
LET US JOIN IN PRAYER. OH, HOLY ONE, YOU, OUR CREATOR AND PROTECTOR, WE COME TOGETHER TODAY TO REMEMBER SPECIAL AGENTS, TASK FORCE OFFICERS, AND STAFF OF THE DEA WHOSE LIVES AND CAREERS WERE ENDED TOO SOON. WE HONOR THEIR SERVICE, THEIR COURAGE, THEIR DEDICATION, AND THEIR SACRIFICE. THEY CARED ABOUT THE WELFARE OF
OTHERS. THEY CHOSE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND SO THEY ANSWERED A CALLING TO PROTECT AND SERVE. AS WE HONOR THEM, WE CELEBRATE THE GOOD THEY ACCOMPLISHED AND THE CAUSE THEY BELIEVED IN. THEY LEAD WITH COURAGE AND SERVED WITH DISTINCTION. WE PRAY THEIR SERVICE AND THAT OF ALL DEA OFFICERS AND STAFF FORM THE VERY FOUNDATION FOR A PEACEFUL DRUG-FREE SOCIETY. WE ARE THANKFUL FOR THE LIVES OF THOSE WE REMEMBER AND HONOR TODAY. THEY FOUGHT A BATTLE THAT IS LONG AND DIFFICULT. AN ENEMY THAT IS RELENTLESS, EVIL, AND DESTRUCTIVE. THEY WORK FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE. WE PRAY THEY KNOW THE PEACE OF YOUR HEAVENLY KINGDOM. THE FAMILIES OF THESE FAMILIES, LORD. HUSBANDS AND WIVES, DAUGHTERS AND SONS, MOTHERS AND FATHERS, GRANDMOTHERS AND GRANDFATHERS, SISTERS AND BROTHERS. THEIR LOVED ONES GAVE THEIR LIVES IN SERVICE TO YOUR PEOPLE, AND NOW THE LIVES OF THESE FAMILIES ARE CHANGED FOREVER. WE PRAY YOU GIVE THEM YOUR COMFORT AND PEACE AND THE KNOWLEDGE THESE HEROES ARE REMEMBERED AND THEIR LEGACY LIVES ON. WE PRAY YOU ALL -- WE PRAY YOU ALSO FOR THE DEDICATED SERVICE OF THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION AS THEY WORK EVERY DAY WITH DETERMINATION AND WISDOM TO PROTECT OUR COUNTRY AND THE VALUES THAT ES SPOUSE US. PLEASE ALLOW THIS CEREMONY TO AFFIRM THE CALLING THEY HAVE CHOSEN, THE WORK THEY DO, AND THE SACRIFICES THEY AND THEIR FAMILIES MAKE FOR THE GOOD OF ALL. PROTECT THEM SO THEY MAY RETURN HOME SAFELY AT THE END OF EACH DAY. AND BLESS THEIR WORK SO IT MAY TRANSFORM OUR WORLD AND MAKE IT A SAFE, DRUG-FREE, PEACEFUL PLACE TO LIVE. BLESS ALL OF THOSE WE REMEMBER AND HONOR TODAY. THE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES. THEIR FAMILIES WHO HOLD THEM IN THEIR HEARTS EVERY DAY, AND THOSE WHO CARRY-ON THE LEGACY TO UPHOLD PEACE AND JUSTICE IN THIS TROUBLED WORLD. THEY ARE FALLEN FAMILY MEMBERS, COWORKERS, AND FRIENDS WHOSE MEMORIES CONTINUE TO GUIDE US. REST IN PEACE. IN THE KNOWLEDGE THEIR SACRIFICE WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN. AMEN.
