

Judge Elloie retired following a tenure of service that brought justice and provided numerous opportunities for second chances, all while making his courtroom accessible to the community.

Judge Elloie lived an extraordinary life, founded on bringing justice for all, that cannot be overstated. He was dedicated to elevating his community, maximizing his potential, and being an agent for social change. Judge Elloie was a trailblazer and his life, legacy, and spirit will remain a guiding force to the city of New Orleans. I am grateful for his service. I send my sincere prayers, condolences, and strength to the Elloie family during this difficult time. May his soul rest in peace.

Judge Charles Lloyd Elloie is survived by his wife of more than 30 years, Dr. Pearl Hardin Elloie, two sons, Charles L. Elloie, Jr. and Joseph C. Elloie, one brother, Wilbur Ronald Elloie, nine grandchildren, one great grandchild, numerous nephews, nieces, family members, friends, and colleagues. Judge Elloie was a member of the St. Katharine Drexel Catholic Church, serving as Lector. He was also a life-time member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Madam Speaker, I celebrate the life and legacy of Judge Charles Lloyd Elloie.

ITTA NEYMOTIN

HON. FRANCIS ROONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2020

Mr. ROONEY of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ita Neymotin on her appointment to be the chair of the Florida Bar's Committee on Professionalism, following her nomination by Florida Bar President Dori Foster Morales.

Ms. Neymotin has an outstanding career in litigation in both the public and private sector. Beginning her career as a prosecutor for the state's attorneys office, Ita has prosecuted a wide variation of cases over the course of her career. In recent years she has been a member of the Committee on Professionalism. Ms. Neymotin currently serves as Regional Counsel of the office of Criminal Conflict, and Civil Regional Counsel for the 2nd District Court of Appeals in Ft. Myers, Florida.

I am confident that Ms. Neymotin will continue to uphold the law with the utmost standards and will be a great asset to the Florida Bar as it oversees nearly 107,000 attorneys in the State of Florida.

IN RECOGNITION OF MICHAEL
PENALUNA

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2020

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the achievements of Michael Penaluna, Emergency Management Coordinator for the City of Denton, Texas. Mr. Penaluna is retiring after serving the public for over thirty years.

Penaluna began his education at North Central Texas College, where he earned his

Associate of Science degree and training as an Emergency Medical Technician. He served an internship with the City of Bowie and received his Bachelor of Science degree in Crisis/Emergency/Disaster Management from the University of North Texas (UNT) in 1988. This milestone was the foundation for two of his lifelong professional passions: Emergency Management and the University of North Texas. His first position in this field was with the Caddo-Bossier Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness in Shreveport, Louisiana. During his fifteen year tenure with this department, he rose to the position of Assistant Director, served as President of the Louisiana Emergency Preparedness Association, and earned a Masters degree at Louisiana Baptist University & Theological Seminary.

The second chapter in Penaluna's career began in 2004, when he became the Emergency Management Coordinator for the City of Denton. Over the next fifteen years, he was instrumental in broadening and strengthening the city's Emergency Management Program. Penaluna is well-respected by his peers, and he has served as Chair of the Denton Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee and Co-Chair of the North Central Texas Council of Government's Emergency Management Working Group. He has been a sought after guest lecturer at UNT and Texas Woman's University.

Penaluna has been an esteemed mentor and intern supervisor for many students over the years who are now his professional colleagues. In 2015, he was recognized by UNT as the Outstanding Alumnus in Emergency Administration & Planning. Penaluna's legacy will continue to shine brightly as his namesake Michael A. Penaluna Endowed Scholarship in Emergency Administration & Planning at UNT will afford many more students the opportunity to train for the profession he holds so dear.

Throughout his career, Michael Penaluna dedicated over three decades of his life to public service. His expertise and leadership will be sorely missed not only by the citizens of Denton, but also by his colleagues across Texas and beyond. He has truly been an outstanding public servant, and on behalf of the 26th District, I wish him all the best in retirement.

SWITZERLAND IS UNIQUE

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2020

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, the United States of America is grateful for the partnership with the leadership of the Swiss Confederation in partnership with our shared resolve to eradicate the Wuhan Virus.

The Swiss Confederation worked tirelessly through the leadership of the Federal Council, notably Minister of Health, Alain Berset; Foreign Minister, Ignazio Cassis; Minister of Finance, Ueli Mauer and Minister of Economics, Guy Parmelin. Their efforts to end the pandemic, stabilize the economy, and lead through the principles of freedom and democracy enable the United States and Swiss business, scientific, and economic leaders to work

together for vaccine, cures, ventilators, masks, and other critical lifesaving efforts. The Cantonal leadership was also a testament to the success of federalism that the United States and The Swiss Confederation historically share.

The Swiss Confederation is recognized as an international leader in the fight against the pandemic and its Spiez lab has made valuable contributions to the international research that made this recognition possible. Americans are grateful to the people and the Confederation of Switzerland for their unique contribution in fighting this tragic pandemic.

The partnership of Switzerland and the United States is enhanced with the dynamic leadership of Ambassador Ed McMullen, appointed by President Donald Trump.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2020

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, after consulting with physicians about traveling during the COVID-19 pandemic, I was not able to make it to Washington for this vote, but I would have voted NO on H.R. 7120, the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2020. Instituting common-sense police reforms is a bipartisan goal, but this bill is unfortunately an exercise in partisan politics. I continue to support the JUSTICE Act put forth by Senator TIM SCOTT, which contains many bipartisan reform measures, and urge the Speaker to bring it before the House for a vote.

RAE ANN WESSEL

HON. FRANCIS ROONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2020

Mr. ROONEY of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend, and long-time Southwest Florida environmental Advocate Rae Ann Wessel on her retirement today from the Sanibel Captiva Conservation Foundation.

Over the course of her entire career, and especially during her 14 year tenure at the SCCF, Rae Ann has worked tirelessly for the ecosystems of southwest Florida and was major advocate for clean water after the harmful Blue Green Algae Blooms ravaged the precious marine ecosystems, estuaries, and fisheries of the Southwest Florida coastline, as well as being a major factor in restoring Southwest Florida's natural wetlands.

On behalf of myself and the citizens of the Florida 19th Congressional District, and the rest of the Southwest Florida community, we are extremely grateful for the tireless, and resolute work Rae Ann has done to clean up the Environment of not only Southwest Florida, but of the entire State of Florida.

I thank Rae, and we wish her a long, joyful, and blessed retirement.