

TRIBUTE TO JOHNNIE B. BOOKER

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 16, 2011

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Johnnie B. Booker on the occasion of her retirement from the Coca-Cola Company. Ms. Booker's career has been marked by an extraordinary record of success as a corporate executive, national expert on workforce and supplier diversity, and senior federal government official.

Ms. Booker has served as Global Director of Supplier Diversity for the Coca-Cola Company since 2001. In this capacity, she has been responsible for developing and implementing the company's supplier diversity program and initiatives to assure equal contracting opportunities for minority- and women-owned businesses. During her first year with Coca-Cola, contracts with minority- and women-owned businesses increased over the previous year by 50 percent, exceeding the company's goal by 27 percent. Under Ms. Booker's leadership, the company has consistently exceeded its goals for subsequent years, and its supplier diversity profile has grown substantially in actual dollars expended and global recognition.

Mr. Speaker, I might add that this is Ms. Booker's second retirement. Before joining Coca-Cola, she had a successful career in the federal government, culminating in her role as Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity at the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), from which she retired in 1996. In 1991, Ms. Booker joined the Resolution Trust Corporation (RTC) as Vice President, Division of Minority and Women's Programs. While at the RTC, she created unprecedented contracting and investment opportunities for minority- and women-owned businesses and law firms. She commissioned the first disparity study by a federal agency and increased contracting fees for minority- and women-owned businesses from 18 percent to over 48 percent and from 3 to 26 percent for minority- and women-owned law firms. Her work at the RTC served as a model for other federal agencies as well as private companies seeking to establish viable minority procurement programs.

Prior to her tenure at the RTC, Ms. Booker served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. In this role, she established a new office of affirmative action and equal opportunity and successfully revamped the Department's fragmented approach to discrimination complaint processing and affirmative employment programs. Ms. Booker also served in executive capacities with the Federal Home Loan Bank Board and the National Urban League.

Active in her community, Ms. Booker serves on the boards of the National Minority Supplier Development Council, Women's Business Enterprise National Council, US Pan Asian Chamber of Commerce, Bronx Community College Foundation, the Ashley Stewart Foundation, National Advisory Board of the Whitney M. Young, Jr., School of Social Work—Clark Atlanta University and the Supplier Diversity Council of The Conference Board. Her civic affiliations include Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Dogwood City Chapter of The Links, Inc., Circle-Lets, The National Black Child Develop-

ment Institute, NAACP, Urban League and Big Bethel AME Church. Ms. Booker has appeared in a myriad of national publications and has received numerous honors and awards for her outstanding professional contributions and accomplishments.

Ms. Booker received a Bachelor of Science Degree from Hampton University and a Master of Social Work Degree from the Atlanta University School of Social Work. She is the proud mother of a son, S. Courtney Booker, III, mother-in-law of Nissa and grandmother of two wonderful grandchildren, Dalyn and Aiden, who bring her special joy. I know that she is looking forward to being able to spend more time with them in retirement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the entire House join me in congratulating Ms. Johnnie B. Booker on this well deserved retirement. I wish her good health and Godspeed.

HONORING SARAH SMIERCIAK, RECIPIENT OF THE 2011 RHODES SCHOLARSHIP

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 16, 2011

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sarah Smierciak, a graduate of my alma mater, Northwestern University, who was recently awarded a prestigious Rhodes Scholarship.

Ms. Smierciak hails from Lemont and majored in History and in Middle East Language and Civilization. She studied Arabic at the American University in Cairo and Damascus University. She is also an accomplished triathlete and a member of the Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society.

Established in 1903, Rhodes Scholarships are awarded to outstanding well-rounded students to attend Oxford University for post-graduate study. The selection committee identifies young men and women of outstanding intellect, character, leadership, and commitment to service. Over 830 of our nation's top students applied and Sarah was awarded one of only 83 Rhodes Scholarships.

Ms. Smierciak's work and experiences demonstrate that she is a very deserving choice for this prestigious scholarship. She has published articles on social justice and published her photography, and serves as a docent on Egyptian art at The Field Museum.

Fluent in Arabic, she currently resides in Egypt, where she is promoting the value of education by assisting orphans in the aftermath of the Egyptian Revolution. Through her work with the international charity, FACE for Children in Need, she is working to develop a teaching curriculum for the street children of Egypt and Sudan. She remains tireless in her devotion to helping these young boys appreciate the need for education.

Ms. Smierciak plans to use her Rhodes Scholarship to pursue developmental studies at Oxford University. She aspires to one day be an advisor at the United Nations.

I ask you to join me in honoring Ms. Sarah Smierciak, a member of the Rhodes Scholarship Class of 2012, and may she have success in all her endeavors to promote the value of education throughout the United States and the world.

RECOGNIZING RADM MICHAEL A. BROWN

HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 16, 2011

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Rear Admiral Michael A. Brown for his distinguished service to the Government of the United States as the Director, Cybersecurity Coordination, National Protection and Programs Directorate, and Senior Department of Homeland Security Cybersecurity Representative to the National Security Agency and the United States Cyber Command from December 2010 to January 2012.

Rear Admiral Brown is a national level leader on cybersecurity, a matter of highest importance to the nation's national security, homeland defense and economic competitiveness. Since the Department of Defense and the Department of Homeland Security each bring different authorities, capabilities and cultures to this national challenge, the nation needed an astute solution provider and consensus builder in each of these areas. Handpicked to bridge the two leading Departments in this mission space, he quickly earned the respect of each due to his intellect, skill and determination for national-level solutions and brought the Departments closer together.

Rear Admiral Brown's sound advice routinely developed and informed policy and operations positions taken by senior decision makers at the national level, thereby advancing national and international cybersecurity policy and critical legislative proposals needed to change the nation's antiquated cybersecurity-related laws. Few people had a bigger role at increasing the understanding and appreciation of the complexity and relationship between policy, technology and operations required to secure our nation's public and private infrastructure.

Rear Admiral Brown's leadership was crucial in the execution of a first-of-its-kind government-wide boundary cyber defense system to which the U.S.'s foreign intelligence system would be connected, to setting the course to transform DHS's cyber operational centers into national assets, to creating the public-private partnerships necessary to jointly operate to mitigate extraordinarily pressing nation state, crime, and hacktivist cyber threats.

The National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center was another of his notable achievements providing the vision and execution to make it operational. Both a warrior and innovative thinker, he seamlessly worked with government and private sector counterparts to strengthen and support operational partnerships.

During a perilous time for our nation, in which our adversaries' ability and will to steal and control our national assets through cyberspace often far outpaces our posture to stop it, Rear Admiral Brown helped set the necessary strategic direction by unifying the Federal Executive branch, state and local government, the U.S. critical infrastructure community, and the private sector. His leadership culminated in a White House-supported effort that defined a national plan for unified public and private response to malicious activity under the National Cyber Incident Response Plan.