's record of service is exemplary. Having previously been named Houston Police Department Officer of the Year, Officer Siddiqi has received high honors throughout his career. His service has been recognized at all levels: city, State and Federal.

Before working for the Houston Police Department, Officer Siddiqi served as a police officer in Karachi, Pakistan. Since joining HPD, he has been a great asset in building positive relationships between law enforcement and Houston's South Asian and Middle Eastern communities. His work has been invaluable, and the people of Houston are fortunate to have a public servant of his caliber in uniform. As he honors the city of Houston with his service, Mr. Speaker, we must honor the selfless work of Officer Muzaffar Siddiqi.

JEAN D. MATHIS RETIREMENT:  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2005

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2005*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the retirement of Jean D. Mathis whose contributions to the United States Drug

Enforcement Administration have been unparalleled.

Ms. Mathis was born on March 3, 1950 in Washington, DC. She attended DC public schools (Anthony Bowen Elementary, Randall Junior High and Dunbar High) and graduated from Howard University in 1972.

Ms. Mathis worked throughout her junior high, high school and college years and was introduced at an early age to work in government service.

Immediately following her graduation from college, she began her first full-time employment in the Federal Service with the District of Columbia Department of Corrections, where she worked until 1975. In October 1975, she began her employment with the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Ms. Mathis distinguished herself from the beginning and quickly advanced through the ranks of the Operational Support Division. In 1990, Ms. Mathis was appointed as the Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Office of Personnel, becoming one of the first two women to enter DEA's Senior Executive Service (SES) and the first African-American woman promoted to the rank of SES. In 1994, Ms. Mathis was promoted to Assistant Administrator for Human Resources becoming DEA's first female Assistant Administrator.

Ms. Mathis's stellar career is marked by numerous exemplary achievements. Under her direction, the DEA instituted validated testing for senior law enforcement personnel, drug testing for employees and applicants, and psychological testing for Special Agents. In 1999, she played a vital leadership role in the opening of DEA's state of the art training facility in Quantico, Virginia. Ms. Mathis is a long-standing member of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE), and served as a member of the Training and Education Committee. She also chaired this committee for 2 years.

Ms. Mathis' outstanding work ethic and diligence have been recognized with a plethora of awards and commendations over the years. Moreover, her DEA accomplishments have been recognized government-wide as she distinguished herself and the DEA as a two-time recipient of the Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious Performance in 1995 and 2001.

Over the years, Ms. Mathis has participated in extensive training programs including Management Training at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, University of Southern California and is a 2003 Brookings Fellow. It was as a Brookings Fellow that Jean came to work in my office and I received the benefit of her experience and wisdom. I have been actively engaged in the problems associated with illegal narcotics throughout my congressional career and have been aware of the role of the Drug Enforcement Administration in the implementation of our national anti-narcotics policies. Yet Jean Mathis taught me a great deal and enhanced my understanding and appreciation of the complexities of addressing the challenges of narcotics addiction and control. She performed superbly as my Congressional staff assistant and I regretted her return to the DEA.

In summary, the essence of Ms. Mathis' career was captured in a number of performance award justifications over the years including several DEA Administrators for whom she worked directly. Among them was former DEA Administrator Thomas A. Constantine who

stated, "Ms. Mathis leads by example, demanding high ethical standards and conscientious work. Her outstanding work ethic and diligence inspire and challenge her staff." Ms. Mathis has inspired all of those who were fortunate enough to work for or with her. Ms. Mathis' tenacious spirit and pursuit of excellence will be missed at DEA but will continue to inspire those who engage her throughout her retirement and personal endeavors.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF  
J. GEORGE MITNICK

HON. ARTUR DAVIS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2005*

Mr. DAVIS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer a tribute to Mr. J. George Mitnick.

Jasper, Alabama was not George Mitnick's first home—he was a Connecticut Yankee who migrated south—but Jasper was where George made his fortune and found his wife. Jasper is also a city that he shaped for over 5 decades: his footprints include the presidency of the local Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club; the Mitnick Wilderness Boot Camp for troubled teenagers; and of course, his role in founding Top Dollar, a retail chain of over 250 stores in 11 states.

George Mitnick helped make modern Jasper, but what made George Mitnick, above all, was the days he spent as an army captain helping to liberate Nazis death camps. George was a committed Jew before he entered those camps, but the degradation that he saw there alerted him to an existential threat to his people, and to the capacity of humans to violate each other.

Those camps never left George Mitnick's soul. They made him a vigilant defender of Israel's future and of American politicians who understood how essential Israel's future was to any vision of a just world. The death camps made him an activist—and I am honored that his activism led him to embrace my candidacy against a foe of Israel's aspirations. George was honored and humbled that his activism also made him AIPAC's "Man of the Year" in 2003.

I think that those awful, wretched camps also made George understand his adopted home better. George lived in Alabama during the years when the racial cauldron was boiling, and Alabama's ill temper on race was one of the aspects of his new state that he most disdained. He was a quiet, but real, force for integration in Jasper. George also raised a daughter who raised a daughter who married a black man. His grandson-in-law James, an African American, was one of George's pallbearers, and it is a measure of the Jasper that George help make that virtually no one stared at James' role. George's friends knew that tolerance was a Mitnick family value.

On August 6, 2005, J. George Mitnick died at the age of 87. I thank George for his faith and his life and for the promises he kept. I hope that my tenure in Congress will honor the world and the state he wanted to build. May the God of Abraham bless George Mitnick and his surviving wife Willene.