Key findings of the 1998 National Gun Policy Survey include:

- Three-fourths of gun owners support mandatory registration of handguns, as does 85 percent of the general public.
- Government regulation of gun design to improve public safety support from 83 percent of gun owners and 75 percent of the general public.
- Two thirds of gun owners and 80 percent of the general public favor mandatory background checks in private handgun sales, such as gun shows.
- The survey was conducted by the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago in collaboration with the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research with funding from the Joyce Foundation. The third in a series of surveys of American attitudes toward gun policies, it shows a continuation of an upward trend in public support for more control over firearms and more attention to making all firearms safer.

Other key findings include:

- Eighty percent of the people asked say Congress should do more to investigate the practices of the gun industry, similar to the hearings held on the tobacco industry.
- Sixty percent of Americans want licenses to carry handguns, and 83 percent of the public believes that public places, including stores, theaters, and restaurants, should be able to prohibit patrons from bringing guns on the premises.
- Americans strongly support measures to keep guns from householders from a country where those guns could not be legally sold. A total of 55 percent are against all gun imports.
- Nearly nine out of ten Americans believe that illegal gun sales sold during childhood, that is, designed so that a child's small hands cannot fire them.
- Eighty percent of the people asked say owners should be liable for injuries if a gun is not stored to prevent misuse by children.
- When asked if there should be a mandatory background check and a five-day waiting period in order to purchase a gun, 82 percent of the people owning a gun, as well as 85 percent of the general public, agreed that position was a good idea.
- Nearly one out of ten adults report having carried a handgun away from home during the last months. About half of those did not have a permit for doing so, and about half of the hand guns were loaded.
- Just under half of adults who own a hand gun obtained the gun through a "less regulated source," defined as pawnshops, private sales, and illegal transactions.

The data were collected in the fall of 1998, before the recent school shootings in Colorado and Georgia, but following similar highly publicized shootings in Arkansas, Kentucky, and Oregon. The telephone survey of 1,200 U.S. adults has a margin of error of three percent. The final report is entitled “The National Gun Policy Survey of the National Opinion Research Center: Research Findings.”

Affiliated with the University of Chicago, NORC has conducted national surveys in the public interest for over 55 years. As a pioneer in the field of survey research, NORC is noted for the high quality of its survey design, methodology, and data analysis.

The Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research, established in 1995, is dedicated to preventing gun-related deaths and injuries. In The Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, the Center applies a science-based, public health approach to gun violence. It provides accurate information on firearms injuries and gun policy; develops, analyzes, and evaluates strategies to prevent firearm injuries; and conducts public health and legal research to identify gun policy needs.

Based in Chicago with assets of $947 million, the Joyce Foundation supports efforts to strengthen public policies in ways that improve the quality of life in the Great Lakes region. Since 1993, it has granted over $13 million to support public health approaches to reduce gun violence.

Full results of the survey are posted on the NORC website at: http://www.norc.uchicago.edu.

A LIFETIME OF TEACHING

Mr. TORRICElli. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Dr. Joseph A. Klingler as he retires after 36 years of service to the students and families of my hometown, Franklin Lakes, New Jersey. He served as a teacher, a principal, a mentor, and a leader in the educational field.

Throughout his thirty-one years, Dr. Klingler has shown unparalleled support and caring for his pupils. He provided each school he taught at with a unique personality that demonstrates caring, respect, interest in others, and academic challenge. He always encouraged his students to take an active role in school, whether academically, athletically, or in community activities. Because of his encouragement, staff members applied for mini-grants which contributed to the success of many school activities such as the Show Choir, FAYM, and the Drama Club. Dr. Klingler understands the importance of parents becoming involved in their children’s school and has formed a close alliance with the PTA.

Dr. Klingler shaped our definition of a middle school, with mission statements, team concepts, and quality programs. He was active in local and national education associations. He chaired the FLOW area Regional Education Council several times, and participated in the national program for evaluating elementary schools. He is a member of the National Professional Educational Fraternity, the American Association of School Administrators, the National Association of Elementary School Principals, the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association, and the National Mathematics Teachers Association.

