



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 112<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 157

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, MAY 17, 2012

NO. 71

## Senate

### 2012 TOP COPS

Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize five police officers from my home State of Nevada for being honored with the prestigious National Association of Police Officers, NAPO, 2012 TOP COPS award for their acts of heroism during a routine fraud call that turned into a deadly shooting. Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department officers John Abel, Michael Ramirez, Corey Staheli, Beaumont Hopson, and David Williams' overwhelming courage in the line of duty epitomizes the best of what America's police officers have to offer. I am honored to recognize this group of Nevadans whose efforts to go above and beyond their oath to serve is a testament to the strength of our law enforcement community.

This year marks NAPO's 19th annual TOP COPS Awards ceremony to honor members of the law enforcement community for their heroic actions. I stand with NAPO in their dedication to raising public awareness concerning the contributions made by our law enforcement officers to the welfare of our communities.

Officer Ramirez literally stood in the line of fire to protect shoppers at a Las Vegas WalMart while attempting to apprehend a criminal. His colleagues bravely answered the call to duty and fatally shot the assailant after he shot Officer Ramirez several times in the arm and once in the chest. Fortunately, Officer Ramirez's bulletproof vest, along with the bravery displayed by his colleagues, saved his life. I am so honored to acknowledge these exceptional individuals who are being recognized for their commitment to the safety, protection, and well-being of the people and community of Las Vegas.

It is a privilege to recognize our law enforcement officers who put their lives on the line for our protection every day. Their dedication to upholding and enforcing the law is essential to the welfare of our communities and is not taken for granted. The citizens of Nevada are proud to honor John, Michael, Corey, Beaumont, and David as TOP COPS and thank them for serving and protecting the Silver State.