

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT KAUFFMAN, CAPTAIN MIHELICH, OFFICER BLASINGAME, AND OFFICER GOLEZ OF FAIRFIELD, CALIFORNIA

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sergeant Kauffman, Captain Mihelich, Officer Blasingame, and Officer Golez of Fairfield, California.

Sergeant Kauffman will retire after nearly 30 years of law enforcement service with the City of Fairfield. He was hired as a Public Safety Officer with the Fairfield Police Department on July 5, 1983. Sergeant Kauffman served the community in a number of non-emergency patrol functions while putting himself through the police academy. After graduation, he was rehired as a Police Officer on June 30, 1986 where he worked in various capacities that included Patrol, Investigations, Solano Narcotics Enforcement Team (Sol-NET), and Field Training. Sergeant Kauffman earned the Police Officer of the Quarter award in November 1999 for his reliability and commitment to community service. On December 31, 1999, he was promoted to Police Corporal and then earned the City Manager's Commendation on July 28, 2003 for his contributions and dedication to the City's Driver Training program.

On March 3, 2006, Sergeant Kauffman was promoted to Police Sergeant and ultimately supervised a number of different units including Patrol, Professional Standards, and Major Crimes. In 2009, as the Police Department experienced changes in leadership and command staff, he stepped in and assisted City management in filling the gaps. Sergeant Kauffman assumed the Police Lieutenant's position and managed Patrol Operations for several months. He has a can-do attitude and he consistently provides quality service to the community.

Sergeant Kauffman has been a valued employee and leader, and his commitment to the community was evidenced on a daily basis. He was a loyal representative of the law enforcement community and admired for his hard work, dedication, and positive work ethic.

Captain Mihelich will retire after nearly 29 years of law enforcement service, with 25 years of that service to the City of Fairfield. After serving over three years as a Reserve Officer and Police Officer with the South San Francisco Police Department, Captain Mihelich was hired as a Police Officer with the Fairfield Police Department on October 12, 1987. As an officer, he worked in various capacities that included Patrol, Investigations, Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE), Special Operations, Gang Suppression, Special Activity Felony Enforcement (SAFE) Team, and Field Training.

Captain Mihelich was promoted to Police Corporal on December 31, 1999 and then to Police Sergeant on December 28, 2001. He skillfully mentored and supervised units in Patrol and Training & Personnel, and was named Manager of the Year in 2006. After being promoted to Lieutenant on June 6, 2008, Captain Mihelich served as a Commander for Patrol,

Quality of Life, and Administrative Services Bureaus. He was a strong and decisive leader and as the Police Department experienced changes in leadership and command staff, he consistently stepped in and assisted City management in filling the gaps. He assumed the Police Captain's position and managed the Support Services Division beginning in April 2011 before being formally promoted on February 10, 2012.

Captain Mihelich has been a valued employee and leader, and his commitment to the City and community was evidenced on a daily basis. He was a loyal representative of the law enforcement community and admired for his hard work, dedication, and positive work ethic. Captain Mihelich is commended for his selfless contribution to Fairfield and its constituents.

Officer Blasingame will retire after 30 years of law enforcement service, with 23 years of that service to the City of Fairfield. After serving seven years as a Correctional Officer and Deputy Sheriff with the Solano County Sheriff's Office, he was hired as a Police Officer with the Fairfield Police Department on September 25, 1989, and served the community in a number of capacities within the Patrol and Investigations Bureaus.

Officer Blasingame has received numerous commendations from citizens and coworkers for his consistent and skillful performance. Some of his most significant contributions to the Police Department have been sharing his knowledge and experience of solid investigative skills, exceptional memory, and quality reporting techniques with fellow officers. Officer Blasingame has been a dedicated team member, mentor and positive representation of the Fairfield Police Department.

Officer Golez will retire after nearly 30 years of law enforcement service to the City of Fairfield. He was hired as a Public Safety Officer with the Fairfield Police Department on January 7, 1983, and served the community in a number of police and fire functions until he attended the police academy in early 1985. After graduation, he was promoted to Police Officer on May 20, 1985, where he worked in various capacities within the Patrol and Traffic units.

Officer Golez has received numerous commendations from citizens and coworkers for his consistent and exemplary performance. Some of his most significant contributions to the Police Department have been the development of the Police Cadet Program and sharing his motorcycle expertise with fellow officers. Officer Golez has been a dedicated teacher, mentor and a positive representation of the Fairfield Police Department.

Sergeant Kauffman and Captain Mihelich will be presented with their retirement memorabilia at 3 p.m. on Thursday, December 13, 2012, during an Employee Recognition reception in Willow Hall at the Fairfield Community Center. Officers Blasingame and Golez will be recognized in early January. All are welcome to join the celebration of these distinguished careers.

HONORING YOUR NEWS NOW  
"YNN"

**HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Your News Now "YNN," a local 24-hour news channel exclusively provided seven days a week by Time Warner Cable. Serving the State of New York, YNN is celebrating its 10th Anniversary.

Across Upstate New York, my constituents rely on YNN for their local news. Since its debut, YNN has provided in-depth coverage of national, state, and local new stories, community events, high school sports, and weather forecasting. This has allowed New Yorkers the ability to access local news coverage regardless of the time of day.

YNN also provides the only statewide political program, "Capital Tonight," covering the State Capitol, U.S. Capitol, and political news from across the Empire State each weekday evening.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the commitment Time Warner and YNN have made to ensuring quality local news programming throughout New York State. As Thomas Jefferson once said, "Whenever the people are well-informed, they can be trusted with their own government." YNN is an important part of this effort for my constituents in the 20th District of New York and across our state, and I congratulate them on their 10th Anniversary.

REMEMBERING JACK BROOKS,  
FORMER JUDICIARY COMMITTEE  
CHAIRMAN

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I was saddened to learn of the passing of my friend and former colleague Jack Brooks.

As long-time members of the House Judiciary Committee and the Government Reform Committee, Jack Brooks and I worked closely together. I saw firsthand his dedication to serving our nation and his constituents in Texas. Through his leadership as a senior member of the Judiciary Committee in the 1960s, both the Civil Rights Act and the Voting Rights Act made their way through the committee and ultimately passed into law. Less than a decade later, he led the effort to hold President Nixon accountable to the public, and helped draft the articles of impeachment against Nixon. As Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee from 1989 to 1995, Jack Brooks oversaw the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Violence Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act, and the modernization of the Civil Rights Act. Chairman Brooks was also a longstanding champion of competition, antitrust and government accountability.

Jack Brooks will be remembered by many. His lasting contributions will continue to be felt in our civil rights laws across the country.