Dr. Klingler has served as a role model for community activities, coaching baseball in the local recreation program, volunteering at the Bergen Community Regional School Center, participating in the Franklin Lakes Juvenile Clean-Up Day, and chairing the Franklin Lakes Juvenile Committee.

He encouraged his students to take an active role in their community.

As a teacher of his former students I was directly influenced by his teaching and leadership. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Klingler for his years of service to all his students in Franklin Lakes. He will be dearly missed, but I am certain that the values he instilled in his students will live on.

TRIBUTE TO ST. PHILOMENA SCHOOL: 1999 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the achievement of St. Philomena School in Mouth, Rhode Island, which was recently honored as a U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon School.

It is a highly regarded distinction to be named a Blue Ribbon School. Through an intensive selection process beginning at the state level and continuing through a federal Review Panel of over 100 top educators, 266 of the very best public and private schools in the nation were identified as deserving this special recognition. These schools are particularly effective in meeting local, state, and national goals. However, this honor signifies not just who is best, but what works in educating today’s children.

More than ever, it is important that we make every effort to reach out to students, that we truly engage and challenge them, and that we make their education come alive. That is what St. Philomena is doing.

St. Philomena is a kindergarten through eighth grade school that emphasizes student achievement.

Since opening in 1983, much has changed for St. Philomena. For a brief time, it offered a comprehensive education from elementary through high school. But since the late 1980s, St. Philomena has focused exclusively on elementary education, and its students have benefitted from this wise decision. While the school has grown in size—adding four new buildings to its facilities, its administration and faculty have taken a personalized approach to each student’s education.

Mr. President, St. Philomena is dedicated to the highest standards. It is a school committed to a process of continuous improvement not only for students but for teachers as well. Indeed, St. Philomena’s teachers hone their skills as educators by continuously pursuing educational opportunities of their own.

Mr. President, the Blue Ribbon School initiative shows us the very
best we can do for students and the techniques that can be replicated in other schools to help all students succeed. I am proud to say that in Rhode Island we can look to a school like St. Philomena. Under the leadership of its principal, Sister Ann Marie Walsh, its capable faculty, and its involved parents, St. Philomena School will continue to be a shining example for years to come.

TRIBUTE TO MAJ. GEN. DAVID W. GAY

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Major General David W. Gay, the Adjutant General of the Connecticut National Guard. General Gay will retire on June 1st, so this is an appropriate time to recognize his nearly 40 years of service to the National Guard and to recount his achievements during his seven years as head of Connecticut’s Guard forces.

Members of General Gay’s Air National Guard component—the 159th Air Control Wing—will soon travel from Orange, Connecticut to Italy in support of NATO operations in Kosovo. Like the nearly 5,000 National Guard members throughout the nation who have answered the call and are now overseas supporting the NATO mission, those men and women from Orange were engaged in their normal day-to-day lives one week and found themselves working in a massive, full-time military operation the next week. Such a scenario is not uncommon in the National Guard. Whether it is a military operation, a natural disaster, or civil unrest, our citizen soldiers in the Guard stand ready to put aside their private lives and report to their duty stations, be it at home or abroad.

General Gay has dedicated his career to serving this country with a willingness to be called upon at any time to defend this nation and our way of life. He began his military service as a Marine in 1953. In 1960, he enlisted as a full-time member of the Connecticut National Guard, and, in 1962, he received his commission as a Second Lieutenant. His steady rise through the ranks led to command assignments in the Connecticut National Guard’s artillery, armor, and infantry branches. In 1962, General Gay was appointed Adjutant General of the Connecticut National Guard, a position he has now held for seven years. During his career, the General earned two of the most prestigious awards this nation gives to its military officers—the Legion of Merit and the National Guard Bureau’s Eagle Award.

Beyond his duties as Adjutant General, ranking member of the Governor’s Military Staff and commissioner of the General, ranking member of the Governor’s Award.

military officers—the Legion of Merit and the intended bombing of the Lincoln Tunnel. Those investigations broke the back of one of the most violent terrorist groups ever to operate in this country. Their speedy conclusion also did much to reassure the American people of the wake of the World Trade Center bombing, and they sent a message to terrorists around the world that no person or group can expect to get away with terrorist actions in the United States.