>> PLEASE BE SEATED. LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, IT IS MY PLEASURE TO
INTRODUCE THE ACTING DEA ADMINISTRATOR, MR. DYLAN. PRIOR TO
APPOINTED DEA ACTING ADMINISTRATOR IN JULY OF 2018, MR. DYLAN WAS
DEPUTY COUNSEL AND DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
STATES AT THE WHITE HOUSE. PREVIOUSLY, HE SERVED AS DIRECTOR OF THE
OFFICE OF COUNTER NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT IN THE DEPARTMENT OF
HOMELAND SECURITY, AND SERVED AS ASSOCIATE DEPUTY ATTORNEY
GENERAL IN THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. MR. DYLAN ALSO SERVED AS AN
ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY IN THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF
CALIFORNIA FOR OVER SIX YEARS. HIS LEGAL COUNSEL EXPERIENCE ON
CAPITOL HILL INCLUDED WITH THE HOUSE FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY, AND THE HOUSE
COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM. PLEASE JOIN ME IN
WELCOMING ACTING DEA ADMINISTRATOR. [ APPLAUSE ]

>> WHEN I BECAME AN ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY IN OCTOBER
1990, WILLIAM BARR WAS DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL. SHORTLY
THEREAFTER, HE BECAME THE 77th ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE UNITED
STATES. AS A YOUNG PROSECUTOR, I EXPERIENCED THE DEPARTMENT OF
JUSTICE UNDER HIS LEADERSHIP THAT TAUGHT US TO ADHERE TO THE
HIGHEST IDEALS OF HONESTY, INTEGRITY, AND JUSTICE. HIS PRINCIPLE
LEADERSHIP, HIGH EXPECTATIONS, AND RESPECT FOR THE RULE OF LAW
MADE A PROFOUND AND LASTING IMPACT ON ALL WHO SERVE UNDER HIM.
AFTER LEAVING DOJ, ATTORNEY GENERAL BARR HAD A HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL
CAREER AS AN ATTORNEY IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, SERVING AS THE GENERAL
COUNSEL FOR TWO MAJOR CORPORATIONS, AMONG OTHER SIGNIFICANT
POSITIONS. WE AT DEA ARE TRULY FORTUNE THAT HE, ONCE AGAIN, HAS
ANSWERED THE CALL TO PUBLIC SERVICE AND ON FEBRUARY 14th, ATTORNEY
GENERAL BARR WAS CONFIRMED BY THE UNITED STATES SENATE AS THE 85th
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES. SECURING A UNIQUE PLACE IN
OUR HISTORY AS ONLY THE SECOND PERSON TO SERVE TWICE AS ATTORNEY GENERAL. I AM PRIVILEGED TO ONCE AGAIN SERVE UNDER ATTORNEY GENERAL BARR'S EXTRAORDINARY LEADERSHIP, AND I ASK ALL OF YOU TO JOIN ME IN WELCOMING THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES. TO DEA HEADQUARTERS. [ APPLAUSE ]

>> THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THAT KIND INTRODUCTION AND FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP HERE AT DEA. I'M ALSO GRATEFUL TO YOUR PREDECESSORS WHO ARE HERE TODAY. PETER BETSINGER AND JACK LAWN, WHO IS THE FIRST DEA ADMINISTRATOR I GOT TO WORK WITH. KAREN TANDY AND MICHELLE LEONARD. THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE. ABOVE ALL, I WANT TO EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE TO THE SPECIAL AGENTS AND STAFF FOR GATHERING TODAY TO HONOR THE 84 DEA EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE LINE OF DUTY. I WANT TO PAY TRIBUTE TO THE FAMILY MEMBERS OF THE FALLEN AGENTS WHO ARE HERE TODAY. THESE HEROES ARE FALLEN BUT THEIR LEGACY LIVES ON IN THE COUNTLESS AMERICAN LIVES WHICH THEY HELPED CHANGE FOR THE BETTER. AS YOU ALL KNOW, THE WORK OF DRUG ENFORCEMENT CAN BE DANGEROUS AND STRESSFUL, AND KNOW IT BRINGS EVER CHANGING CHALLENGES, BUT THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT THAT DEA AGENTS SAVE LIVES. WE CAN ONLY IMAGINE HOW MANY FATAL OVERDOSES AND HOW MANY ADDICTIONS THESE FALLEN AGENTS PREVENTED. COUNTLESS AMERICANS ARE ALIVE TODAY BECAUSE OF THE WORK TO WHICH THEY DEDICATED THEIR LIVES. CONTINUING THIS WORK IS UP TO US. AND WE REMAIN DEDICATED TO THE MISSION FOR WHICH THESE BRAVE AMERICANS DIED KEEPING THE AMERICAN PEOPLE SAFE FROM THE SCOURGE OF DRUGS AND THE CRIMINAL ACTIVITY THAT ACCOMPANIES THEM. THIS WORK HAS ALWAYS BEEN CRITICAL, BUT TODAY IT'S MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER BEFORE WITH OUR CURRENT OPIOID EPIDEMIC, THE DEATH TOLL IN THE SOCIETAL COSTS OF DRUG ABUSE HAVE NEVER BEEN CLEARER OR HIGHER THAN THEY ARE NOW. FROM 2012 TO 2017, THE NUMBER OF DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS PER YEAR IN THE UNITED STATES INCREASE BY NEARLY 70%. IN 2017,
ONE AMERICAN DIED OF A DRUG OVERDOSE EVERY EIGHT MINUTES ON AVERAGE. MORE AMERICANS DIED OF DRUG OVERDOSES IN 2017 THAN DIED THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE VIETNAM WAR. AND SADLY, OVERDOSES ONLY TELL PART OF THE STORY. DRUG ABUSE HAS ALSO LEAD TO MILLIONS OF PROPERTY CRIMES AND VIOLENT CRIMES AS WELL AS MILLIONS OF BROKEN FAMILIES, BROKEN RELATIONSHIPS, AND BROKEN LIVES. WE'RE FACING SOME OF THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES WE EVER HAD BEFORE THESE DAYS. INCREASINGLY POTENT DRUGS LIKE FENTANYL ARE BEING BROUGHT INTO OUR COMMUNITIES BY DEEPLY ROOTED TRANSNATIONAL CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS. THESE UNPRECEDENTED DRUG ENFORCEMENT CHALLENGES REQUIRE DEA TO BE AT THE VERY TOP OF ITS GAME AND THERE'S NOTHING MORE IMPORTANT FOR THIS COUNTRY THAN KEEPING UP THIS FIGHT. DEA IS RISING TO THE OCCASION. IT'S EXPANDING INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS SOUTH OF OUR BORDER, COLLECTING AND ANALYZING INTELLIGENCE IN INCREASINGLY SOPHISTICATED WAYS, WAGING THE FIGHT IN CYBER ARENA, AND MAKING USE OF PROMISING TECHNOLOGIES. I'M SO GRATEFUL THAT WE HAVE OUTSTANDING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS LIKE YOU AND LIKE THE FALLEN WE REMEMBER TODAY DOING THIS HEROIC WORK EVERY DAY. AS WE RETURN