

CONGRATULATING HENRY S. BARBOSA ON RECEIVING THE ORANGE COUNTY CONSERVATION CORPS LEGACY AWARD

HON. KATIE PORTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 4, 2019

Ms. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize Mr. Henry S. Barbosa as the recipient of the Legacy Award, which will be presented during the 25th Anniversary Celebration of Orange County Conservation Corps (OCCC).

Mr. Barbosa has served for seven years on the Board of OCCC, which is a voluntary work and learn program that provides an opportunity for at-risk and disadvantaged youths, age 18 to 25. Corpsmembers have a chance to earn a living while learning valuable employment skills through job training and attending an on-site charter school.

Mr. Barbosa's long and distinguished record of service to his community stretches well beyond his time with OCCC. His legal career began as a Deputy District Attorney for Los Angeles County and continued over 27 years in private practice, primarily representing cities and other public agencies throughout California. Mr. Barbosa also acted as Assistant General Counsel to the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

In recognition of his community leadership, Mr. Barbosa was designated as a member of the Los Angeles Board of Police Commission's Blue Ribbon Panel to analyze the causes of and response to the Rampart area police corruption scandal. He was an elected public official for 10 years, serving as the President and a Director of the Three Valleys Municipal Water District representing Rowland Heights and as a member of the Board for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Mr. Barbosa was appointed to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee that developed statewide regulations for landfills management.

Mr. Barbosa continues to advocate for inclusion in our communities. He has served for 10 years as Vice-Chair of the National Hispanic Media Coalition, a nation-wide advocacy group for greater access by minorities in film and broadcast media.

I thank Mr. Barbosa for his leadership and commitment to service and congratulate him on this well-deserved award.

HONORING SANTA ANA POLICE DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN RUPERT VEGA

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 4, 2019

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Santa Ana Police Department Chaplain Rupert Vega, a true hero of our community.

Chaplain Rupert Vega was born and raised in Santa Ana. He, along with his family of six, lived in the Artesia Pilar neighborhood, near El Salvador Park. He received his education from the Santa Ana Unified School District. Chap-

lain Vega, with his wife, raised their two children in Santa Ana, where he continues to live to this very day. His children, now adults, also reside in Santa Ana.

At age 57, Chaplain Vega retired from his 25-year career in the medical field, but retirement has done nothing to slow him down. He has been a licensed ordained chaplain and minister for many years and has worked as a Santa Ana Police Department Chaplain for the last five years, volunteering well over 5,000 hours to date.

Chaplain Vega was recruited as a Police Chaplain, by his friends, Ed and Maria Martinez—two long time employees of the Santa Ana Police Department.

As a Police Chaplain, Rupert has volunteered his time to the community of Santa Ana and the members of the Santa Ana Police Department. However, Chaplain Vega is so much more than a chaplain—to our community, he is a vision of hope in times of tragedy, to the members of the Santa Ana Police Department, he is a big brother, a guiding light, and even a shoulder to cry on when times get tough.

With much humility, Chaplain Vega would say that he has been blessed beyond measure to have been commissioned by the Lord to work as a Police Chaplain, but it is really the community and the members of Santa Ana Police Department that are blessed to have him as their chaplain and as a part of our community.

RECOGNIZING INTERNATIONAL PLASMA AWARENESS WEEK

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 4, 2019

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, today, as every other day throughout the year, patients suffer from rare diseases that need cures, cures that are sometimes elusive. But patients that need plasma protein therapies have hope; and on October 7 to 11, 2019, across the United States and throughout the world, patients, plasma donors, and plasma collection centers will join together to observe International Plasma Awareness Week (IPAW).

There will be events to raise global awareness of the crucial need for plasma to create life-saving therapies, recognize that plasma donors contribute greatly in saving and improving lives, and increase understanding of the many rare diseases and plasma protein therapies that help to treat them. Plasma-derived therapies and recombinant blood clotting factors, collectively known as plasma protein therapies, are unique, biologic medicines that are either infused or injected to treat a variety of rare, life-threatening, chronic, and genetic diseases including bleeding disorders, hereditary angioedema, immune deficiencies, pulmonary disorders, neurological disorders, shock and trauma, liver cirrhosis, and infectious diseases such as tetanus, hepatitis, and rabies.

Plasma-derived therapies save and improve lives of individuals throughout the world, including in emergency and surgical medicine. Plasma protein therapies have significantly improved the quality of life, markedly improved patient outcomes, and extended the life expectancy of individuals with rare, chronic dis-

eases and conditions. Healthy, committed donors provide the plasma essential to manufacture these lifesaving therapies; and there are now more than 780 plasma collection centers in the U.S. that have demonstrated their commitment to plasma donor and patient safety and quality by earning International Quality Plasma Program (IQPP) certification.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me and rise in commemoration of International Plasma Awareness Week, honoring those committed donors and collection centers who make and collect needed and lifesaving contributions.

REMEMBERING SANDEEP DHALIWAL, HOUSTON, TEXAN AND HERO

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 4, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a hero, a Deputy with the Harris County Sheriff's Department, Deputy Sandeep Dhaliwal.

Deputy Sandeep Dhaliwal was a Houston resident and public servant who died while in the line of duty on September 27, 2019, in Houston, Texas, at the age of 42.

Sandeep Dhaliwal was a trailblazer for the Sheriff's Department of which he served in for a decade.

Sandeep Dhaliwal was the first member of the Sikh community to become a Harris County Sheriff's deputy.

In the Sikh religion, men and women do not cut their hair; they cover their head with turbans.

Out of piety, the men refrain from shaving their beards.

Deputy Sandeep Dhaliwal garnered national attention in 2015, after the sheriff's office allowed him to wear his traditional articles of faith, including a turban and a beard, while on patrol.

Sandeep educated us as a city and county and taught us all about the humility and beauty of the Sikh faith.

Through his example and grace, Sandeep Dhaliwal taught of the virtues and symbolic power of the turban and stood as a bulwark against the nasty racism that has been visited on Sikhs.

Even more notable, the Harris County Sheriff's Office was the largest in the country to have a full-time Sikh American officer with his articles of faith intact due to a religious accommodation exception to their dress code policy.

On the afternoon of September 27, 2019, Deputy Sandeep Dhaliwal pulled over a silver Nissan Altima for a routine traffic stop on Willacy Court near Cypress.

After speaking with the driver, Deputy Sandeep Dhaliwal turned to walk back to his patrol car, the driver got out of the vehicle and ran at the Deputy shooting him twice from behind in the head.

The shooter, then returned to his car, driving away.

Deputy Sandeep Dhaliwal died after being airlifted to a hospital.

The assailant had a violent past and was convicted of two felonies in 2002 for an episode in which he shot a man and then barricaded himself in his home with his 4-year-old son, with an intent to use him as a shield.