

the Eastern District of Pennsylvania issued a ruling upholding the conviction, but threw out the death sentence on a technicality. The case was appealed to the U.S. Third Circuit Court of Appeals on 28 December 2001. While the case remains on the docket, Danny's killer is alive and on death row. As his widow Maureen will tell you, this is not justice.

Your legislation would require that, following State court and U.S. Supreme Court certiorari reviews are completed, district courts review cases within fifteen months and circuit courts rule within 120 days. This means that, absent the granting of a full review of the case by the U.S. Supreme Court, that Federal review of cop-killers' appeals would be completed, in most cases, within a two year period.

The bill also incorporates an existing provision of the Federal habeas statute that is used to determine whether a defendant may file a successive petition or seek a new evidentiary hearing in Federal court. Thus, once a convicted cop-killer's case arrives in the Federal courts, they would only be able either to offer new evidence of innocence or to give a good reason why he failed to present such evidence earlier, thus barring defendants from simply relitigating evidence that already was presented or should have been presented at trial.

Assaults on law enforcement officers, including those which result in the death of the officer, are on the rise, and so is the length of time a convicted cop-killer will remain on death row while his appeals are processed. The murder of a law enforcement officer is a heinous crime—every State that has the death penalty allows juries to impose on those convicted of killing an officer. And yet, if the death penalty is not imposed in a reasonable amount of time, after all the requirements of due process are met and guilt is certain, then it does not have any meaning, either as a deterrent or a punishment. Your legislation correctly addresses this problem for what most recognize to be one of the most serious crimes—killing a cop.

On behalf of the more than 318,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police, I applaud you for your leadership on this issue and look forward to working with you and your staff to see it signed into law. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me or Executive Director Jim Pasco at my Washington Office.

Sincerely,

CHUCK CANTERBURY,
National President.

THE AIR FORCE ACADEMY DRUM AND BUGLE CORPS

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the commendable record of the Air Force Academy Drum and Bugle Corps. The Air Force Academy Drum and Bugle Corps was established in 1959, as a unit of the Air Force Academy Band. The Corps was made up of enlisted musicians and included six drummers, nine buglers, a drum major and a noncommissioned officer in charge. The mission of the Corps was to act as a relief group for the Air Force Academy Band. Activities of the band included playing for the cadet morning and evening chow formations and to practice marching. This addition to the Air Force Academy Band helped to complete musical requirements for the cadet wing military formations.

Within 2 years of its formation the Air Force Academy Drum and Bugle Corps was increased to 38 members, and its mission was extended nationwide to include concerts, field exhibitions, music festivals, and various military ceremonies. The Corps entertained audiences from coast to coast with a blend of precision drill and musical pageantry. In 1972, the Enlisted Corps was disbanded and students from the Air Force Academy formed the Cadet Drum and Bugle Corps, which continues the tradition of providing musical support of cadet wing activities, as well as participation in community activities nationwide.

I take this opportunity to thank the distinguished members of the Air Force Drum and Bugle Corps for their dedication and commitment to the Academy and to our country.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

VA AND UF JOIN FORCES TO HELP STROKE VICTIMS

• Mr. GRAHAM of Florida. Mr. President, the Department of Veterans' Affairs, VA, has a long and distinguished history of collaboration with various universities across the country. No such partnership has yielded more successful results than that between the Malcom Randall VA Medical Center, VAMC, in Gainesville, FL, and the University of Florida, UF. In keeping with their long history together, these two notable institutions announced on July 6, 2004, that they will be working together to help stroke victims.

The Translational Research in Rehabilitation Initiative, as it has been named, is a \$2.7 million effort to improve the lives of those who have suffered from strokes and other brain injuries. Its goal is to drastically shorten the time between scientific discovery and the development of therapies used for the treatment of these patients. Currently, an average of 17 years go by before discoveries in clinical trials are routinely incorporated into medical treatment.

Previous thinking was that the mature nervous system could not be repaired after injury. Since 1990, however, scientists have known this is not true. As such, the joint initiative will utilize the advanced skills of UF scientists and physicians to translate discoveries from animal research into quicker ways of reconstructing the damaged human nervous system. With VA's assistance, UF also will recruit three new faculty members, whose goal will be to accelerate brain-injury research to find combinations of drugs and rehabilitation therapies that will help stroke victims.

The project is an extension of research that began 1999 with Leslie Gonzalez-Rothi, Ph.D., a neurology professor associated with UF's Evelyn F. and William L. McKnight Brain Institute and program director of the Brain

Rehabilitation Research Center at the Gainesville VAMC. That year, Dr. Gonzalez-Rothi obtained the first rehabilitation research and development grant from VA to start the Brain Rehabilitation Research Center. At the center, UF scientists study combinations of drugs and rehabilitation techniques in people who have suffered strokes, focusing their efforts on rehabilitating patients and teaching them to relearn lost abilities. This new mission will explore the ways doctors can actually help heal the injury and is part of the July renewal of a 5-year, \$4.25 million rehabilitation research and development grant to the center. In addition to the grant, the Gainesville VAMC will provide nearly 4,000 square feet of laboratory space in its medical center to support the effort.

This new partnership between VA and UF is a shining example of what VA can and will accomplish through its impressive research capabilities, especially with the help of its university affiliates. The strides that result from the Translational Research in Rehabilitation Initiative will significantly improve patient care for the entire Nation, making a difference in the lives of veterans, as well as the general public. I am very proud that this project is being conducted in my home State of Florida. •

IN HONOR OF MASTERFOODS USA CHICAGO PLANT 75TH BIRTHDAY

• Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today I offer congratulations to Masterfoods USA on the 75th birthday of their candy plant in Chicago, IL. Masterfoods is the U.S. division of Mars, Incorporated.

Chicago is America's candy capital. Since 1929, the hard-working folks at the Masterfoods plant in Chicago have been making our world sweeter.

The plant is the birthplace of the world's best-selling candy bar—the Snickers bar as well as home to other favorites, including the Milky Way and 3 Musketeers bars. Today, the Masterfoods USA Chicago plant produces 20 percent of all Masterfoods USA candy bars about 30 million bars a day.

Much like Chicago, the Masterfoods plant has been in a constant state of renewal and investment, and is as contemporary today as it was when it opened in 1929. Built on a site that was previously a golf course, the plant is unlike other factories, with a picturesque, high-windowed Spanish-style structure featuring a rich red tile roof and tinted walls.

When it opened in 1929, the plant employed about 200 workers. Today, the plant employs about 500 associates, 10 percent of whom have a relative who formerly worked there. There are even three people working at the plant today who are third-generation plant associates.