TO WORK, I HOPE EACH OF US WILL BEAR IN MIND THE EXAMPLE OF THE 84 HEROIC MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE GIVEN THEIR LIVES. THEY SHOULD INSPIRE US IN OUR WORK EVEN HARDER AND TO SERVE THIS COUNTRY WITH A SAME SPIRIT AND GENEROSITY AND DEDICATION AND SELF-SACRIFICE THEY DID. THAT WOULD BE THE BEST WAY THAT WE CAN HONOR THEIR MEMORY. THANK YOU ALL, ONCE AGAIN, FOR BEING HERE. THANK YOU FOR DEDICATING YOURSELVES TO THIS CRITICAL AND NOBLE WORK. GOD BLESS YOU ALL. GOD BLESS OUR FALLEN HEROS. [ APPLAUSE ]

>>> GOOD MORNING EVERYONE. THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING DEA'S ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICE. IT'S A PRIVILEGE TO ADDRESS ALL OF YOU ON THIS MOST SOLEMN OF DAYS AS WE HONOR THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ITS PREDECESSOR AGENCIES WHO
HAVE WILLINGLY GIVEN THE LAST FULL MEASURE OF DEVOTION FOR OUR NATION. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ATTORNEY GENERAL BARR FOR JOINING US THIS MORNING AND PROVIDING REMARKS THAT RECOGNIZE THE SACRIFICES MADE BY THE MEN AND WOMEN OF DEA EVERY DAY. WE'RE HONORED TO BE JOINED BY ED O'CALLAHAN, OTHER REPRESENTATIVES FROM OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTNERS. A SPECIAL WELCOME TO MY OLD FRIEND, OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY DIRECTOR, JIM CAROL. IT'S WONDERFUL TO SEE MY FRIENDS AND PREDECESSORS, FORMER DEA ADMINISTRATORS. ALL LEADERS WHO KNOW FIRSTHAND OF THE SAS SACRIFICE WE HONOR THIS MORNING. THANK YOU FOR MAKING THE TRIP BACK TO HEADQUARTERS AND FOR PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S CEREMONY, AS YOU DO EVERY YEAR. CREATING A CEREMONY SUCH AS THIS IS NO EASY EFFORT. BEFORE I CONTINUE, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK SEAN FERNS, DIANE MARTIN, AND THE ENTIRE TEAM WHO WORKED DILIGENTLY TO HELP BRING THE LONG STANDING DEA TRADITION TO REALITY. THANK YOU, TEAM. [APPLAUSE]

>> LIKE MANY OF YOU, I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO HEARING OUR DEA CHOIR AS WELL AS THE BLACK AND GOLD PIPES AND DRUMS PERFORM TODAY. THEY ARE TRULY MAGNIFICENT AND ADD TO OUR RICH HISTORY AND TRADITION WITH EVERY PERFORMANCE. MOST IMPORTANTLY, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FAMILIES OF THOSE WE HAVE LOST FOR THEIR SACRIFICE. THESE MEMORIAL SERVICES HONOR THOSE WE HAVE LOST AND SERVE AS A STARK REMINDER FOR OUR NATION AND OUR CITIZENS TO REMEMBER. THE FAMILIES OF OUR FALLEN NEED NO REMINDER. THEY REMEMBER EVERY DAY ALL DAY. I AM HUMBLED BY THE IMMENSY OF YOUR SACRIFICE. IT IS IS A DEBT WE CAN NEVER REPAY. WORDS SIMPLY CAN'T ALLEVIATE THE PAIN OF YOUR LOSS, KNOW YOU WILL ALWAYS HAVE THE DEA FAMILY BY YOUR SIDE. WE WELCOME YOU TODAY. WE WELCOME YOU EVERY DAY. [APPLAUSE] THERE'S A QUOTE ATTRIBUTED TO PRESIDENT LINCOLN WHICH HE MAY OR MAY NOT HAVE SAID. IT'S A GOOD QUOTE, WHOEVER SAID IT. IT FULLY CAPTURES THE
