

Oriented Policing Services [COPS] was established. Halfway through the 6-year program, 65,000 officers have been added to police forces across the Nation, and reports of dramatic drops in crime are coming in from cities throughout the country.

Cleveland, OH, is one of these COPS success stories. Juvenile crime had been on the rise in Cleveland. Arrests for weapons violations rose 67 percent from 1989 to 1994. A 35-percent increase in juvenile felony arrests was seen between 1992 and 1993 alone. In spite of this rise in crime, the number of police officers had declined. The Cleveland Police Department has received over \$8 million in grants from the COPS Office. Among many COPS funded programs, one especially innovative and successful program stands out, the Residential Area Policing Program [RAPP].

In an effort to create more of a community policing presence, the Cleveland Police Department identified abandoned, nuisance properties in various neighborhoods, restored the properties, and stationed specially trained community policing officers there 24 hours a day. These officers established themselves in the neighborhood, made regular patrols, and conducted door-to-door surveys of the residents' problems. They also hosted training seminars and provided a safe house to the youths of the area. In short, the community police formed partnerships with the residents of the neighborhoods and, together, they improved the appearance of the neighborhood, identified community problems, and developed substantial solutions. In each of the four sites selected for the yearlong program, the community officers became integral members of the community and left lasting, positive effects. Drug traffic has decreased, gunfire has diminished, and the number of civil disputes is down. Equally as important, the number of calls for service rose 100 percent, showing that the residents felt comfortable turning to the police for help.

RAPP is but one of many endeavors on the part of the Cleveland Police Department to get more involved in community policing. Over \$11 million have been awarded to communities in the 10th Congressional District of Ohio resulting in the hiring of over 170 new officers. Residents profess that the programs have helped reduce crime, and the statistics prove it. Community policing works, and I support its continued funding so other cities may see the rewards of communities and police departments working together to combat crime.

TRIBUTE TO NELLO RICARDI

HON. JOHN W. OLVER

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 1997

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Nello Ricardi of Westfield, MA, in recognition of his selection as the Westfield Democratic Committee's Democrat of the Year.

Mr. Ricardi has had a long history in organized labor and politics. Nello began his career at the Savage Arms, Inc. in Chicopee, MA, which had a labor force in direct affiliation with the AFL-CIO. He served in a variety of positions in his local work force chapter, in-

cluding shop steward, trustee, treasurer, vice president, and business manager.

Nello joined the U.S. Marine Corps and served in the South Pacific during World War II. After World War II, he received a full scholarship from Massachusetts AFL-CIO to attend Harvard Business School. Following graduation from Harvard, he served as the New England field representative for the national AFL-CIO, where he was responsible for 131 direct affiliates in New England. He took the lead on organizing locals, negotiating contracts, and handling arbitrations and grievances. He was able to achieve some significant organizing successes, such as American Optical, Dennison and Marble Mines to name a few.

In the later years Nello became the New England legislative director for the national AFL-CIO and served for a short period as a legislative lobbyist at the national level. He then went on to work at the education program at the George Meany Center in Silver Spring, MD before his retirement. In total, Nello spent 27 years with the national AFL-CIO.

Nello has been a member of the Westfield Democratic Committee for over 20 years. He is a very modest man that does not like the limelight. He is, simply put, "a doer," volunteering for whatever the committee needs. It is people like Nello that make the difference in government and politics.

I am pleased to pay tribute to Nello Ricardi, someone who has been a great asset to his community, to Massachusetts, to New England, and to his country.

HONORING THE LIFELONG SERVICE OF WILBUR F. LITTLEFIELD

HON. JAMES E. ROGAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 1997

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who has dedicated his life to serving his family, the people of Los Angeles County, and his country. In over 40 years of service as an attorney, Wilbur F. Littlefield has proven himself to be deeply respected and a dedicated public servant. Although he is best known as a man of the law, he is modest about the other fascinating experiences that have shaped his life and molded his character.

Like many who answered their country's call during World War II, Bill Littlefield volunteered to fight for his country. As he would do later in his life, Bill distinguished himself as a man of unique ability. He served his tour of duty as a member of the 'Alamo Scouts,' an elite corps of men who fought behind enemy lines gathering intelligence and tracking enemy movements. As a scout, Bill saw action in Guadalcanal, Luzon, and Leyte. He contracted malaria during one of the campaigns.

After the war, Bill worked his way through law school at Hastings College of The Law before returning home to Los Angeles. His passion for trial work led him to the Los Angeles County Public Defender's Office, where his skills were rapidly recognized. He rose steadily through the ranks, and in 1976 was appointed the Public Defender for Los Angeles County.

Under Bill's leadership, the Office of the Public Defender implemented innovative pro-

grams like paralegal training and the bilingual service program. He provided service to the needs of the indigent accused while never losing sight of the needs of the community as a whole. Bill retired from the Public Defender's Office in 1993.

As a member of the armed services, as an attorney, and as a public servant, Bill Littlefield has distinguished himself as a man of great integrity and dedication. Under his leadership, the Los Angeles County Public Defender's Office grew to be one of the largest and most respected legal service agencies in the country.

As a long-time admirer of his, I am honored to recognize his service to his country. On behalf of the U.S. Congress, I salute him for a job well done, and offer the thanks of a grateful nation to one of her distinguished sons.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL L. MEYER

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to pay tribute to Michael L. Meyer who is being honored by the Construction Industries Alliance for City of Hope with the Spirit of Life Award.

The proceeds from the awards dinner honoring Michael will establish the Michael L. Meyer Research Fellowship at City of Hope and its Beckman Research Institute. City of Hope utilizes its energy and resources to seek better treatments for major diseases, primarily cancer. Patients attend this center from all over the world for treatment of such afflictions as leukemia and other cancers, diabetes, and hereditary or genetic problems. At City of Hope, emphasis is placed on not only treating the body, but invigorating the soul.

For 80 years, City of Hope has been dedicated to improving the lives of others and has aptly named their research fellowship for an individual who has selflessly dedicated much of his life to enriching our community.

Michael is currently the managing partner of E&Y Kenneth Leventhal Real Estate Group's Orange County Office. He has played an important leadership role in the real estate industry over the past 20 years and his expertise has made him a valuable resource for most of the major real estate companies in our community.

In addition to his valuable work within the industry, he has dedicated his time and efforts to community service. He is the director of the Construction Industries for the City of Hope, and the chairman of the United Way's Alexis de Tocqueville Society. He is also on the board of the Orange County Museum of Art.

City of Hope is not the first organization to take notice of Michael Meyer's extensive community and business leadership activities. He has received the Tree of Life Award from the Jewish National Fund and the Human Relations Award from the American Jewish Committee. Tonight, he adds the Spirit of Life Award to his distinguished list of accomplishments.

Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join me in paying tribute to Michael Meyer for his generosity and dedication to our community.