

RECOGNIZING SPECIALIST PAUL HUFF, RECIPIENT OF TEXAS' THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2019 CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

**HON. VAN TAYLOR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 23, 2019*

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, it is my privilege to honor twelve distinguished military veterans from Texas' Third Congressional District who answered the call to serve their Nation honorably, both in uniform and following their return to civilian life. The recipients of the 2019 Congressional Veteran Commendation exemplify the time-honored qualities of patriotism, service before self, and bold leadership. Following their time in service, their efforts in our community have earned these fine individuals recognition as the recipients of this prestigious commendation. Their stories of sacrifice will encourage future generations to pursue a life dedicated to the very values we cherish as Americans: faith, freedom, and democracy. One such hero is Specialist Paul Huff of McKinney, Texas.

Paul Huff entered the United States Army in 1962 and was assigned to the 5th Missile Battalion, 517th Artillery Division in Abilene, Texas following his completion of basic training. Following his promotion to Fire Control Specialist, Paul was assigned to the United States Army Signal School and later served under the United States Army Intelligence Training Center in Fort Ritchie, Maryland. Mr. Huff was promoted to a Specialist E-6 rank and was assigned with the Signal Corps in Vietnam and Thailand. In 1967, Paul returned home to his wife and children. For his service, Specialist Huff was awarded the National Defense Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with 1 Bronze Star, and Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with the Palm Unit Citation Badge.

Upon reentering civilian life, Paul worked in the computer and data processing field before later retiring. Since that time, Paul has dedicated his life to assisting veterans and furthering the cause of those who have worn the uniform as evidenced by his role as President of the Collin County Vietnam Veterans of America (Chapter 1122), and active membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars (Allen Post 2195), American Legion (Bill Bryan Post 110), and the Association of the United States Army (Audie Murphy Chapter).

In his role as Treasurer for the Disabled American Veterans (McKinney Chapter 38), Paul also serves as a certified DAV Chapter Service Advisor where he has assisted many veterans obtain Compensation and Pension benefits from the Veterans Benefits Administration. Mr. Huff further demonstrates his ability to benefit the lives of those around him by giving selflessly of his time with the Veterans Center of North Texas, an all-volunteer organization that serves as a free resource center for veterans offering health, employment, housing, mental health and benefits assistance. Mr. Paul Huff has continuously found new ways to exhibit service before self to those within our community and deserves our unwavering gratitude for his many efforts.

Today a grateful Nation thanks Specialist Huff for his exceptional service and congratu-

lates him on this recognition. May his steadfast example of leadership inspire others to live a life of service to a cause greater than themselves. It is my extreme honor to award him the 2019 Congressional Veteran Commendation for the Third District of Texas.

IN RECOGNITION OF DETECTIVE SERGEANT JASON HOHNER

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 23, 2019*

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Detective Sergeant Jason Hohner and congratulate him on receiving The Washtenaw 100 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award. Detective Sergeant Jason Hohner's selfless dedication to protecting the Washtenaw County community is worthy of commendation.

The Washtenaw 100 is a non-profit organization committed to supporting our hometown heroes. The organization's mission is to provide immediate financial funding to families of law enforcement and firefighting personnel in Washtenaw County who have died in the line of duty, helping them through their grief. In addition, the organization strives to serve active duty law enforcement officers and firefighters by providing grants to local departments and offering annual scholarships to their children to bolster their educational opportunities.

The Washtenaw 100's Annual Dinner exemplifies the organization's continued dedication to supporting our community's firefighters and law enforcement officers and serves as a great way to recognize their outstanding efforts. This year, The Washtenaw 100 is proud to recognize Detective Sergeant Jason Hohner as the 2019 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.

Detective Sergeant Jason Hohner is an experienced and valuable member of the Pittsfield Police Department. Nominated by Chief Matthew Harshberger, Det. Sgt. Hohner is a leader who consistently goes above and beyond what is expected of him in his position. Although Det. Sgt. Hohner has a host of outstanding accomplishments that make him deserving of the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award, some of his most noteworthy achievements include his leadership in a recent homicide investigation that involved over 90 law enforcement personnel and his crucial coordination between the Pittsfield Police Department and a variety of other agencies to ensure crucial information was not left unnoticed. Det. Sgt. Hohner is known amongst his peers as a driven problem-solver who humbly strives for excellence without seeking praise or recognition for any of his remarkable accomplishments.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Detective Sergeant Jason Hohner. His bravery, dedication, and service to the citizens of Washtenaw County is deeply appreciated and truly makes a difference in our community.

HONORING MAHOMED AKBAR KHAN

**HON. J. LUIS CORREA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 23, 2019*

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mahomed Akbar Khan for his dedication to our youth and the Muslim community. With over 30 years of commitment to the people of Southern California, Mr. Khan has focused on conflict resolution, interfaith programs, humanitarian aid, and youth development.

In 1970, at age 9, Mr. Khan's family immigrated to the United States from South Africa during the apartheid. By the early 1990s, Mr. Khan co-founded over 25 Muslim student unions and campus organizations across the United States, including the Muslim Youth of North America (M.Y.N.A) which is the largest American Muslim youth organization today.

Mr. Khan's 30 years of experience in interfaith dialog and conflict resolution is exemplified by his notable accomplishments. As a student, he served as a Muslim Chaplain and provided impactful religious services to prison inmates. This service influenced many former gang leaders to return to their communities and devote their lives to gang intervention, easing tensions, and creating a peace movement on the streets.

Mr. Khan traveled to Israel as an ambassador of peace alongside Martin Luther King III, a "civil rights Rabbi," advocating for an end to violence. Mr. Khan sat on the Economic and Poverty Alleviation Advisory Board for Xhosa King Sandile, where he was heavily involved in alleviating poverty and building peace strategies throughout South Africa.

Currently, Mr. Khan continues to bring impact and attention to local and global issues. Mr. Khan brought national attention to the Rohingya humanitarian crisis when he helped to organize a hearing before the House Foreign Affairs Committee in Washington, D.C. in 2018. This hearing brought over \$130 million in emergency aid to the Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh.

Today, we celebrate the many humanitarian efforts and accomplishments of Mahomed Akbar Khan. His has committed his life to serving his local and global community by continuing to advocate for tolerance, peace, and non-violence. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and recognizing Mahomed Akbar Khan.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 23, 2019*

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Madam Speaker, I was unavailable and missed rollcall Vote 570. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 570.