"I'm seeing I'm getting good grades," he said. "I do not want to go home and be on the streets and do something that could get me killed."

His two older brothers, 23 and 22, chose a "way different path." When he was shot four years ago, he was running away from a fight his brothers got into with another group of boys. When asked why he thought his homes had been shot up in the past, he responded, "my brothers." While he's close to them, "I could never ask them what they're doing."

While in the hospital, recovering from surgery and a collapsed lung, he was angry but told relatives and friends who visited him that he didn't want any more violence, no retaliation. He said he would have liked to have seen whoever shot him go to jail but no arrests were made.

He participated in the Christopher 2X "Hood2Hood" antiviolence campaign, preaching non-violence door-to-door and in neighborhoods and remains active in anti-violence and community service programs.

"The violence going on now is terrible, crazy," he said. "People don't even want to go outside because of what is going on."

73—Number of homicides in Louisville in the first nine months of 2019, an increase of nearly 20 percent compared to the first nine months of 2018 when 61 murders were committed.

72.6%—53, of the 73 homicide victims in the first nine months of 2019 were black compared to 63% for the same time period in 2018.

32%—of the victims, 25 killed, were under age 25, with eight victims 11–17 years old. One victim was under age 11.

Homicides: 2014: 55; 2015: 80; 2016: 118; 2017: 102; 2018: 80.

89% of the 73 murder victims, 65 people, in the first nine months of 2019 were killed by gunfire, the highest percentage of homicides by gunfire for a comparable time period in the past five years.

TRIBUTE TO ALGENE SAJERY

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I rise to thank Algene Sajery, a senior member of my foreign policy legislative staff, for her incredible service to the State of Maryland, our country, and by virtue of her foreign policy and national security legislative achievements, to the international community. I am incredibly grateful for all that we have accomplished during her tenure.

Algene has served as my senior foreign policy and national security advisor since 2012 and concurrently as democratic policy director for the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations from 2015 through 2018. Over the years, Algene has served as my lead staff author and/or negotiator of several landmark national security and foreign pollaws, including the Global icy Magnitsky Human Rights and Accountability Act, P.L. 114-328; the Foreign Aid Transparency and Accountability Act, P.L. 114-191; the African Growth and Opportunity Act and Millennium Challenge Act Modernization Act, AGOA and MCA Modernization Act, P.L. 115-167; the Global Food Security Act, P.L. 114-195; and the Electrify Africa Act, P.L. 114-121. These accomplishments demonstrate the wideranging policy areas over which Algene has extensive knowledge. Her ability to

leverage her knowledge to help negotiate and advance such policies into law and her passion for doing so are what set Algene apart from most others in this highly competitive field.

But Algene's accomplishments do not end with advancing landmark human rights, transparency, foreign assistance, and international development legislation. Algene has also worked tirelessly at my direction on several bills related to human rights in conflict zones, including the Syrian War Crimes Accountability Act and the Elie Wiesel Genocide and Atrocities Prevention Act P.L. 115-441. Algene's efforts have helped cement my legacy in these arenas and as Special Representative for Anti-Semitism, Racism, Intolerance for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe-OSCE-Parliamentary Assembly, to help propel my work to create a world where the promise of "never again" in response to genocide will one day bear truth.

Our work together has transcended several Presidential administrations. We have observed Executive overstep with regard to war powers on numerous occasions. We have opened our eyes to the use of U.S. manufactured weapons to commit war crimes and repress human rights around the world. In response, Algene and I also developed my signature arms sales oversight legislation, the Enhancing Human Rights Protections in Arms Sales Act of 2019, and numerous bills, resolutions, and amendments on authorization of use of military force, conflict prevention, peace and reconciliation, and community resiliency policies.

Algene's successful legislative record is testament not only to her expertise on foreign policy and national security issues but also to her keen negotiating skills, ability to work across the aisle, and incomparable political acumen. But Algene's service on my legislative staff has gone far and beyond helping me draft and advance legislation. One of the most striking qualities of Algene's character and, in my opinion, one of the most noteworthy accomplishments as a part of her distinct legacy on my team, is her dedication to helping others around her.

Algene is one of only a handful of women of color working on foreign policy and national security issues and the first African-American woman to serve in a leadership position on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Over the years, she has served as a mentor to women of color at various stages in their careers, offering advice, support, and guidance. Algene has always made time to support those around her because she understands the challenges of launching and navigating a career in foreign policy and national security, and she genuinely wants to propel others towards similarly successful career paths.

Algene is a highly effective legislative negotiator, strategist, coalition builder, and a true trailblazer. Her

knowledge and expertise are unparalleled, but her passion, creativity, and tenacity truly are what have made her an asset to my team and a voice that I will greatly miss in my office.

It has been an honor working with Algene over the years, and I wish her nothing but happiness and success as she transitions her career off Capitol Hill.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO SCOTT BENNETT

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the career of Scott Bennett, who is retiring as director of the Arkansas Department of Transportation after nearly 32 years of service and dedication to the State.

Scott assumed his current post as director in 2011; however, he has been an asset to ARDOT since his summers as an engineering intern. Scott's hard work, passion, and knowledge allowed him to build a celebrated career that has greatly benefited the State and its citizens. He received a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Arkansas in 1989 and became a full-time employee of the Planning and Research Division. He also earned a master's degree in civil engineering in 1994 while working for ARDOT.

During the past 9 years, his effective and influential leadership has been indisputable. Scott led ARDOT's efforts to implement significant highway rehabilitation efforts, including the 2011 Interstate Rehabilitation Program and the 2012 Connecting Arkansas Program, both of which were approved by voters.

Scott is an active leader in the transportation and engineering communities in the State and at the national level. He was appointed to the Arkansas Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors in 2015, where he currently serves as president. In 2017, Scott was elected secretary-treasurer of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, after previously serving as a member of the board of directors. Scott has served on other various organizations to support the transportation industry and improve roadways for all Americans.

Scott has earned many accolades over the course of his career. The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials presented him with the Thomas H. Mac-Donald Memorial Award, which recognizes top engineers in the transportation profession. In 2005, he received the University of Arkansas Young Engineer Alumni of the Year Award, and in 2019 he was honored with the Univerof Arkansas sitv College of Engineering's Distinguished Alumni Award. In 2010, Scott was inducted into the Arkansas Academy of Civil Engineering

I applaud Scott for his accomplished career with the Arkansas Department