

Corporation (SIPC) and their henchmen, whose antics, behavior, and positions were the antithesis of investor protection—financial self interest and preservation clearly appeared to be their guiding mantra. Finally, when SIPC sought the Court's blessing for its wrongful conduct and breach of trust, the court's bizarre deference to SIPC and their blatant misapplication of the Securities Investor Protection Act (SIPA) resulted in a perverted process and erroneous interpretations of SIPA, which, further victimized these customers by depriving them of the financial protections and benefits mandated by SIPA and exposed them to draconian claw-back lawsuits seeking to strip them of what few remaining assets they might still possess.

Examples abound supporting these conclusions. If someone walked into a securities firm and purchased a stock or a bond, who would believe that such a person would not be considered a "customer" and would be denied basic Congressionally created customer protections? Why would a customer of a failed securities house, one who had no knowledge of a Ponzi scheme operated by the broker-dealer, be subjected to costly litigation to defend the returns their account statements told them they had earned from their investments? Why would a customer of a broker-dealer receive a monthly "account statement", purporting to evidence their financial position at the firm, and later the parties charged with protecting the rights of those customers be allowed to disregard those statements and eliminate all stated returns in the account? And who could have ever anticipated that this same entity would elect to adopt a "valuation" methodology patently designed to provide the lowest values to the customers in order to maximize its own bank accounts and resources? While these results seem fanciful and far fetched, they are the realities that innocent customers of these three broker dealers have had to endure.

While the courts are charged with the responsibility of interpreting statutes, that function properly involves determining Congressional intent. If, as here, the Courts have misinterpreted that intent, it is then the role of Congress to reaffirm what it actually meant and to clarify how Congress meant to achieve the desired results. Thus the Garrett-Maloney bill is not an attempt to rewrite SIPA retroactively. Rather it is intended to reaffirm what Congress meant all along—the protection of innocent customers who have been defrauded by a dishonest broker-dealer.

When Congress reconvenes in January, we will expeditiously address these important issues—victims have been victimized for too long. Victims will receive what they are due. Victims who had no actual knowledge of the frauds will be extricated from the harassing "claw back" lawsuits. Much progress was made on these issues during the past two years—numerous hearings were held and support for the Garrett-Maloney bill is now robust and bipartisan. Addressing these issues, and providing appropriate remedies for the victims, will be a top priority in January, indeed an urgent one.

IN PRAISE OF CONGRESSIONAL
STAFF

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, throughout my tenure in the House of Representatives, I have been continually impressed by the legions of staffers who eagerly sign up to serve in the ranks of Congressional aides.

Having started my own career of public service as a staffer in the U.S. Senate, I know a little about laboring behind the scenes, answering the phones, responding to the mail, enduring the long hours of sometimes mundane, often utterly thankless tasks that keep this place running for the people we were elected to serve. These eager, bright minds come to this place looking to make a difference in the world. They sacrifice higher paying jobs in the private sector, and precious time with their family and friends, in order to work without applause for the betterment of our Nation.

These members of our staffs do their work anonymously and generally do their work exceedingly well, putting their heart and soul into fighting for the people we were elected to serve. Frankly, they put up with a lot and Members of Congress ought to do more to defend these loyal employees. When the slings and arrows of public anger are aimed at this institution, these staffers have demonstrated, time and again, a selfless willingness to stand silently as their jobs and benefits are slashed in some ill-conceived sacrificial exercise. They are not our political shields. It is the lot of a leader—a true leader—to take the hits.

Before retiring this year, I want to acknowledge and express my deep gratitude to the staff members who have been by my side throughout my career. And I take this moment to express my undying thanks to those who stayed with me until the very end—never wavering in their loyalty to me and the constituency we served together. These are outstanding and dedicated individuals who deserve the highest praise for their selfless sacrifice and service in behalf of the people of southern West Virginia.

David McMaster, my Chief of Staff

Kent Keyser, my longtime aide and trusted advisor

Kate Denman, my Deputy Chief of Staff

Diane Luensmann, my Communications Director

Carol Wallace, my Projects Director

Josh Sutherland, my Legislative Correspondent

Megan Price, my Staff Assistant

Andy Mollohan and Rachel Meyer, my Legislative Assistants,

Kelly Dyke, my District Director, and Greg Crist, Kim McMillion, and Larone Alexander, who worked in the Congressional Office in Beckley

Debrina Workman, Teri Booth, and Debbie Stevens—my longtime district aides who staffed the Congressional Offices in Logan, Huntington, and Bluefield

Jim Zoia, Ann Adler, Ward McCarragher, Ed Gilman, Lisa James, and Luke Strimer on my Transportation and Infrastructure Committee staff.