ESSENCE OF WHY WE'RE HERE TODAY. ANY NATION THAT DOES NOT HONOR ITS HEROS WILL NOT LONG ENDURE. OUR HEROS ARE OUR HEROS BECAUSE THEY WANTED OUR NATION TO ENDURE, THRIVE, AND BE SAFE. SO THAT IS WHY EACH YEAR HERE AT DEA HEADQUARTERS, WE GATHER TO BOW OUR HEADS AND HONOR THE HEROISM, THE DEDICATION, AND ABOVE ALL, THE SACRIFICES OF OUR FALLEN HEROS. IN DOING SO, WE CONTINUE A TRADITION THAT HAS ITS BEGINNINGS SINCE THE LOSS OF OUR FIRST WHEN AGENT STAFFORD E. BECKETT AND CHARLES WOOD WERE KILLED ON MARCH 22nd, 1921 AS THEY ATTEMPTED TO SERVE A SEARCH WARRANT ON THE SOUTHWEST BORDER. SINCE DEA'S EARLY DAYS THE TRAGIC LOSS OF AGENTS BECKETT AND WOOD, OUR MEMORIAL TRADITIONS HAVE GROWN AND EVOLVED INTO WHAT WE'LL SEE HERE TODAY. A CEREMONY THAT RECOGNIZES THE RISKS FACING THE MEN AND WOMEN OF TODAY'S DEA WHO SERVE COURAGEOUSLY WORLDWIDE AND SACRIFICE SELFLESSLY TO PROTECT OUR CITIZENS FROM THE SCOURGE OF DRUGS. AND WHAT BETTER PLACE FOR US TO GATHER THAN HERE AT DEA HEADQUARTERS WHERE THE WELL OF HONOR IS SEEN BY THOUSANDS OF TOURISTS AND VISITORS EVERY YEAR. AND SHOULD ONE OF THOSE CURIOUS TOURISTS ASK ANY ONE OF US ABOUT OUR WALL, EVERY ONE OF US CAN SHARE THE SAME THOUGHT. ON THAT WALL ARE OUR FALLEN HEROS. THEIR INDIVIDUAL SACRIFICE REMINDS US THAT THE WORK WE DO AND THE DANGERS WE FACE IMPACT NOT JUST AMERICA BUT THE ENTIRE WORLD. THEIR LIVES WERE CUT SHORT BUT GIVEN IN SERVICE TO OTHERS. ALL OF THE COURAGEOUS MEN AND WOMEN ON THAT WALL ARE PATRIOTS WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN THE LINE OF DUTY. THEIR LOSS WE'LL FEEL FOREVER. THEIR SERVICE WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN. THEIR FAMILIES WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN. AND FALLING A BEAUTIFUL TRIBUTE BY OUR DEA CHOIR, YOU'LL HEAR FROM OUR FORMER DEA ADMINISTRATORS WHO WILL READ EVERY HERO'S NAME FROM OUR HONOR ROLL ENSURING THEY NEVER WILL BE FORGOTTEN. TODAY WE BRIEFLY REMEMBER AGENTS BECKETT AND WOOD FROM OUR PAST, BUT WE ALSO REMEMBER THOSE FROM MORE RECENT YEARS WHOSE FAMILIES HAVE JOINED US HERE TODAY. LIKE TERRI WATSON,
MEREDITH THOMPSON, AND BRETT HANGER. WE REMEMBER THOSE HEROS AS WELL AS THE 75 ADDITIONAL HEROS ON THE WALL WHO GAVE THEIR ALL FOR A CAUSE LARGER THAN THEMSELVES. THEY DID NOT AVOID THE MOST BASIC AND CHERISHED RESPONSIBILITY OF A CITIZENS TO PROTECT THE NATION AND ITS PEOPLE. IT'S BEEN MY HONOR TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE HERE WITH YOU THIS MORNING. WE CAN NEVER FORGET AND SHOULD ALWAYS BE INSPIRED BY THE SACRIFICE OF OUR FALLEN HEROS. MAY GOD BLESS OUR FALLEN HEROS, AND MAY WE ALL ENSURE WE NEVER FORGET THEM, THEIR LOVED ONES LEFT BEHIND, OR THEIR SACRIFICE ON OUR BEHALF. THANK YOU.

