

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND CAREER OF THE HONORABLE JAMES TORMEY III

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 2019

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life and career of the Honorable James Tormey III, a beloved father and husband, distinguished judge, and honorable public servant, who passed away on June 22, 2019.

A 1972 graduate of SUNY Cortland, and 1976 graduate of Syracuse University College of Law, Judge Tormey committed much of his life to public service. Serving on the Onondaga County Legislature for ten years, and later, as a Syracuse City Court Judge, Supreme Court Justice and District Administrative Judge for the 5th Judicial District of New York, Jim Tormey earned the respect, praise and trust of many in our community.

Over the course of his esteemed judicial career, Judge Tormey took a measured approach in upholding the law and applying it fairly. He firmly believed in the justice system and worked to ensure everyone had access to it.

As District Administrative Judge, Judge Tormey supervised the operations and schedules of more than 300 judges serving in the Fifth Judicial District — many of whom, since his passing this week, have shared stories of his strong leadership, his commitment to ensuring justice, and his respect for all. They have spoken of his commitment to continued legal education and pro bono work, and, importantly, of his friendship, mentorship and distinguished leadership.

Judge Tormey was committed to making Central New York a better place, and the impact of his work went far beyond the courtroom. He used his role to address some of the most pressing issues plaguing our community—overseeing the establishment of local Drug Courts, Opioid Courts, Human Trafficking Court, Youthful Offender Court, and Community Court for lower level offenders. His dedication to Central New York was visible in all of his actions and he will be truly missed.

Above all, Judge Tormey was a family man, and deeply loved his wife, Sue, their children Andrew and Colleen, and his grandchildren. I ask my colleagues to keep them in mind, as we honor and remember the life of this devoted civil servant.

OATH CEREMONY ON JULY 4, 2019

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 2019

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure and sincerity that I take this time to congratulate the fifty-one individuals who will take their oaths of citizenship on July 4, 2019. In true patriotic fashion, on the day of our great Nation's celebration of independence, a naturalization ceremony will take place, welcoming new citizens of the United States of America. This memorable occasion, coordinated by the League of Women Voters

of the Calumet Area and presided over by Magistrate Judge Andrew Rodovich, will be held at The Pavilion at Wolf Lake in Hammond, Indiana.

America is a country founded by immigrants. From its beginning, settlers have come from countries around the world to the United States in search of better lives for their families. The oath ceremony is a shining example of what is so great about the United States of America—that people from all over the world can come together and unite as members of a free, democratic nation. These individuals realize that nowhere else in the world offers a better opportunity for success than here in America.

On July 4, 2019, the following people, representing many nations throughout the world, will take their oaths of citizenship in Hammond, Indiana: Mounir Oumansour, Taimoor Syed, Johnson Y. Gah, Joseph Han, Alex Nguyen, Mubarak Bakhit Haroun, Naga Sudhakar Chodavarapu, Daniel Jaewon Kim, Elena Ugwoke, Brendan Chidobe Ugwoke, Rani Saxena, Sumesh Saxena, Zaira Nashley Velazquez, Giuseppe Mazzone, Nargis Natasha Yasir, Erika Anabel Saldivar, Rajesh Kumar Sharma, Maya Hamwi, Ibrahim Miss Lissane, Farouk Al Kurdi, Amparo Isabel Alban Montalvo, Ma Teresa Leon, Sikholisile Nyoni, Isabella Njeri Muturi, Lal Lian Mawi, Belinda Radiceska, Ljupco Radiceski, Milka Cocovska, Ananivi Apamba Komla, Blanca Estela Monsivais, Gianella Feoli Soto, Mauricio Leal, Mphasa Maria Mwanza, Sreelatha Chodavarapu, Rajko Vukobrat, Denise Alejandra Godinez, Antonio Manzo Gonzalez, Sirak Kifle Negash, Ahmed E. Khalil, Vidal Torres Alvarado, Eder Jahir Nunez Benitez, David Guillermo Barba, Ai Ong, Jagoda Petroska, Maria Julia Garcilazo, Gustavo Adolfo Osorio, Sergey Borisovich Leonov, Gisela Johanna Kreczmer, Marc Tuyizere, Muhammad Yasir Hanif Khan, and Francisco Javier Contreras Torres.

Although each individual has sought to become a citizen of the United States for his or her own reasons, be it for education, occupation, or to offer their loved ones better lives, each is inspired by the fact that the United States of America is, as Abraham Lincoln described it, a country “. . . of the people, by the people, and for the people.” They realize that the United States is truly a free nation. By seeking American citizenship, they have made the decision that they want to live in a place where, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution, they can practice religion as they choose, speak their minds without fear of punishment, and assemble in peaceful protest should they choose to do so.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating these fifty-one individuals who will become citizens of the United States of America on July 4, 2019, the anniversary of our Nation's independence. They, too, will be American citizens, guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We, as a free and democratic nation, congratulate them and welcome them.

HONORING RACINE POLICE OFFICER JOHN HETLAND

HON. BRYAN STEIL

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 2019

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, today, our Racine community honors the life and service of Racine Police Officer John Hetland.

On June 17, Officer Hetland was killed while trying to stop an armed robbery in Racine. Even when off-duty, Officer Hetland did not waver to act.

Officer Hetland served the Racine community for 24 years as a police officer. Born in Racine, he attended the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee to study criminal justice.

Those who knew Officer Hetland described him as a compassionate, brave man. A great baseball player. A loving father of two and devoted husband. A protector of our community. But to our Racine community, Officer Hetland will always be regarded as a hero.

This tragedy is a solemn reminder of the sacrifices members of law enforcement make every day to protect us.

My prayers are with the Hetland family, friends, and the entire law enforcement community grieving this loss.

We will never forget Officer Hetland.

RENDITION & TORTURE: AN ACCOUNTING

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 2019

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise to include in the Record the executive summary of the North Carolina Commission of Inquiry on Torture's (NCCIT) seminal report, *Torture Flights: North Carolina's Role in the CIA's Rendition and Torture Program*. I do so today in recognition of the United Nation's "International Day in Support of Victims of Torture," and to emphasize the continuing role of Congress as well as informed and engaged citizens in bringing to light the Central Intelligence Agency's (CIA) Rendition, Detention, and Interrogation (RDI) program.

I am reminded of this important duty by an exceptional group of North Carolinians who established NCCIT—a non-governmental and non-partisan commission—to investigate North Carolina's participation in the CIA's RDI program following the September 11 attacks, which is described in its September 2018 report.

The report found that in the first stage of the RDI program, a private company based in North Carolina used publicly-funded infrastructure to conduct over 80 percent of identified CIA rendition flights from September 2001 to March 2004. North Carolina public infrastructure was therefore involved in the detention and rendition of at least 49 individuals, without regard for the rule of law or due process. According to the report, some of these individuals turned out not to be involved in terrorism and have yet to receive official acknowledgment or redress, and some of these individuals continue to suffer from their mistreatment.