HONORING SHERIFF OLIVER
PARKER, JR.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary community leader, Sheriff Oliver Parker, Jr.

Sheriff Oliver Parker, Jr.'s life began in Duncan, MS. Sheriff Parker's mother, Mrs. Eddie Mae Parker, relocated to Hinchcliff, MS when he was 10 years old. Sheriff Parker has resided in Quitman County for over 50 years. He is a graduate of Quitman County High School, Northwest Junior College, and the Mississippi Law Enforcement Training Academy. Parker completed the Mississippi Fire Investigation Training Academy as a requirement to become an Arson Investigator. He has one daughter, Fatina Parker Elliott; one granddaughter, Ashley-Faith Elliott; and one goddaughter, Detra Foster-Webb.

Sheriff Parker has never been a stranger to hard work. He worked assiduously as a teenager to help his single mother provide for his siblings. He has always had a desire to help others. He knew at an early age that he wanted to make a difference in the lives of the citizens of Quitman County. He pursued his dreams of helping the citizens of Quitman County by beginning a career in law enforcement. He served in the capacity of Deputy Sheriff for the Quitman County Sheriff's Department for 23 years. In 1999 he pursued his life-long dream of becoming the Sheriff of Quitman County. He was elected the first African-American Sheriff of Quitman County in November of 1999 and took the Oath of Office on December 9, 1999. He began his responsibilities as Sheriff of Quitman County on January 1, 2000. He has humbly served as Sheriff of Quitman County for 14 years.

Since the beginning of his career as Sheriff of Quitman County, Sheriff Parker has instituted change in a variety of ways and made major contributions to the Quitman County Sheriff's Department. Jailed youth are offered a variety of programs designed to help them avoid returning to jail, as well as GED tutoring and testing. The elderly are assisted via the TRIAD Program. Sheriff Parker also initiated the employment of a full-time School Resource Officer at Madison Shannon Palmer High School. Under Sheriff Parker's leadership, a full-time detective and additional deputies and dispatchers were hired to assist with protecting and serving the citizens of Quitman County. Sheriff Parker's leadership has proven to be successful, as there were no unsolved murders in Quitman County until February 8, 2013.

Sheriff Parker was present at a major milestone in the history of Quitman County which was the unveiling of the Mule Train sign at the city limits of Marks, Mississippi.

Sheriff Parker possesses sound judgment; he has a great sense of accountability to the citizens of Quitman County; and he has an irreproachable professionalism. Sheriff Parker constantly seeks to establish relationships with the community that ensures continued trust and dependability. He is a God-fearing individual who seeks to serve the citizens of Quitman County with the utmost respect, dignity and honesty.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sheriff Oliver Parker, Jr. for his dedication in being a respected community leader.

MOTOR TRANSPORTATION
COMPANY 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Motor Transportation Company as they celebrate their 100th anniversary.

The Motor Transportation Company, founded in 1914 by Leon Dotter, began with a mail route from Lehighton to Stroudsburg. Leon also hauled coal from the Harwood Mines to bins in the Hazleton Steam Heating Co. and transported coal miners throughout local coal mining villages. Following the economic devastation of the Depression and the decline of the coal industry, Herman Dotter, a veteran who served in the U.S. Marine Corps, shifted the company's focus to school busing while still ensuring residents of the Hazleton area had access to first-class transportation. In 1959, Motor Transportation achieved national recognition by winning Fleet Owner Magazine's color design award, no doubt due in part to the company's signature "orange wheels." In 1978, Herman developed Hazleton Area Transit, providing service from Hazleton to the surrounding areas, and he also promoted tourism into the region's historic coal mining area. Currently, third generation Lee Dotter and Lori Dotter Yanuzzi run the company and maintain the organization's commitment to providing quality service, mainly focusing on tourism.

Mr. Speaker, on the 100th anniversary of its founding, I thank all of the members of the Motor Transportation Company, past and present, for their hard work and continued efforts to provide quality transportation services and tours for the people of Northeast Pennsylvania, and I wish the organization many more years of successful service.

IN RECOGNITION OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE VICKI BARNETT FOR TWENTY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF FARMINGTON HILLS AND MICHIGAN

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a valued public servant to the people of Michigan, my dear friend, State Representative Vicki Barnett. After twenty years of service to the residents of the Greater Farmington area at both the local and state level, Vicki is preparing to embark upon new endeavors.

