

That's not all.

In the famous case of the Roadside Strangler in Connecticut, Michael Ross, here is the kind of guy he was. He kidnapped, sexually assaulted and murdered eight women in Connecticut. He is tried by jury. The jury gives him the death penalty—yes, even in Connecticut. This was in 1987. Finally, the day of reckoning came in 2004. He is supposed to get executed, and this Federal judge intervenes in this case. The judge excused the killer because he suffered, according to what the judge said, from a disorder of sexual sadism.

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What is that? In other words, because of the perversion, he should have a defense? Of course, that is not a legal defense in any court in the country. But the Federal judge said he should be excused from that conduct. So the judge made up a defense for the individual, stayed the execution for a long time, in spite of the jury's verdict that the person should get the death penalty; in spite of the fact that Michael Ross said, If I didn't get caught by the police, I would do it again; in spite of the fact that Michael Ross told the media that he should be executed for the sake of the families. The Supreme Court, rightfully so, overruled the judge, withdrew the stay, and ordered Michael Ross to be executed, and he met his maker in 2005.

And now this judge, Robert Chatigny, is to be appointed to the Federal Court of Appeals at the second circuit appellate court. This judge lacks judgment. This judge doesn't follow the law. This judge is apparently biased in favor of sexual predators. This judge places his personal opinions above the law. And this judge should be in the Judges Hall of Shame, not on the appellate court of the United States hearing cases. The Senate should not confirm this person to be an appellate judge in the United States.

And that's just the way it is.

WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW . . .

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, according to the latest figures from OSHA, at this time there are over 27,000 workers employed by BP or its contractors and more than 2,000 Federal employees directly involved in the massive cleanup operation now underway in the gulf coast. At a hearing last week, another Federal agency, the CDC, tried to assure Congress that it was doing all it could to keep these workers safe and that it is closely tracking surveillance data across the Gulf Coast States for health effects that may be related to the oil spill. This was good to hear.

But a workshop held by the Institute of Medicine down in New Orleans this week made one thing abundantly clear.

When there are that many people engaged in such a complex cleanup effort of such unprecedented size over such an unforeseeably long time, the true danger levels for exposure simply are not known. As a story in USA Today put it: "While some health officials say they don't think long-term illnesses are likely, they've never seen pollution of this scale, and there are just too many unknowns to say for sure."

The Institute for Medicine workshop participants noted that proper protective gear can help keep exposure at safe levels, but the problem comes when heat and humidity cause workers to remove their gear. The average day-time high temperatures in New Orleans for the next 2 months is 91, very hot and very humid.

Now, consider an assessment of BP's overall attitude toward worker safety that was contained in a letter sent to BP by an OSHA official back in May: "The organizational systems that BP has in place, particularly those related to worker safety and health training, protective equipment, and site monitoring, are not adequate for the current situation or the projected increase in cleanup operations." The letter also noted that "these are not isolated problems. They appear to be indicative of a general systematic failure on BP's part to ensure the safety and health of those responding to this disaster."

The unknowable risks of an environmental disaster of this scale, the foreseeable weather conditions of the near future, and the known failures of BP in the recent past should all raise some great big red warning flags for OSHA, for the Centers for Disease Control, and for NIOSH. I am writing OSHA to ensure that the workers have the proper protective gear, such as respirators, in order to ensure their safety and to protect their health.

This is a region of the country that was previously devastated by a natural disaster that was made worse by the Bush administration's failure to respond with timely assistance and adequate safeguards. Many lost their lives. The gulf coast is now under siege by a manmade disaster. Far too many have already lost their livelihood. The entire region is at risk for losing a way of life. No one should also lose their health simply because we failed to help them when more help was clearly needed.

In my great City of New York, we have witnessed firsthand the terrible price that can be paid over time by those who labor day after day in a toxic environment helping their city recover from a terrible blow on 9/11. I hope that this Congress will do everything in its power to ensure that those who have been asked to clean up this mess and are cleaning up this mess are not asked to pay for their efforts with the loss of their health.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MORAN of Kansas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. FORBES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. FORBES addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GOHMERT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

REMEMBERING ED CLOUGH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PAULSEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PAULSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to remember an inspiring and patriotic America, Master Sergeant Edward William Clough, of Maple Grove, Minnesota. Edward embodies the love for this Nation that has been critical to American success throughout our history and will serve as an example of dedication and service for generations to come.

Ed was born in the Bronx, raised in the Hell's Kitchen neighborhood of Manhattan, and enlisted in the Army the moment he became eligible for service back in 1949. He served in Korea, where he was injured in battle, and received a Purple Heart; and despite being offered the opportunity to return home, he persevered and overcame painful reconstructive surgeries on both of his feet so that he could continue to serve in the United States Army.

Just as our Nation has overcome many painful challenges, Ed overcame