

\$400,000 in penalties—down from about \$1.9 million assessed in 2008. But when asked at a news conference what he currently owes in personal back taxes, interest and penalties, Sharpton answered “I don’t know” and indicated he might not say even if he had the numbers on hand.

“We are paying current taxes and my current one [taxes], while keeping up with installments,” Sharpton told reporters at Network headquarters in Harlem.

He said he hoped to reduce the balances further through negotiations. In a story Tuesday, The New York Times reported that Sharpton at one point had more than \$4.5 million in current state and federal tax liens against him and his for-profit business.

Sharpton has two businesses, which the Times said face \$717,329 in tax liens. The story said Sharpton personally faced more than \$3 million in federal tax liens and \$777,657 in state liens.

An IRS spokesman said he could not legally discuss individual taxpayer matters. A spokesman for the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance said Wednesday that Sharpton had two current personal state liens totaling \$779,577 and two totaling \$457,968 for one of his private communications firm.

Those balances, including penalties, have actually risen over the years, the spokesman said. For privacy reasons, the spokesman couldn’t discuss any payment plans. Sharpton speculated new stories about his taxes were politically motivated because of his high profile and ties with Mayor Bill de Blasio and President Barack Obama.

“After negotiations in 2009, there was a signed document which worked out a payment plan to pay off those [debts],” said Sharpton, referring to the back federal taxes.

The Network’s 2013 federal charitable organization filing showed the group had income of \$4.9 million in contributions and grants against \$5.1 million in expenses. Sharpton was paid a salary of \$241,545.

ERIK WEIHENMAYER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 3, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Erik Weihenmayer for receiving the 2014 City of Golden Mayor’s Award of Excellence.

The City of Golden honors Erik for his inspirational pursuit of climbing, running, skiing, cycling, and kayaking challenges all over the world. Known for being the only blind man to climb Mount Everest, Erik co-founded an organization called No Barriers USA, whose mission is to encourage people to conquer barriers in their own lives. While in Golden, he dedicates his time to encouraging the community to live a No Barriers Life, giving speeches at Golden High School, the Mountaineering Center, Bent Gate Mountaineering, and the Buffalo Rose. He also donates his time to lead physically-challenged and underprivileged groups on outings.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Erik Weihenmayer for this well-deserved recognition by the City of Golden.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF DR. AARON SHIRLEY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 3, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Aaron Shirley, a public health visionary and trailblazer in the medical profession, who dedicated his life to bringing medical services to underserved rural and urban communities in Mississippi. Not only was he great for his medical acumen and creativity in conceiving unique and innovative service delivery methods but also for his commitment to the cause of equality and civil rights.

Born in Gluckstadt, MS, Dr. Shirley eventually moved with his family to Jackson, MS, where he graduated from Lanier High School. In 1955, Dr. Shirley graduated from Tougaloo College and then received a scholarship to attend Meharry Medical School in Nashville, TN. After he graduated from Meharry in 1959, he moved back to Mississippi to begin a general practice. During this time, he held on to a desire to practice pediatric medicine. In Mississippi, in 1960, this type of specialization seemed an impossibility. Still, Dr. Shirley forged ahead, gaining valuable experience practicing family medicine.

In 1965, Dr. Shirley was invited into the pediatric residency program at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. There, he became the first Black pediatrician in Mississippi and the first Black resident trained at the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

Dr. Shirley often related a story of being advised by one of his mentors to be prepared for white people to not want him to touch their kids. However, he quickly saw that this was never the case. He saw that when people are in need of medical attention or need help for their kids, the divides of race, color, or ideology simply evaporate. This realization made him understand that there are often bridges between individuals and communities, and from that point on, Dr. Shirley was consistently effective at building bridges across communities.

With this knack for building bridges, and a brilliant mind that eventually led to him receiving a MacArthur ‘Genius Award’ Fellowship, Dr. Shirley embarked on a mission to help communities that had very little access to the medical care that they badly needed.

In 1970, Dr. Shirley helped to establish the Jackson-Hinds Comprehensive Health Center which has since become the largest provider of primary health care services to the poor, uninsured and underserved population in central Mississippi. Additionally, he created a comprehensive school-based clinic addressing myriad community health issues including, drug abuse, mental health issues, and teen violence. Both the health center and the clinical program have become models for similar programs across the country.

Dr. Shirley was a visionary. He saw solutions where some people had not even recognized that a problem existed. This was the case with the Jackson Medical Mall—a one stop shop for medical services and treatment. Where most people looked at the dilapidated Jackson Mall building and saw an eyesore, Dr. Shirley saw an opportunity, and in 1997, after

much hard work to get stakeholders to buy into the idea, he helped establish the Jackson Medical Mall facility which has subsequently become one of America’s most unique and important community health ventures.