Prior to her embarking upon her journey of public service, Vicki worked as a financial planner, helping her clients realize their goals through making sound investments, a profession she has continued during her tenure as an elected official. Vicki is also a licensed accident, life and health insurance agent.

As a person who cares deeply for the well-being and vitality of her community, Vicki sought to make a difference in Farmington Hills, one of Oakland County's most populous and diverse cities, and was elected to the Farmington Hills City Council in 1995. She went on to serve as a Councilwoman for eight years before the voters of Farmington Hills elected her their mayor in 2003. While serving as mayor, Vicki worked to revitalize her community by creating a long-term economic master plan that focused on encouraging mixed-use developments and increasing commercial density—plans which put Farmington Hills at the forefront of these efforts. In recognition of her strong record of service and results, she was named the President of the Michigan Municipal League from 2006 to 2007 and was named one of Detroit's most influential women by Crain's Magazine in 2007.

Following her time in city government, Vicki went on to continue the legacy of another great Farmington Hills Mayor in Lansing and public servant, Aldo Vagnozzi, a man who also served as her mentor. I know it was a great honor for Vicki to be entrusted to succeed Aldo both as Mayor and later as Farmington and Farmington Hills' voice in Michigan's House of Representatives in Lansing. In that role, she has continued her exemplary commitment to public service, working across the aisle as an advocate for strengthening public schools, leveraging Michigan's resources to draw new industries to the state, and protecting communities' abilities to provide essential services to their residents. In recognition of her outstanding leadership, she was named the 2012 Legislator of the Year by the Police Officers Association of Michigan.

I have been so fortunate to have a partner at the state level like Vicki, who has been a strong voice and valuable resource for the people of Michigan. With experience that transcends multiple levels of government, her advice on the issues affecting the state of Michigan has been invaluable.

Mr. Speaker, as a public servant, I know that our local elected officials are dedicated to the communities they serve. Vicki has demonstrated this throughout her tenure of service to the people of the Greater Farmington area and Michigan. I know her passion and reason will be greatly missed by her colleagues in the Michigan Legislature, but as someone who cares deeply for her community, I know Vicki will continue to be involved in endeavors that seek to strengthen the City of Farmington Hills and other municipalities across Michigan. I wish her success in her new endeavors and look forward to continuing to work with her for the people of Michigan.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN RUSH
HOLT

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the career of Congressman RUSH HOLT.

During his time in the House, Congressman HOLT has been a leader on protecting the environment and his voice on this important issue will be sorely missed. A research physi-

cist by training, his constituents are known to boast bumper stickers proclaiming "My Congressman IS a Rocket Scientist." I know we have all benefited from RUSH's intelligence and wisdom during his time in office.

I was fortunate to have the opportunity to work with RUSH on protecting our environment. His perspective as a scientist has enriched the debate over conserving our natural resources and seeking clean sources of alternative energy. I wish him the best in his new role as CEO of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a cause that is close to his heart.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the service of Congressman RUSH HOLT in the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING CHARLES MCLIMANS
AND LOAVES AND FISHES COMMUNITY SERVICES

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Charles McLimans, the President and CEO of Loaves & Fishes Community Services in Naperville, Illinois.

Loaves & Fishes is a nonprofit community organization that has become an institution for Naperville and DuPage County for both the population it serves and the over 1,500 volunteers that help every year. The Loaves & Fishes Community Pantry provided aid to over 18,000 people in 2012–2013, handling over 3 million pounds of groceries. Additionally, the organization's Pathways to Empowerment program assists people in accessing vital community services and training courses.

Mr. McLimans is stepping down as President and CEO on January 9, 2014 after seven years leading the organization. Under his leadership, Loaves & Fishes has moved to a new home, added additional services such as healthcare counseling and computer classes, and expanded its coverage to serve all of DuPage County.

I would like to thank Charles McLimans for his service to our community and for his tireless efforts in the fight against hunger.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN KNOCHEL

HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and salute a notable Hoosier, Mr. John Knochel, who after years of service to Tippecanoe County, Indiana, will be retiring on December 31, 2014. On behalf of the citizens of Tippecanoe County, I wish to express our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for his leadership and service to our community, state, and country.

John is a lifelong Hoosier and Tippecanoe County resident. He served as District 1 Tippecanoe County Commissioner since 1997. During those 17 years, he oversaw the construction of the County Parking Garage and organized the development of the Tippecanoe