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Beyond his duties as Adjutant General, ranking member of the Governor’s Military Staff and commissioner of the State Military Department, General Gay has committed himself and his troops to taking positive action to improve the communities of Connecticut.

Most noteworthy are the host of youth programs that began under General Gay’s tenure. Many of them are a part of the Drug Free Connecticut Program which brings National Guard personnel into the community to serve as role models for children, to encourage youth to excel in school, and to convince kids to avoid drugs. The various and ingenious offshoots of the program, including Take Charge, Character Counts Coalition, Safeguard Retreat, Aviation Role Models for Youth, and Say “Nay”! To Drugs have swept the state. Last year alone, under General Gay’s able leadership, those programs touched nearly 20,000 children in 88 towns across Connecticut.

Furthermore, General Gay serves as president of the Nutmeg State Games which feature Connecticut’s finest young amateur athletes. Beyond his own time, he has committed the resources of the Guard to support the Games thereby enhancing the experience for athletes and spectators alike. Just as important, the General has promoted an excellent working relationship between the Guard and Connecticut’s employers through the ESGR, or Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. When personnel may be called upon in times of crisis to leave their jobs for months on end, strong bonds with affected employers are critical. The General has made it a priority to strengthen those bonds. Additionally, to assist federal and state agencies in training personnel, he initiated the Community Learning and Information Network which allows employees of such agencies to take advantage of the Guard’s computer distance learning tools. Over the years, the Network classes have enabled numerous employees to acquire the desired training at minimal cost to government agencies.

General Gay’s commitment to the community has been recognized by several awards and accolades, a Leadership Award from Eastern Connecticut State University and a Character Counts Centers of Influence Award top the list. I have deeply enjoyed working with the General over the past several years and look forward to continuing our relationship as he becomes the Chair of Connecticut’s Y2K task force. I also give my best wishes to his wife, Nancy, and their children, David, Jennifer, and Stephen.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES K. KALLSTROM

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I want to say a few words today about a man who is one of America’s finest civil servants and a man who I am proud to call a friend, Jim Kallstrom.

Jim Kallstrom led an illustrious career with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (“FBI”), one in which he played a major role in building up the Bureau’s counter-terrorism capabilities. Jim Kallstrom led the successful FBI investigations into the World Trade Center bombing and the intended bombing of the Lincoln Tunnel. Those investigations broke the back of one of the most violent terrorist groups ever to operate in this country. Their speedy conclusion also did much to reassure the American people of the wake of the World Trade Center bombing, and they sent a message to terrorists around the world that no person or group can expect to get away with terrorist actions in the United States.

One of Jim Kallstrom’s best known accomplishments—and his most controversial role—was his involvement in the investigation of the TWA Flight 800 explosion of July 17, 1996. My colleagues will remember that 230 people died in that crash and that there was immediate and great suspicion that this was the result of a terrorist or criminal act. There was also a recurrent allegation that the U.S. armed forces had accidentally shot down the aircraft and were trying to cover up their role. That allegation was utterly false, but it acquired a life of its own despite the facts. It was, in fact, one of the first cases of a rumor spread and perpetuated by the Internet.

In the initial days of this case—as the desperate search for any survivors turned into a continuing and heroic mission to retrieve and identify the hundreds of bodies, and as a raft of local and federal agencies converged to handle a multitude of tasks—Jim Kallstrom stepped in and imposed order on the incipient chaos. Over the coming weeks and months, it was the determination and competence of Jim Kallstrom that reassured the American people and gave us all confidence that no stone would be left unturned in the search for any criminal evidence.

In recent weeks, one of my colleagues has raised the possibility that Jim Kallstrom, in the course of pursuing his counterterrorist investigation to the fullest, may have delayed or tried to delay the transmission to the National Transportation Safety Board of a report by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (“BATF”) that concluded that the TWA Flight 800 explosion appeared to be caused by a mechanical flaw in the center fuel tank.

Mr. Kallstrom denies that allegation. He insists that he forwarded the BATF report to the National Transportation Safety Board within a few days of receiving it. He admits that he was angry that BATF would issue its conclusions while the counterterrorist and criminal investigation was still ongoing.