

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE 2023 WOMEN OF
THE YEAR: DONNA EBERT

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Donna Ebert as she is honored as one of California's 8th Congressional District's Women of the Year.

As an active Ambassador to the Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce, Donna has led teams of local business leaders to forge connections with one another. Donna has also been key player in organizing the chamber's "lunch mob" where member businesses host chamber members and help substantially increase the revenue of the businesses. Donna is also involved with the Travis Regional Armed Forces committee where she is committed to improving the lives of the men and women serving at Travis Air Force Base. She supports Air Shows, golf tournaments, and the many other events that benefit the base and surrounding community. Donna also serves her community as an active member of Solano County Soroptimist International helping to support women through education, empowerment, and opportunity. Donna's enthusiasm, hard work, and dedication to serving her community serve as an inspiration to all her peers.

On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and recognize Donna Ebert for her positive contributions to our community.

RECOGNIZING ASHLEY HAINES

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today in recognition of Ashley Haines and her service to Virginia's First District and the Nation.

Ashley earned her bachelor's degree from James Madison University, where she majored in Public Policy with a minor in Political Communication. Prior to joining my office, Ashley interned on the 2021 Virginia Governor's Primary Race and was a Legislative Aide on the Virginia House District 26 campaign.

Ashley joined my office in 2021 as my Communications Assistant and worked her way up to Deputy Press Secretary. Ashley's outstanding work ethic and willingness to learn has made her an invaluable member of Team Wittman. From coordinating telephone town halls, arranging interviews with local sources, and crafting press releases, Ashley has contributed tremendously to providing the best constituent service in the Commonwealth.

I thank Ashley for her contributions and dedicated service over the past two years. Her

positive attitude and openness to new challenges will be dearly missed in my office. I wish her the best as she continues her journey as Communications Director for Congressman DERRICK VAN ORDEN.

Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I ask you to join me in recognizing Ashley Haines for her service to Virginia's First District and the Nation. May God bless Ashley as she continues her career in public service.

HONORING THE 2023 WOMEN OF
THE YEAR: BUFFY WICKS

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Assemblymember Buffy Wicks as she is honored as one of California's 8th Congressional District's Women of the Year.

A talented public servant and campaigner, Buffy has served as an Assemblymember for California's 14th Assembly district since she was elected in 2017. During her time in the California State Assembly, one of Buffy's major missions has been tackling California's housing crisis. In her first year as Housing Chair, she championed AB 2011 as well as legislation such as her "Yes in God's Backyard (YIGBY) Bill" which allows churches to build affordable housing in empty lots near their church buildings.

Buffy Wicks' career in politics began when she organized anti-Iraq War protests and worked for Howard Dean's 2004 campaign. She also worked on both of Barack Obama's successful campaigns in 2008 and 2012 and went on to work in the White House where she was the Deputy Director of the Office of Public Engagement.

Buffy is a relentless public servant and advocate for families and let her own lived experiences as a working mother inspire her fight for others. She highlighted and platformed important issues such as family leave and gained the support and sympathy of parents nationwide. Buffy's commitment to her constituents and the well-being of Californians knows no bounds.

On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and recognize Buffy Wicks for her positive contributions to our community.

HONORING FLANNER HOUSE'S
125TH CELEBRATION ANNIVERSARY

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, today I rise in celebration of the 125th anniversary of Flanner House.

Located in Indiana's 7th Congressional District, Flanner House was founded in 1903 as a community center for Indianapolis' African-American community. Today, the organization is central to the surrounding community, serving the whole family with programming like the Child Development Center, Center for Working Families, and an Elders Center. The organization has implemented innovative solutions to problems our community faces, including a Food Justice Initiative that led to the opening Cleo's Bodega Grocery and Café, and Flanner Farms. These efforts provide healthy, affordable, and culturally appropriate produce to address food insecurity while employing young people and neighbors. Flanner House also continues to feed the soul by celebrating Black history, culture, and talent through the Ujamaa Bookstore and other community-strengthening programming featuring Black artists, scholars, and musicians.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our gratitude and best wishes to an organization that has created immeasurable change. Organizations like Flanner House care deeply about their community and the people they serve. I extend my heartfelt congratulations on this milestone anniversary and wish Flanner House many more years of success.

HONORING THE 2023 WOMEN OF
THE YEAR: JUDGE DIANA BECTON

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Judge Diana Becton as she is honored as one of California's 8th Congressional District's Women of the Year.

