

Violent acts such as this highlight the need for serious and positive reforms to help enhance public safety.

Congress needs to work with the President to develop and enact sensible gun violence prevention legislation.

We cannot give up, no matter the obstacles placed before us.

We can no longer be complacent or passive; we need to enact policies that could save lives.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask, how many more lives and incidents will it take before Congress acts to take on this pressing issue?

Are not the shootings in Aurora, Colorado; Sandy Hook, Connecticut; Charleston, South Carolina; Tucson, Arizona; Blacksburg, Virginia; and Chattanooga, Tennessee, or any of the other 200 mass shootings across the nation, enough to spur us to act?

Mr. Speaker, it does not have to be this way; there are many actions we can take to reduce gun violence in America.

All we have to do is summon the will.

HONORING KRISTIN WELSH-SIMPSON

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of this great institution and those who serve and work here to acknowledge and express appreciation to one of our long-tenured House employees, Kristin Welsh-Simpson—a Senior Employee Assistance Counselor with the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)—who is departing the House following her fifteen years of service in the Office of Employee Assistance (OEA).

Kristin first came to the House in 1996 as a graduate student intern in the Office of Employee Assistance as part of her graduate studies at the National Catholic School of Social Services, at The Catholic University of America. Following the awarding of her Master's Degree in Social Work, she took a position in the private sector as an Employee Assistance Account Manager for an international EAP provider, and oversaw the employee assistance service contract for a large global health products company. Fortunately for the House, the CAO and OEA were able to permanently hire her in 2000 when she joined the Office of Employee Assistance as an Employee Assistance Counselor.

Almost immediately, Kristin began applying her special case management and organizational skills in service to the Members and employees of the House, the Congressional Budget Office and the United States Capitol Police. She has worked diligently and tirelessly to assist managers and employees in addressing the myriad of personal challenges, mental health and addiction problems, and other behavioral and work-life balance issues that potentially impact the performance and productivity of our workforce. With barely a year of service under her belt, Kristin and her OEA colleagues found themselves in the uncharted territory of assisting House Leadership, Members, Officers, and employees through the emotional turmoil and psychological recovery following September 11th and

the anthrax crisis in October 2001. Specifically, she was part of both the OEA team's response to the emotional and psychological support needs of individual employees and work groups, and the CAO's larger communications effort managed by the (OEA). She served with the OEA as the critical informational link to the House workforce throughout the six weeks in which sections of the House campus were closed—keeping employees and families informed of the status of the remediation efforts and the staggered opening of offices as well as the availability of House services as sections of the House buildings were cleared for occupancy and resumption of operations. Unfortunately, with the realities of our world, these were not to be the only crises that Kristin and the employee assistance team would be called upon to assist us with and support us through. Kristin's skills and capabilities would be particularly helpful following the tragic shootings in Tucson in January 2011, beginning with her on-site support and assistance within hours of the incident.

In addition to being on the front lines in providing the support and services of the Office of Employee Assistance team to the House, CBO and Capitol Police communities in the aftermath of some of the most troubling events of the past fifteen years, Kristin has established a reputation as a go-to person. Kristin has been sought out for her day-to-day work in consulting with and coaching Members, managers and employees to assist them with the challenges presented when an employee's personal issues impact their performance or the effectiveness of the office. It is on this level that I personally became familiar with Kristin and her tremendous work ethic, insights and capabilities. She has worked with me and my staff for several years, helping to plan and facilitate our annual staff retreat and to incorporate some critical staff development into the process.

Whether providing the OEA's critical assessment, referral and follow-up services to an employee in crisis, consulting with a Member or Chief of Staff on strategies to effectively integrate communications and team development into an annual staff retreat, or conducting a training session for the general House workforce, Kristin has consistently brought compassion, competence, organizational insight, institutional sensitivity, and practical solutions to her work. It seems fitting that one of Kristin's major responsibilities in the Office of Employee Assistance this past year was serving as the office's Intern Field Placement Instructor for a graduate student from Catholic University—somewhat bringing her career with the House full circle.