WOULD YOU BE THE SAME IF I SAW YOU IN HEAVEN I MUST BE STRONG AND CARRY-ON CAUSE I KNOW I DON'T BELONG HERE IN HEAVEN WOULD YOU HOLD MY HAND IF I SAW YOU IN HEAVEN WOULD YOU HELP ME STAND IF I SAW YOU IN HEAVEN I'LL FIND MY WAY THROUGH NIGHT AND DAY CAUSE I KNOW I WANT TO STAY HERE IN HEAVEN TIME CAN YOU BRING DOWN TIME CAN BEND YOUR KNEES TIME CAN BREAK YOUR HEART HAVE YOU BEGGING PLEASE BEGGING PLEASE WOULD YOU HOLD MY HAND IF I SAW YOU IN HEAVEN WOULD YOU HELP ME STAND IF I SAW YOU IN HEAVEN BEYOND THE DOOR THERE'S PEACE I'M SURE AND I KNOW THERE'LL BE NO MORE TEARS IN HEAVEN WOULD YOU KNOW MY NAME IF I SAW YOU IN HEAVEN WILL YOU BE THE SAME IF I SAW YOU IN HEAVEN I MUST BE STRONG AND CARRY-ON BECAUSE I KNOW I DON'T BELONG HERE IN HEAVEN [ APPLAUSE ] WE WILL NOW READ DEA'S HONOR ROLL. OUR READERS ARE IN ORDER OF THEIR SERVICE, FORMER DEA ADMINISTRATORS PETER BET SINGER, KAREN LONG, KAREN TANDY, AND MICHELLE. WELCOME TO THE STAGE NOW. [ APPLAUSE ] AGENT STAFFORD E. BECKETT. MARCH 22nd, 1921. AGENT JOSEPH W. FLOYD. MAY 17, 1922. AGENT GREGORY. OCTOBER 25th, 1922. AGENT JAMES T. WILLIAMS. OCTOBER 16th, 1924. AGENCY LOUISL. MARKS. OCTOBER 24th, 1924. AGENT JAMES E. BROWN. JUNE 7th, 1928. AGENT JAMES R. KERRIGAN. DECEMBER 27th, 1928. AGENT JOHN W. CROZIER. NOVEMBER 16th, 1934. AGENT SPENCER STAFFORD. FEBRUARY 7th, 1935. AGENT ANDREW P. SANDERSON. SEPTEMBER 23rd, 1944. AGENT ANKER M.
AGENT MANSEL R. BURRELL. DECEMBER 19th, 1967. AGENT HECTOR JORDAN.
SPECIAL AGENT FRANK TUMMILLO. OCTOBER 12th, 1972. SPECIAL AGENT
GEORGE F. WHITE. MARCH 25th, 1973. SPECIAL AGENT RICHARD HEATH, JR.
APRIL 1st, 1973. SPECIAL AGENT EMIR BENITEZ. AUGUST 9th, 1973. DETECTIVE

>> INVESTIGATOR LESLIE GROSSO. MAY 21st, 1974. SPECIAL AGENT
NICKOLAS FRAGOS. SECRETARY MARY M. KEEHAN. AUGUST 5th, 1974. SPECIAL
AGENT CHARLES H. MANN. AUGUST 5th, 1974. SECRETARY ANNA MOUNGER.
SUPERVISOR Y CLERK-TYPIST MARTHA SKEELS. AUGUST 5, 1974. CLERK
TYPIST MARY P. SULLIVAN. AUGUST 5th, 1974. SPECIAL AGENT LARRY D.
WALLACE. DECEMBER 19th, 1975. SPECIAL AGENT JAMES T. LUNN. MAY 14th,
1976. SPECIAL AGENT RALPH N. SHAW. MAY 14th, 1976. SPECIAL AGENT
OCTAVIO GONZALEZ. DECEMBER 13th, 1974. SPECIAL AGENT FRANCIS J.
MILLER. MARCH 5th, 1977. SPECIAL AGENT ROBERT C. LIGHTFOOT. NOVEMBER
AGENT LARRY N. CARRWELL. JANUARY 9th, 1984. DETECTIVE MARCELLUS
WARD. DECEMBER 3rd, 1984. SPECIAL AGENT ENRIQUE CAMARENA. MARCH 5,
1985. DEPUTY SHERIFF JAMES AVANT. JULY 24th, 1986. CRIMINAL
INVESTIGATOR CHARLES M. BASSING. JULY 24th, 1986. CRIMINAL
INVESTIGATOR KEVIN L. BROSCH. JULY 24th, 1986. OFFICE ASSISTANT SUSAN
M. HOEFLER. SPECIAL AGENT WILLIAM RAMOS. DECEMBER 31st, 1986. SPECIAL
AGENT RAYMOND J. STASTNY. JANUARY 26th, 1987. SPECIAL AGENT ARTHUR
L. CASH. AUGUST 25th, 1987. DETECTIVE TERRY W. McNETT. FEBRUARY 2nd,
1988. SPECIAL AGENT GEORGE M. MONTOYA. FEBRUARY 5th, 1988. SPECIAL
AGENT PAUL S. SEEMA. FEBRUARY 6th, 1988. SPECIAL AGENT EVERETT E.