Dr. Shirley was committed to achieving quality outcomes and access to medical care. To that end, he looked to a medical system that seemed very effective in Iran—using community health workers in ‘health houses’ to provide certain services, especially in rural places.

He saw these health houses as a way of bridging the gap and providing a network, through the community health worker, to assure that the patient receives the best and most complete care. With this concept in mind, in 2010, he founded the HealthConnect program that helps prevent unnecessary emergency room visits by sending physicians and nurses directly into the homes of people in underserved communities.

Aaron Shirley’s legacy is well-established in this country. Dr. Shirley challenged the system to provide services to the less fortunate and became a tireless advocate for civil and human rights. He provided immeasurable guidance to me during my entire tenure in elective office, making me personally indebted to him. Dr. Shirley’s impact on our community cannot be overstated and his accomplishments will benefit generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life of Dr. Aaron Shirley, a visionary in American medicine, trailblazer for rural and underserved communities, and dedicated community leader.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF
MAYOR MARION BARRY, JR.

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 3, 2014

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am expressing condolences and commemoration for the life of Mayor Marion Barry, Jr.

In addition, I submit the following:
Whereas, Marion Barry, Jr. was an American activist and politician who served three terms as the Mayor of Washington, District of Columbia, and

Whereas, Mayor Barry served on the Council of the District of Columbia as an at-large member and subsequently in Ward 8, and

Whereas, Mayor Barry was involved in the African-American civil rights movement as a member of the Nashville Student Movement sit-ins and as the first chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, and

Whereas, Mayor Barry gave more than 100,000 young people summer jobs and served as a catalyst for thousands of jobs for minorities, and

Whereas, he fought constantly and tirelessly for Home Rule and democracy for the District, and

Whereas, he increased senior citizen involvement and support of their programs, and
Whereas, he worked closely with business leaders to bring increased commerce and recognition to “America’s First City”, and

Whereas, he showed the District of Columbia and the world what resilience and perseverance truly looks like by providing an example of inspiration and hope that a person who falls can indeed rise again, and

Whereas, Mayor Barry was one of the most influential, impactful and savvy local politician of his generation, and will be greatly missed by the community he selflessly dedicated his life to improving, now

Therefore, be it resolved that on behalf of the 5th Congressional District of Florida, I extend my sincerest condolences and deepest sympathy to the family and loved ones of Mayor Marion Barry, Jr., and I wish you God's peace that surpasses all understanding as you take comfort in knowing that he fought a good fight, finished his course, and kept the faith.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT MERWIN CEO OF MILLS-PENINSULA HEALTH SERVICES ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 3, 2014

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplished career of a distinguished Californian, Mr. Robert Merwin of San Mateo County, who is retiring at the end of 2014 from his position as Chief Executive Officer of Mills-Peninsula Health Services, a post he has held since January, 1996.

A resident of Menlo Park, California, Bob Merwin is a 1971 graduate of the United States International University, and earned his M.B.A. from UCLA in 1973. He began his career in hospital management in 1973 as Assistant Executive Director of the Long Beach Community Hospital. He progressed up the corporate ladder at Long Beach and other facilities, coming to Mills-Peninsula in 1987 as Executive Vice President and Chief Operations Officer.

Bob Merwin serves his community as a member of the San Mateo Rotary Club, the American College of Health Care Executives, and as Chair of the West Bay Hospital Conference, San Mateo Section, and Chair of the Hospital Consortium of San Mateo County. He is a past director of the American Red Cross Bay Area and a member of the Finance Committee of the Health Plan of San Mateo.

Mills-Peninsula has thrived under Bob Merwin's leadership. He has improved relations between physicians and management, contained costs while increasing productivity and helped develop a strategic plan for the combined hospitals. Under his leadership a new 241 bed acute care facility, Mills-Peninsula Medical Center was constructed. It is a state-of-the-art, \$640 million, 450,000 square foot facility that is a source of pride to our entire community.

Bob Merwin is married to the former Nancy Madigan and they have two children, Michael and Megan. He enjoys golf, tennis and photography.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring Bob Merwin for his stellar career in hospital management and for his extraordinary contributions to our community and our country.

HISTORICAL RECORD ON PASSAGE OF FALEOMAVAEGA'S LEGISLATION TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF MILITARY ACADEMY APPOINTMENTS FROM AMERICAN SAMOA

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 3, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to include, for historical purposes, the following information on the passage of legislation to increase the number of military academy appointments from American Samoa.

