

service in the public interest that is over and above the normal requirements and of an outstanding and distinctive character in terms of improved operations, public understanding of the department's mission, or accomplishment of one of the major goals of the department, exceptionally outstanding contributions to the Department of Justice or exceptionally outstanding leadership in the administration of major programs that resulted in highly successful accomplishments to meet unique or emergency situations, or extraordinary courage and voluntary risk of life in performing an act resulting in direct benefits to the department or nation. From where I sit, this team has met or exceeded all of these high standards during the course of the investigation. Few other prosecutions have received the external scrutiny in the press, Justice management, and the public eye as did the Freeman prosecution. A terrific amount of juggling priorities and concerns was necessary to pull off a peaceful resolution of this crisis. Their conviction record on this case was solid, and will likely be the model from any similar situations in the future.

So, it gives me great pleasure to bring our attention to this team's success, and I add my thanks for a job well done. We wish them nothing but continued success as they move on to other jobs within their home agencies. Again, congratulations on this great, well-deserved honor.●

BEATRIZ RIVAS ROGALSKI

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I rise to salute my Deputy Chief of Staff, Beatriz (Bea) Rivas Rogalski, on the occasion of her upcoming retirement after 25 years of distinguished service to the people of the United States. As director of casework in my House and Senate offices for more than 16 years, she has helped literally thousands of Californians get the timely assistance they need from their federal government. As Deputy Chief of Staff, she is beloved by staff members and constituents alike.

Bea began her public service as I did, in the office of then-Congressman John Burton. In 1974, Bea Rivas was a recent immigrant from El Salvador. While working at Macy's department store in San Francisco, she took a second part-time job to help support her mother.

Bea went to work in John Burton's campaign office on a temporary basis as a key-punch operator. Given a six-month project, Bea completed it in two months. Following the election, she went to work as a staff assistant in Congressman Burton's district office, answering phones and tracking bills. Her diligence and demeanor quickly impressed her supervisors, who promoted her to case worker.

It was a perfect fit. She quickly learned the most arcane workings of government and did her utmost to help constituents negotiate the shoals of bureaucracy.

Bea has what it takes to help people get their due from their government. She is kind, considerate, generous, and above all patient. I cannot overstate how she always listens carefully, always acts diligently, always goes the extra mile to take care of constituents' needs. She is incomparable and irreplaceable. She will also be irreplaceable.

Mr. President, by serving the people of California so well, Beatriz Rogalski has brought honor on this institution and the United States Government. I hope you will join me in thanking her and sending best wishes to her, her husband Hans Rogalski, and their son Hans, Jr.●

TRIBUTE TO HITCHINER MANUFACTURING COMPANY

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President I rise today to pay tribute to Hitchiner Manufacturing Co., Inc. for receiving Business NH Magazine's 1999 Business of the Year Award.

Since the company moved to Milford, New Hampshire in 1951, Hitchiner has been extremely active within the community. Hitchiner supports the community through contributions to the arts, education, and community welfare. Specifically, they offer much-needed dollars to local and state nonprofits and they make time available for their employees to participate in community affairs. Hitchiner President/CEO, John Morison III, believes when employees work in the community their experiences will translate into a positive experience for the company as a whole.

In addition to being involved in community affairs, Hitchiner Manufacturing is a leader in technology. The company is an international player for investment castings for customers such as General Motors, BMW and General Electric. Hitchiner will soon acquire their tenth patent, thereby establishing themselves as the leader in metallurgical advances.

Hitchiner's profit sharing philosophy has helped create a spirit of team work among its employees. President Morison believes that by sharing the profits and risks, of working as a team, the company will be better equipped to stay on the cutting edge of technology—this is the key to future success.

Mr. President, I salute Hitchiner Manufacturing Company, Inc. and commend their president, John Morison, for his innovative ideas and spirit of community. It is an honor to represent them in the United States Senate.●

SOUTH CAROLINA PEACHES

● Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize South Carolina's peach farmers for their hard work and their delicious peaches.

My staff has been delivering South Carolina peaches to offices throughout the Senate and the U.S. Capitol all

day. Thanks to South Carolina peach farmers, those of us here in Washington will be able to cool off from the summer heat with delicious South Carolina peaches.

For a relatively small state, South Carolina is second in the nation in peach production. In fact, this year farmers across South Carolina planted more than 16,000 acres of peaches. As my colleagues can attest, these are some of the finest peaches produced anywhere in the United States.

As we savor the taste of these South Carolina peaches, we should remember the work and labor that goes into producing such a delicious fruit. While Americans enjoy peaches for appetizers, entrees, and desserts, most do not stop to consider where they come from. Farmers will be laboring all summer in the heat and humidity to bring us what we call the "perfect candy." What else curbs a sweet tooth—is delicious, nutritious, and satisfying, but not fattening? The truth is, Mr. President, that our farmers are too often the forgotten workers in our country. Through their dedication and commitment, our nation is able to enjoy a wonderful selection of fresh fruit, vegetables, and other foods. In fact, our agricultural system, at times, is the envy of the world.

Mr. President, as Senators and their staff feast on these delicious peaches, I hope they will remember the people in South Carolina who made this endeavor possible: David Winkles and the entire South Carolina Farm Bureau; and the South Carolina Peach Council. They have all worked extremely hard to ensure that the Senate gets a taste of South Carolina.

I hope everyone in our Nation's Capitol will be smiling as they enjoy the pleasure of South Carolina peaches.●

TRIBUTE TO TOM RECHTIN, SR.

● Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a fine Kentucky businessman, Tom Rehtin, Sr., President of Tom Rehtin Heating, Air Conditioning and Electric Company.

Tom was recently named "1999 Outstanding Business Person" by the Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce for his community leadership and 35 years of education advocacy. The honor was given as part of the A.D. Albright awards program, which is named for Northern Kentucky University's president emeritus, who was known for encouraging educational excellence in the region.

The Albright Award recognizes Tom's commitment to supporting and encouraging educational activities in the workplace and in the community. His own company serves as a model for his philosophy, as his employees attend and participate in numerous classes and seminars he facilitates. Tom Rehtin's company also employs student interns who are seeking certification.

Tom was also recently named the "1998 National Contractor of the Year"