As Kristin departs the House to assume the position of Employee Assistance Director for the United States Senate, I regret the House's loss but take comfort in knowing that the Congress will continue to benefit from her knowledge and experience. I join the Chief Administrative Officer, Ed Cassidy; the CAO's Acting Chief Human Resource Officer, Darnell Lee; and the entire OEA team—Bernard Beidel, Liz McBride-Chambers, Margot Hawkins-Green, and Paul Tewksbury—in thanking Kristin for her service to the Office of Employee Assistance and the House, and in wishing her well and much success as her employee assistance career takes her to new challenges and opportunities. As someone who has personally benefited from the assistance and support she

has provided my staff and office, I am confident I speak for the many Members, employees and family members she has helped, assisted and supported over the past fifteen years. Well done and Godspeed, Kristin.

TRIBUTE TO TOM McMAHON

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Tom McMahon of Fairfield, Iowa, for receiving the 2015 Leadership for Iowa Award from the Iowa Association of Business and Industry Foundation.

Each year, the Iowa Association of Business and Industry Foundation selects one distinguished recipient to receive the Leadership for Iowa Award. The individual selected for this award must display a willingness and commitment in serving Iowa. They must also have occupied a leadership position in civic or professional organizations as well as displayed a knack for leading others on a wide-range of issues.

Tom was granted this prestigious award because of his involvement and leadership in his community. He demonstrated his willingness to serve through his time as a volunteer for Leadership Iowa, Leadership Iowa University and Business Horizons, along with his tenure on the ABI Board of Directors. Tom's commitment to mentoring future business leaders truly embodies our Iowa values.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to represent Iowans like Tom in the United States Congress, and I applaud him for his commitment to service and giving back to the community. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating him for receiving this award. I wish him all the best moving forward.

IN RECOGNITION OF TOM JAWETZ AND HIS SERVICE TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I, along with Representative ZOE LOFGREN of California, would like to thank Tom Jawetz for more than six years of service to the House of Representatives. Throughout this time, Tom has served as a dedicated counsel to the Judiciary Committee under three Chairmen, including myself, Representative LAMAR SMITH, and Representative BOB GOODLATTE. For the past year, he has served as the Minority Chief Counsel to the Judiciary's Committee's Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security.

A native of New York City, Tom graduated summa cum laude from Dartmouth College with a bachelor's degree in Philosophy and Government. Tom developed a passion for working with low-income communities through an AmeriCorps fellowship in Charleston, South Carolina. As an AmeriCorps fellow, Tom

worked with community members and witnessed the myriad challenges faced by those suffering from chronic poverty. Tom took his passion for working with the disadvantaged to Yale Law School where he served as a student clerk in the Complex Federal Litigation Clinic and a Student Director in the Immigration Legal Services Clinic.

After graduating from Yale Law School, Tom clerked for the Honorable Kimba M. Wood in the United States District Court, Southern District of New York. He continued his immigration advocacy as an Arthur Liman Public Interest Fellow at the Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs where he represented asylum seekers and designed pro se programs for immigrants in removal proceedings.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, Tom began working with the National Prison Project of the American Civil Liberties Union. As a litigation fellow with the National Prison Project, Tom helped to produce a groundbreaking comprehensive report condemning the belated evacuation of the Orleans Parish Prison. Tom combined his experience investigating prison abuse in New Orleans with his immigration expertise when he was hired to be the Immigration Detention Staff Attorney for the National Prison Project. In that role, Tom raised attention and awareness to the deficient and abusive medical care practices in immigrant detention and assisted Francisco Castaneda in a landmark case of medical abuse in detention. Tom testified honorably before the Judiciary Committee on two occasions, once accompanied by two of his clients who shared their stories in an effort to improve conditions of confinement.

As counsel for the Judiciary Committee, Tom worked tirelessly to provide assistance to members and staff. He was always available for legal analysis, advice and good conversation. Tom was known to many members and staff as a leader on all things relating to immigration. Tom developed a reputation for being dependable and easily approachable. His energetic disposition and positive attitude were always appreciated by Members and staff on both sides of the aisle.

Tom played an important role in Comprehensive Immigration Reform negotiations, the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act, issues concerning the surge of unaccompanied children and families at the Southern border and enactment of several private immigration bills. Tom's absence will be felt on matters pertaining to immigration law and policy, but we are pleased to know that he will continue his efforts as the Vice President of Immigration Policy for the Center of American Progress.

Mr. Speaker, we applaud Tom's tireless, principled and loyal public service to the U.S. House of Representatives and the American people wish him every success in his future endeavors.

MRS. UNITED STATES 2015

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Pearland's Katie Garza for being crowned Mrs. United States 2015.