[Press Release, Nov. 24, 2003]

PRESIDENT SIGNS INTO LAW LEGISLATION FALEOMAVAEGA INTRODUCED TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF MILITARY ACADEMY APPOINTMENTS FROM AMERICAN SAMOA

Congressman Faleomavaega announced that President Bush signed into law today the National Defense Authorization Act for FY04 which included language Faleomavaega offered to increase the number of military academy appointments from American Samoa.

On May 7, 2003, the House Subcommittee on Total Force unanimously voted in favor of my amendment to increase the number of military academy appointments from American Samoa to the U.S. Military Academy, the United States Naval Academy, and the United States Air Force Academy, Congressman Faleomavaega said. On May 9, 2003, the Armed Services Committee also agreed to include this language in the National Defense Authorization Act of 2004.

This legislation passed the House on May 22, 2003 and the Senate and the House agreed to the conference report as of November 12, 2004. I am now pleased that President Bush has signed this historic legislation into law. As a result of this new law, American Samoa will be able to send two students to each service academy. Prior to this law being passed, American Samoa was only able to send one student to each academy.

This also means that I will be able to nominate up to twenty students per academy. Each academy scholarship is worth approximately \$250,000 and each service academy is ranked among the top rated educational institutions in the U.S. Given that American Samoa has a population of about 60,000, a per capita income of less than \$4,500 and almost 5,000 men and women serving in the U.S. Armed Services, I am pleased that we may be able to offer more students the opportunity to attend one of our nations prestigious military academies.

At this time, I want to thank my colleagues, both Democratic and Republican, for supporting my initiative to increase American Samoa's academy appointments and, again, I commend President Bush for signing this important legislation into law, the Congressman concluded.

WADSWORTH "LALIE" DICKERSON

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 3, 2014

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in posthumous recognition of Wadsworth Dickerson, a Friend, Mentor, campaign and personal supporter, who was with me at the

beginning of my political career. He was one of those individuals that could be accurately described as "Larger than Life"! He would enter a room and fill it with a Presence bigger than his person, and begin to talk in that voice that was oh so powerful—even in a whisper. Many memories come to mind of 'that smile' and how he enjoyed a good joke.

He had more than a finger on the pulse of sentiments being felt by the constituency and their concerns that were often not brought to the attention of those seeking public office. His was an absence that was, and still is, greatly and pointedly missed, in every election I have participated in since his untimely demise a decade ago.

Mr. Dickerson was also affectionately known as "Lalie", to those that knew him on a first name or nickname basis. He was born on the island of Antigua to parents that came from the island of St. Kitts. He was the only son that his parents had and those who were brave enough to say it, said that he always got his way and succeeded in getting away with conduct that was never tolerated from his sister siblings or other relatives. This privilege helped to give him stellar and sterling attributes that later on became exemplary characteristics that endeared him to many: a care free, head strong and independent person, with a love for life, adventure and animals, which all started at an early age.

As a young boy, Lalie travelled back and forth from Antigua to St. Croix, until he decided that St. Croix was where he wanted to live and raise a family with his then girlfriend, Cavelle. The island of St. Croix, in the early days of their marriage, provided vast opportunities to young people with talent; and Lalie's carpentry craftsmanship allowed him to make a lot of people very happy when he built cabinets, wall aquariums, mahogany beds and other priceless treasures. This is how he began to establish and maintain close connections with the "grass roots".

Lalie's eulogy credited his love for democracy and politics as coming from his mother and former Congressman Ron de Lugo, my predecessor. He was always a person who enjoyed a good time and an intense political chat. This was another method that enabled him to keep his hand on the pulse and enabled him to know who was who and how they thought and felt on various subjects. Other characteristics that endeared him to many was his ability to be there for others, always ready to lend a helping hand to others less fortunate, or to those that just needed advice. "He was steadfast in whatever he believed in even if it meant he was on the losing side"—which was a very rare event.

Lalie became mesmerized with the beauty of St. Croix so much that he enjoyed hanging out with friends on the waterfront or even just to go to take a sail with a friend. In addition to his carpentry skills, he worked at the Department of Sanitation; the U. S. District Court; the Youth Rehabilitation Center and the Department of Education; where a job injury ended his working career. He was also a Life-long Democrat because his mother told him there could be no other party than the Democratic Party, because it was the Party for poor people. He has also been involved and a member of numerous Democratic Clubs, including the People's Democratic Club and the Democratic Territorial Committee.

I know that many Democrats still deeply miss the presence and unwavering support