

and supported those individuals who, as opposition leaders, journalists or human rights advocates, act upon their own human rights to defend the human rights of others, indeed those of all citizens. This was evident in his support for efforts by many of us to hold accountable those who were truly responsible for the murder of Russian opposition figure Boris Nemtsov, or his suggestions on how best to respond to the assault on the citizenry today in Belarus.

Those of us who have engaged through the OSCE PA will miss having George Tsereteli leading our debates from the dais, but I am sure we will continue to have opportunities to work with him in his future endeavors. I am also sure that, passing the gavel to Peter Lord Bowness of the United Kingdom as OSCE PA President, he has left a healthy institution in capable hands. As the Assembly undertakes this leadership transition, I want to assure my colleagues here in Congress and in the OSCE PA of my own enduring commitment to advancing the interests of the United States and of its many friends and partners throughout the OSCE region.

On a more personal note, I consider myself blessed to call George Tsereteli my friend. He has mentored me, encouraged me, and given me extraordinary opportunities to be a voice for my constituents and our nation on the international stage. George's humor and kindness have enriched my life and the lives of all those who have been fortunate enough to cross his path.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in saluting the service of George Tsereteli as the longest serving leader in the history of the OSCE PA as well as recognizing the importance of continued Congressional engagement with the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE.

IN RECOGNITION OF HON. MARCY  
S. FRIEDMAN

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 18, 2020*

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Justice Marcy S. Friedman. For the past three decades, Justice Friedman has capably presided over New York City courts. Justice Friedman was appointed as a Judge of the Housing Part of the Civil Court of New York City in 1991 and was elected to the Civil Court in 1994. In 2000, Justice Friedman was named a Supreme Court Justice by designation and assigned to the New York County Supreme Court, Civil Branch, to which she was re-elected in 2004. In 2012, Justice Friedman was named as a Justice of the Commercial Division, Supreme Court, Civil Branch, New York County. For the past few years, Justice Friedman has served as the Residential Mortgage Backed Securities Judge, working on some of the most complex cases in the courts.

Justice Friedman is a graduate of Smith College, magna cum laude, and of the University of Pennsylvania School of Law, cum laude. She was an associate with Willkie, Farr and Gallagher LLP, a staff attorney with the Legal Aid Society Civil Division, and a managing attorney at MFY Legal Services.

Starting in 2000, Justice Friedman presided over an Individual Assignment Part in New

York County, where she handled torts, commercial case, and a wide variety of other cases, including employment discrimination, insurance, and real estate. Justice Friedman is a long-term member of the New York County's Center for where she has handled mass torts, including pharmaceutical and asbestos cases.

Long committed to improving access to justice, Justice Friedman is a member of the New York County Lawyers Association (NYCLA) Justice Center and a former member of the NYCLA Board of Directors. With the Justice Center, Justice Friedman chaired a Task Force on Housing Court. She also worked with NYCLA and other groups to organize a conference that brought together a distinguished group of prosecutors, defense lawyers, judges and scholars to address the racial impacts of criminal prosecutions of arraignments through sentencing. Justice Friedman has also lectured at the New York City Bar Association and at judicial seminars on various issues, including legal ethics and torts.

After decades of dedicated service, Justice Friedman will be retiring on December 31, 2020. Her tenure has been highlighted by diligent scholarship and thorough review of complex cases. Justice Friedman's notable ability review and synthesize conflicting decisions has been an asset to the New York County Court, and she will be missed.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of Justice Marcy S. Friedman and expressing appreciation for her contributions to the people of New York.

HONORING SENIOR MASTER  
SERGEANT TIMOTHY J. THIELE

**HON. JOHN W. ROSE**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 18, 2020*

Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to a true patriotic Tennessean and American, Senior Master Sergeant Timothy J. Thiele. Sergeant Thiele will retire from the Tennessee Air National Guard later this month after 31 years of dedicated service to his state and nation for which I offer him my most sincere and heartfelt thanks.

Tennessee has long been known as "The Volunteer State," a nickname that was first heard after Tennessee sent a large contingent of soldiers to help fight the British during the War of 1812. The moniker was solidified and forever etched into the history of our state in 1846 when Tennessee was asked to send 2,800 soldiers to help fight the Mexican-American War, but over 30,000 Tennesseans volunteered to go.

Sergeant Thiele's 31 years of volunteer military service is a modern manifestation of that proud Tennessee legacy of honor and sacrifice during which he deployed overseas eleven separate times as a part of Operations Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom, Inherent Resolve, Freedom Sentinel, and New Dawn. Closer to home, and as a part of its unique dual role, the National Guard is often called into action to provide relief and assistance during ruinous natural disasters. Sergeant Thiele was an important part of such efforts on

three separate occasions when Hurricanes Gustav, Rita, and Katrina devastated regions of our country. His valiant efforts and those of his fellow Guard members saved lives and eased the pain inflicted by the storms' destruction on countless fellow Americans.

I would be remiss if I didn't properly note that the families of our men and women in uniform also sacrifice much, especially when their loved ones in the military deploy overseas. Two-parent families suddenly become one-parent families in a practical sense, with the obvious burden that ensues. Sergeant Thiele's wife of 20 years, Tyran, along with his children Tanner and Addison, sacrificed along with him during his deployments, albeit in different ways. Military families understand all too well the sacrifice represented by missed birthdays, holidays, and other special occasions while their loved ones are separated from them in service to their country. For this I want to extend my sincere thanks to Sergeant Thiele's family as well for their own dedication and service to our nation.

As Sergeant Thiele rose through the ranks during his career, he personally trained hundreds of AeroMed Evacuation personnel in Tennessee in addition to leading multistate joint medical training efforts. He became known as a "proven leader" and a "superior role model" by his own superiors, and I couldn't agree more. It is truly an honor to represent this genuine, modern day patriot in the United States Congress.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Senior Master Sergeant Timothy J. Thiele on his retirement, in thanking him and his family for their sacrifice and service, and in wishing them well in all their future endeavors.

MOROVIS NATIONAL CEMETERY  
DEDICATION CEREMONY

**HON. JENNIFFER GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN**

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 18, 2020*

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico. Madam Speaker, democracies like ours are heavily supported by military service undertaken by their citizens. In the United States, soldiers rally under the flag to risk life and limb to defend our liberty and the ideals that define our country. The responsibility the U.S. Congress assumes to send them to war cannot be taken lightly, particularly when their service also weighs heavily upon their family and community. A weight that is disproportionately heavy upon the shoulders of the Puerto Ricans who have valiantly and honorably stepped forward to serve in harm's way without enjoying full representation in the U.S. Congress.

Upon separation from the Armed Forces, Congress honors the military service of its men and women by approving legislation that authorizes a wide variety of benefits through the U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs. Of all these benefits, one that due to its solemn nature faithfully demonstrate the eternal gratitude of this nation towards its citizen soldiers is the interment of their remains in national cemeteries. For those citizen soldiers that give the ultimate sacrifice while in service and for