HATCHER. FEBRUARY 28th, 1989. SPECIAL AGENT RICKIE C. FINLEY. MAY 20,
1989. INVESTIGATOR JOSEPH T. AVERSA. MARCH 5th, 1990. INVESTIGATOR
FORMED IN 2002, THE DEA BLACK AND GOLD PIPES AND DRUMS HELPS TO CARRY-ON THE PROUD TRADITION OF BAG PIPE BANDS AT LAW ENFORCEMENT EVENTS. BY PERFORMING AT THE DEA MEMORIAL SERVICE, AT FUNERALS, CEREMONIES, AND COMMUNITY ANTI-DRUG EVENTS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES. THE BAND IS COMPRISED OF ACTIVE AND RETIRED SPECIAL AGENTS, TASK FORCE OFFICERS, AND INTELLIGENCE RESEARCH SPECIALISTS WHO VOLUNTEER THEIR TIME AND TALENTS TO HONOR THOSE WHO HAVE PAID THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE. THEY WILL
PERFORM FOR US NOW. I'M HONORED -- THIS MORNING TO PRESENT -- YOUR LOVES ONES, LET THE WARM -- AND STANDBY OURS. WE WILL NEVER FORGET. THE DRUMS AS THEY ECHO IN THE HILLS. I WILL COME AND STAND ON THE LINE. EITHER YOU STAND WITH ME OR AGAINST ME. I WILL FIGHT UNTIL DEATH. AND IF THE LORD SHOULD DECIDE TO TAKE ME BEFORE YOU, THEN YOU SHOULD KNOW THIS, MY BROTHERS AND MY SONS AND MY SISTERS AND MY DAUGHTERS WILL PICK UP MY SWORD AND CONTINUE. EVIL SHALL NOT PREVAIL AS LONG AS STAND. TODAY LET US REMEMBER THOSE WARRIORS WHO STOOD BESIDES US. TODAY LET US REMEMBER. WE CARRY THEIR SWORDS.

>>> WE THANK THE DEA BLACK AND GOLD PIPES AND DRUMS FOR THEIR SALUTE TO DEA AND OUR FALLEN HEROS. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE WERE REMINDED OF DEA'S FALLEN HEROS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR AND THEY CONTINUE TO INSPIRE US IN THE IMPORTANT WORK THAT WE DO. WE WILL NOW WATCH A VIDEO MONTAGE OF SOME OF THE WONDERFUL WAYS THAT OUR FALLEN HEROS ARE REMEMBERED THROUGH THE FOOT PRINTS THEY LEFT BEHIND AND THEIR LEGACIES THAT CONTINUE ON.

MIGHT HAVE HELD. THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT THAT EACH OF THEM, EACH OF THEM LEFT THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE. BECAUSE OF THEM, OUR NEIGHBORHOODS ARE SAFER. BECAUSE OF THEM, OUR COMMUNITIES ARE STRONGER. AND BECAUSE OF THEM, OUR NATION IS MORE SECURE. AND TODAY WE PAY TRIBUTE TO THESE HEROS FOR BEARING THE BURDEN OF SACRIFICE. FOR GIVING ALL THEY HAD AND ALL THEY WERE IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY. WE RECOGNIZE THEIR EXCEPTIONAL BRAVERY, THEIR UNCOMMON VALOR, AND SALUTE THEIR FAMILIES, ALL OF YOU, TO WHOM WE OWE A DEBT OF GRATITUDE WE CAN NEVER REPAY. IT'S THE MOST HALLOWED DAY ON DEA'S CALENDAR. IT'S WHEN WE REMEMBER OUR DEA HEROS. THOSE WHO HAVE DIED IN THE LINE OF DUTY. AS ALWAYS, I APPRECIATE EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU FOR BEING HERE. SO MANY OF YOU HAVE BEEN HERE YEAR AFTER YEAR AND KNOW THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING HERE AND SEEING OUR MEMORIAL FAMILIES. IT'S AMAZING TO THINK THAT EVERY DAY MEN AND WOMEN OF THE DEA SERVE ON THE FRONT LINES OF LAW ENFORCEMENT. HERE AT HOME AND IN 69 OTHER COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD. OFTEN TIMES RISKING THEIR LIVES TO PROTECT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE FROM DEADLY DRUGS AND THE CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROFIT FROM TRAFFICKING THEM IN OUR COUNTRY.

