

IN RECOGNITION OF ASSISTANT SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE MICHAEL D. DROMGOOLE, DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION

### HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 14, 2008*

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC) Michael D. Dromgoole.

Prior to joining the DEA, Michael began his law enforcement career with the Texas Department of Public Safety as a Highway Patrol Trooper in 1973. In 1980, he began his DEA career as a Special Agent and completed assignments in Los Angeles and Santa Barbara, California before coming to Texas. His work ethic and dedication led to multiple promotions and in October 1998, he was reassigned as an Assistant Special Agent in Charge in the Dallas Field Division. After twenty-eight years of service with the DEA, Michael will be retiring this year.

The Dallas area has greatly benefited from his vision and leadership. He foresaw a safer and better community and took every effort to do make this goal a reality. He helped enhance the cooperation between the DEA and local and state agencies, making attempts to combat drug trafficking and the enforcement of controlled substance laws more successful. Michael leaves a legacy of civic duty that will be greatly missed.

Madam Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in expressing our deepest gratitude for his exemplary service to this great Nation.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MR. DON W. KASSING, PRESIDENT OF SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY

### HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 14, 2008*

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of California's most successful university presidents, Mr. Don W. Kassing. Don will be retiring this year and I would like to highlight some of the significant contributions he has made, not only to the university, but also to the surrounding community. It is with mixed emotions that I say farewell to Don—I am saddened to see him go, but do so with tremendous pride and respect for the accomplishments he has made to my alma mater, San Jose State University.

In August of 2004, following the unexpected resignation of his predecessor, Don leapt into action as the newly appointed interim president of San Jose State University. Accepting this position just before the start of the school year, Don moved quickly to reassure an apprehensive campus that all focus would remain on the important business of starting the fall semester. His confidence in the collective capabilities of the San Jose State University faculty and staff, his generous and collegial management and leadership style, and the trust and respect that he had garnered during

his 11 years of service as San Jose State University's vice president for administration and finance quickly created a sense of stability.

One of Don's first actions as president was to galvanize the campus to organize its first-ever campuswide strategic planning process. This thorough planning involved a mobilization of all campus units and resulted in a vibrant "Vision 2010." San Jose State University is now at the end of two full cycles of implementation.

Leading by example, Don repeatedly made thoughtful, public stands on tough issues. He strongly supported a student initiative to honor two San Jose State athletes and civil rights icons, Tommie Smith and John Carlos, medal winners of the 1968 Olympics, who chose a non-violent protest during the medals ceremony to bring attention to the American civil rights movement. The groundbreaking and dedication ceremonies for the campus sculpture in 2007 gave the University at long last the opportunity to appropriately honor and embrace the athletes and their actions.

Building upon the successful partnership with the city of San Jose to develop the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, Don was instrumental in forging the Beyond Martin Luther King collaborative, which initiated a broader commitment and conversation with city and San Jose State University leadership staff and community stakeholders. Since 2004, key partnership projects have sparked neighborhood development, affordable housing-to-workforce enhancement and co-production of major events. This successful collaborative effort serves as a model of how a positive, symbiotic relationship between a lively campus and a vibrant downtown can be used to enhance the stature of both a city and its university.

This year, Don led the campus in a decision to suspend blood drives, citing the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's lifetime blood donor deferral affecting gay men as being in violation of the university's nondiscrimination policy. The public stand taken by SJSU has re-ignited debate across the country about FDA's policy. It is my hope that the questions raised by Don's actions will lead to a thorough, thoughtful, and scientifically sound reexamination of FDA policy.

Mr. Kassing's successes can best be summed up in the words of its accrediting body. In a letter last July, Western Association of Schools and Colleges Executive Director Ralph Wolff said: "The Commission would like to extend its commendation to the San Jose State University community on the truly remarkable distance it has traveled since fall 2004. The team report notes 'significant progress' in assessment of student learning and enrollment management; the positive influence of recent appointments at the senior level; an operational strategic plan; innovative new programs for student success; and above all, dramatic changes in culture, energy and focus on campus."

Madam Speaker, I will miss seeing my friend, Don Kassing, in San Jose, but wish him and his spouse, Amy, only the best as they embark on the next phase of their journey in Arizona.

CONGRATULATING MAJORS DAVID AND PAT WAITE ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR RETIREMENT FROM THE SALVATION ARMY

### HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 14, 2008*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor the long and distinguished careers of Majors David and Pat Waite, on the occasion of their retirement from the Salvation Army.

With careers spanning over 40 years, the Waites' service has carried them across the Southeast, to Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Texas, and Alabama. Their ministry also carried them to South America, where they served in Brazil for three years.

Majors David and Pat met as undergraduates while attending Asbury College in Wilmore, Kentucky. David graduated with a bachelor's degree in psychology, and Pat graduated with a degree in elementary education. They married in 1966 while David was in seminary school, and in 1969, David graduated from Asbury Theological Seminary with a master's of divinity degree.

In 1969, David and Pat entered Officers' Training School. David spent much of this first year of training attending Emory University's Candler School of Theology. As Cadet-Lieutenants, the Waites spent their second year of training in St. Petersburg, Florida, and in 1971, David and Pat were commissioned as officers.

The Waites served in various locations throughout Florida, including Fort Pierce, Jacksonville, Ocala, and Clearwater, before being assigned to the College for Officers' Training in Atlanta, Georgia, where they would stay for three years. Majors David and Pat then went on to serve as corps officers at the Atlanta Temple Corps.

From Atlanta, David and Pat were assigned to Divisional Headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky. Here, David served as the divisional secretary and Pat served as assistant home league secretary. In 1995, the Waites moved to Austin, Texas, where David was appointed territorial candidates secretary and associate candidates secretary.

In 1997, David was named education secretary. His primary responsibility in this capacity was to transition the Education Department from Territorial Headquarters to the Evangeline Booth College. David was also responsible for opening the School for Continuing Education where he served as assistant principal. During their assignment in Austin, Pat opened the Continuing Education Center and served as its director. She also laid the ground work for the new continuing education programs and the degree completion program.

The Waites received their orders assigning them to Brazil in 1999. In Brazil, David served as associate public relations secretary, public relations secretary, and personnel secretary for the Brazil territory. Pat served as the territorial home league secretary and later, as assistant to the personnel secretary.

The Waites arrived in Mobile in 2002 where David was named area commander and Pat was named coordinator for women's activities. After six years of service in Mobile, the Waites are retiring to San Antonio, Florida, where many fellow Salvationists reside.