

IN HONOR OF MR. RODNEY JONES

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2016

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Sanger Police Officer, Mr. Rodney Jones who tragically passed away on June 17, 2016.

Mr. Jones was born in Lompoc, California to Lela and Richard Ira Jones. After attending local schools in Clovis, California, Mr. Jones completed his education in 1978.

After being introduced to the law enforcement profession by his brother-in-law, Mr. Jones went on to receive his Peace Officer Basic Training (POST) certification from the College of the Sequoias in 1996. That same year, he began his career with the Sanger Police Department as a patrolman. Mr. Jones would go on to serve the department diligently in many roles, including Detective, Drug Recognition Expert, and Field Training Officer. The Sanger Police Department is left better off because of his service.

In his personal time, Mr. Jones enjoyed spending time with his children and grandchildren. As an outdoor enthusiast, Mr. Jones was passionate about off-road vehicles, hunting, fishing, and camping, and he loved to share those experiences with family and friends. Additionally, Mr. Jones was a founder and Vice-President of the Sanger Badlands Posse Jeep Club, comprised of fellow police officers, the group would organize rock crawling trips.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life and achievements of Mr. Rodney Jones. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this difficult time.

**WOMEN LEADERS URGE ACTION
ON GUN VIOLENCE**

HON. KATHERINE M. CLARK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2016

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following letter from prominent women leaders from around the country, which urges Congress to take action on gun violence by implementing universal background checks.

WOMEN'S COALITION FOR COMMON SENSE

JULY 14, 2016.

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS: We are a coalition of women leaders from business, law enforcement, government, domestic violence prevention, women's advocacy, journalism, entertainment and public health. Like Americans all across our country, we are outraged by the mass killing in Orlando and other recent tragic events. Our thoughts and prayers remain with the victims and their families. But sadly, these recent tragedies are only the latest horrific events in our national gun violence crisis that claimed 33,000 lives last year. This crisis is destroying families and our communities.

That's why we have come together to demand that you do more to keep guns out of the wrong hands, protect the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding Americans, and

save lives. We are not alone. Americans—Democrats, Republicans, and Independents—agree that we need stronger laws to keep guns out of the hands of dangerous people. It is time for lawmakers like you to listen to your constituents, the very people you were elected to serve.

You can start to address our gun violence crisis by acting to close the loopholes in our laws that allow domestic abusers and felons to buy a gun without a criminal background check. Unlike federally licensed gun dealers, unlicensed sellers are not required to conduct background checks on gun purchases, often with devastating consequences for women and families.

Strengthening our laws and closing these dangerous loopholes would save lives. In states with background checks on all handgun sales, 46% fewer women are murdered with a gun by their intimate partners.

As we continue to mourn the losses from gun violence everywhere, we urge you to give voice to the concerns of your constituents and honor the memory of the 33,000 Americans killed by gun violence every year and enact real, meaningful, and responsible solutions that can help prevent gun tragedies, and make our communities safer places to live.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Gabrielle Giffords, Former Congresswoman (2007-2012)*

The Honorable Madeleine K. Albright, Former United States Secretary of State*

Gail Becker, President of Strategic Partnerships and Global Integration and Chair of the Global Women's Network, Edelman*

Connie Britton, Actress and Activist*

Melanie L. Campbell, Convener, Black Women's Roundtable; President and CEO, NCBCP*

Dr. Brittney Cooper, Professor of Women's and Gender Studies and Africana Studies, Rutgers University*

Kim Gandy, President and CEO, National Network to End Domestic Violence*

Ruth Glenn, Executive Director, National Coalition Against Domestic Violence*

Chief Jané Harteau, Chief of Police, City of Minneapolis*

The Honorable Carla Hills, Former United States Trade Representative*

Nanxi Liu, Founder and CEO, Enplug Technologies

Dyllan McGee, Founder and Executive Producer, MAKERS*

Barbara Bailey Parker, Mother of Alison Parker and Gun Violence Prevention Advocate*