Mrs. Garza truly encompasses the qualities of this competition. She is an intelligent wife, mother, and professional and beautiful on the inside and out. During her reign as Mrs. United States, Katie will use her platform to benefit the Pumping for Premies foundation. Her foundation helps save the lives of premature infants by providing donor milk to mothers who are unable to provide breast milk. As a mother to three premature children, this cause is near and dear to Katie's heart. We are proud of Katie for highlighting her personal cause on the national stage. She is an excellent role model who represents Pearland well.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Katie Garza for being crowned Mrs. United States 2015.

PRATT & WHITNEY 90TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Pratt & Whitney on their 90th anniversary. Back in my home state of Georgia, this American company has six major facilities, employing more than 2,000 Georgians. In my district in Middle and Southwest Georgia alone, Pratt & Whitney employs over 1,000 employees at their Engine Center in Columbus.

I remember the tour I took of Pratt & Whitney's Columbus Engine Center to get a firsthand account of the plant's operation and how it impacts the local economy. From what I could see, Pratt & Whitney's employees truly take customer service to a new level. For almost 30 years, Pratt & Whitney has been a driving force for job creation in the Columbus community, and have become good corporate citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I have said it before and I will say it again, Congress' first, second, and third priority must be job creation, as it is a crucial part to our continued economic recovery. For the past 90 years, Pratt & Whitney has also been focused on creating good jobs in Columbus and throughout the nation, and have succeeded through producing dependable engines and supporting great communities.

I congratulate Pratt & Whitney on this auspicious occasion.

RECOGNIZING THE SESQUICENTEN-
NIAL ANNIVERSARY OF ANDER-
SON, INDIANA

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the incorporation of the city of Anderson, Indiana. Anderson has played an integral role in the industrial development of Indiana and Hoosiers from every part of the state are thankful for the contributions of the men and women of Anderson.

The city of Anderson is celebrating 150 years, but the history of Anderson dates back further. Chief William Anderson of the Delaware tribe first settled in the area, giving it the name Anderson Town. Eventually the name was shortened to Anderson and in 1865, it was officially incorporated.

From its early origins, Anderson has been a model for other cities and towns to follow, through its continued dedication to building a welcoming community for residents and visitors alike. In the years since its first mayor, Robert Williams, who served from 1865–1866, Anderson has developed into a lively and thriving community, serving as a home for generations to families, businesses, professionals, churches, schools, and other organizations.

In 1887, the city saw a great influx in business due to the discovery of natural gas. This discovery is responsible for the initial spike in automotive, electric, and other manufacturing companies to settle in Anderson, most notably Delco Remy and Guide Lamp. Despite the downturn in the automotive industry in past decades, the city has exhibited resilience and welcomed new businesses such as, Nestle, Xerox, Greenville Technologies, Inc., Keihin North America, and Sirmax, to name only a few. In addition to its industries, the city is home to the Paramount Theatre, Mounds State Park, Anderson University, and Hoosier Park Racing & Casino.

Anderson, with all of its industry and attractions, is nothing without the people. The citizens have a clear passion and love for their city. I am proud to represent such an amazing city, one with a history of growth and prosperity as well as the promise of a prosperous future. Please join me in celebrating the sesquicentennial anniversary of the incorporation of the great city of Anderson, Indiana.

HONORING MS. GLORIA MARGARITA RODRIGUEZ ON THE OCCASION OF HER NEW POSITION AS A REPORTER FOR ABC 11 WTVD

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, today I am honored to recognize Ms. Gloria Margarita Rodriguez on her new position as a reporter for WTVD in Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina.

A native to the Coachella Valley, Ms. Rodriguez has served the community as KMIR Anchor, Reporter, and Producer for over 9 years. She has used her talent to cover several nationally recognized local events such as the Humana Challenge, Palm Springs International Film Festival, and the BNP Paribas Open. Additionally, she has interviewed celebrities and politicians, reported on numerous wildfires, and covered President Gerald Ford's death and state funeral. Ms. Rodriguez has used her reporting to shed light on important issues including working conditions of migrant workers, living conditions at Thermal mobile home parks, immigration at the U.S.-Mexico border, and LGBT equality rights.

After completing high school at Cathedral City, Ms. Rodriguez received her bachelor's degree in broadcast journalism and political