>> WE PROMISE TO REMEMBER BUT NEVER FORGET. WE UNDERSTAND THE SADNESS. YOUR FAMILY LOVES YOU VERY MUCH AND WHEN YOU HURT, WE HURT.

>> TODAY WE PAY A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE DEA WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN PURSUIT OF THIS MISSION. SOME OF THE FAMILIES ARE HERE WITH US TODAY. FOR SOME OF YOU, I KNOW THIS LOSS IS VERY FRESH. FOR OTHERS, NOT SO RECENT BUT FOR ALL VERY PAINFUL. AND SINCE WE'RE HERE TO COMFORT HERE, LET -- IN ANOTHER SENSE, WE'RE HERE TO BE INSPIRED BY YOU. FOR THE COMMITMENT AND THE DEVOTION YOU HAVE TO YOUR FAMILY MEMBERS AND THE SUPPORT YOU GAVE THEM IN THEIR WORK
IN LAW ENFORCEMENT AND FOR COMING HERE TODAY TO SHARE THIS WITH US AND GIVE US AN OPPORTUNITY TO PAY TRIBUTE TO YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES. THESE MEMORIAL SERVICES HONOR THOSE WE HAVE LOST BUT THEY’RE JUST AS MUCH ABOUT HONORING THE FAMILIES. FOR YOU, TOO, HAVE MADE A HEAVY SACRIFICE AND HAVE THE MOST COURAGEOUS TASK OF CARRYING FORWARD WITHOUT YOUR LOVED ONES. WE SHARE YOUR PAIN AND WHILE NOTHING CAN EVER FILL THE LOSS OF A LOVED ONE, KNOW YOU'LL HAVE THE DEA FAMILY BY YOUR SIDE. THE LIVES OF THOSE WE'RE HERE TODAY TO CELEBRATE -- THEY HAVE CHOSEN TO BE PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER THAN THEMSELVES. THAT MIND SET IS NOBLE. WHEN WE'RE TOGETHER, IN THOSE MOMENTS THAT REMIND US WE CAN BE AS ALIKE AS WE ARE DIFFERENT, WE BECOME STRONG AND CARING AND GRACIOUS. GRIEF IN THIS PLACE BRINGS US TOGETHER. SURELY, INEVITABLY, ALWAYS.

AS WE CLOSE THIS SERVICE, WE EXTEND SPECIAL THANKS TO THE ARLINGTON COUNTY POLICE HONOR GUARD, THE DEA CHOIR, THE DEA BLACK AND GOLD PIPES AND DRUMS, ATTORNEY GENERAL WILLIAM BARR, OUR FORMER DEA ADMINISTRATORS, AND OUR CURRENT AND RETIRED FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT COLLEAGUES FOR THEIR ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION IN TODAY’S PROGRAM. THIS CONCLUDES OUR SERVICE. THANK YOU ALL FOR JOINING US TO REMEMBER AND HONOR OUR FALLEN MEMBERS OF THE DEA FAMILY. PLEASE REMAIN SEATED UNTIL OUR MEMORIAL FAMILIES HAVE EXITED THE AUDITORIUM. THANK YOU.