Dr. Lynn Pasquerella, President, Association of American Colleges and Universities*

Jennifer Pinckney, Gun Violence Survivor; Wife of the Late South Carolina State Senator Clementa Pinckney; Founder of The Honorable Reverend Clementa Pinckney Foundation*

Andrea Pino, Co-Founder and Director of Policy and Support, End Rape on Campus*

Katie Ray-Jones, CEO, The National Domestic Violence Hotline*

Dr. Debora Spar, President, Barnard College*

Neera Tanden, President, Center for American Progress*

Robyn Thomas, Executive Director, Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence*

The Honorable Ann Veneman, Former United States Secretary of Agriculture*

Shannon Watts, Founder, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America*

The Honorable Christine Todd Whitman, Former Governor of New Jersey*

Silvestre Acedillo, Founder and Creative Director, VENUTEC

The Honorable Lashrecse D. Aird, Delegate, Virginia House of Delegates

Leah Gunn Barrett, Executive Director, New Yorkers Against Gun Violence

Allie Bones, CEO, Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence (ACESDV)

Dr. Alice Chen, Executive Director, Doctors for America

Cameka Crawford, Chief Communications Officer, The National Domestic Violence Hotline

Andrea Cuvellier

Donna Dees-Thomases, Founder, Million Mom March

Marium Durrani, Public Policy Attorney, National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEVDV)

Dr. Regina Edwards, CEO, Arizona YWCA Metropolitan Phoenix

Judy Fisher, Moms Demand Action

Ilana Flemming, Manager of Advocacy Initiatives, Jewish Women International (JWI)

The Honorable Kate Gallego, Vice Mayor, City of Phoenix

Janet Gilmore

Shira Goodman, Executive Director, CeaseFire Pennsylvania

Rachel Graber, Public Policy Manager, National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV)

Lanae Erickson Hatalsky, Vice President for Social Policy and Politics, Third Way

The Honorable Debra Heffernan, Representative, Delaware House of Representatives

Kathleen Higgins, Officer, Compliance Test Design/Analytics Specialist, Bank of America

Joani Horchler, Maryland Moms Demand Action

Carolyn Jenkins, Organizing for Action

Helene Keeley, Speaker Pro-Tempore, Delaware House of Representatives

Lieutenant General Claudia Kennedy, USA (Ret.)

Nancy Kennedy

Babe King, Organizer, YELLOW TAPE PROJECT to Stop Gun Violence

Suzanne Koeplinger, Former Executive Director, Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center

Captain Gail Kulisch, USCG (Ret.)

Ronald Legrand, Vice President, Public Policy, National Network to End Domestic Violence

Dr. Barbara Levy, Vice President, Health Policy, The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

Gail Levyveld

Shelly Livingston, C Street Democrats

The Honorable Valerie Longhurst, Representative, Delaware House of Representatives

Jennifer Lynch, Oregon Alliance for Gun Safety

Natalie Marra

Heather Martens, Executive Director, Protect Minnesota

Martha Strawn Morris, Director, The Gateway Center for Domestic Violence Services

Nonna Noto, Jubilee Jobs

Chelsea Parsons, Vice President, Guns and Crime Policy, Center for American Progress

The Honorable Karen Peterson, Senator, Delaware State Senate

Jody Rabhan, Director, Washington Office, National Council of Jewish Women

Jane Randel, Co-Founder, Karp Randel

Beth Reilly, Faith Advocate and Organizer

Patricia Reuss, Policy Advisor, National Organization for Women

Carol Robles-Román, President and CEO, Legal Momentum

The Honorable Katherine Rogers, New Hampshire House of Representatives

The Honorable Diane Rosenbaum, Senate Majority Leader, Oregon State Senate

Deborah Rosenbloom, Vice President of Programs and New Initiatives, Jewish Women International (JWI)