Diana Becton has been Contra Costa County's District Attorney since her 2017 swearing in. Diana is the first woman, first African American, and first woman of color to serve in the role since its creation in 1850. This accomplishment alone shows the historical impact she has had on her community. For 22 years Diana, served as a judge in Contra Costa County where she was elected and became president of the National Association of Women Judges. She is known not only for upholding the law and holding people accountable, but also for striving to improve Contra Costa County's judicial system by focusing on disrupting the school to prison pipeline, creating safe alternatives for low-level non-violent offenders, and addressing the mental health needs of our community. She created the Reimagine Youth Justice Task Force to create alternatives to juvenile hall for young offenders and has made efforts to curb racial bias in her department by partnering with the non-profit Vera Institute of Justice to evaluate her office's decision making.

Diana's accomplishments in the judiciary are too enumerable and impressive to list briefly

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

as she is truly a pillar of her community and a testament to the excellence found in our district. Diana, far from doing business as usual, has aimed to fundamentally change many aspects of our often-harsh criminal justice system to decrease bias and fulfill its duty to serve justice.

On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and recognize Diana Becton for her positive contributions to our community.

RECOGNIZING FIRE CHIEF JOSEPH M. CLUCHEY FOR HIS SERVICE AND RETIREMENT

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to recognize Fire Chief Joseph M. Cluchey on his over 42 years of service to the Illinois fire community as he begins his well-deserved retirement.

Mr. Cluchey began as an on-call firefighter in the South Elgin Fire Department and worked as a contract paramedic in the St. Charles Fire Department in 1981 before becoming a career firefighter. He worked hard and made his way up the ranks to become fire chief for the South Elgin and Countryside Fire Protection District. He valiantly served in this capacity for 12 years before suffering an injury from a roof collapse, which caused him to retire from South Elgin in 2014.

After his retirement from South Elgin, he took on a leadership role as the statewide operations chief for Mutual Aid Box Alarm System. In that capacity, Chief Cluchey served countless communities statewide through the organization's non-discriminatory mutual aid response system for fire, EMS, and specialized incident operational teams.

In November of 2016, after a nationwide search Mr. Joseph M. Cluchey was sworn in as Fire Chief of the Elburn & Countryside Fire Protection District. The district currently operates out of three stations which serve all or portions of ten communities including 2 large subdivisions located in the 11th Congressional district of Illinois.

Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I am proud to represent the community of Elburn, Illinois and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Fire Chief Joseph M. Cluchey for his over 42 years of dedication and fire service to the community and wish him a happy retirement.

HONORING THE 2023 WOMEN OF THE YEAR: DEBRA MASON

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Debra Mason as she is honored as one of California's 8th Congressional District's Women of the Year.

Debra is the current Executive Director of the Bay Point Community Foundation and the Bay Point Municipal Advisory Council, where

she has served for many years. Over the years, she has worked for after-school programs and served on the Mt. Diablo School Board, and today she continues to be a fierce advocate for students, parents, schools, and her community. She has pushed for public safety, nutrition assistance, after school education, and community engagement in schools. Continuing her work with education, she is also a California School Age Consortium Board Member. Her dedication, service, and work ethic has been an invaluable benefit to the local community. One example of a lasting impact that she has made on the community is establishing the Bay Point Branch of the Contra Costa County Public Library. Debra has been committed to addressing issues that she cares about and is always willing to take action and help others. Debra has been involved with countless community offices and committees where her leadership has improved our local schools and broader community.

On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and recognize Debra Mason for her positive contributions to our community.

RECOGNIZING THE WASCO WOMAN'S CLUB

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to recognize the Wasco Woman's Club on their 100-year anniversary and to thank them for their significant contributions to the Wasco community. Founded in 1923, the Wasco Woman's Club was started by 13 young women who joined together to improve Wasco through volunteer service. Their unwavering commitment to public service has guided their mission over the past century. The Wasco Woman's Club now has approximately 40 members, many of whom are active in other non-profits and faith-based organizations in the community. The club is passionate about the well-being of the city's residents and focuses many of their efforts on strengthening local schools, libraries, and youth programs.

For a century, the Wasco Woman's Club has offered a chance for women of all ages to come together and give back to the Central Valley community. The club is a strong supporter of the Ronald McDonald House and Toys for Tigers organization, helping children and their families get through incredibly difficult situations. Additionally, the club hosts regular events for those in the community, including the Wasco High School Student Art and Photography Awards and the Christmas with Santa Event for special needs students. The club is also the proud owner of the oldest adobe building in the city, which they use to host special events and community gatherings. Amid all of their work, the members of the Wasco Woman's Club are committed to uplifting each other through their long-standing friendships and shared commitment to the betterment of the community.

Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I ask all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the Wasco Woman's Club on their 100-year anniversary. Their work

to enrich the community of Wasco will be felt for generations to come.

HONORING THE 2023 WOMEN OF THE YEAR: TECHNICAL SERGEANT CALLIE ABERIN

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Technical Sergeant Callie Aberin as she is honored as one of California's 8th Congressional District's Women of the Year.

Callie enlisted in the United States Air Force in 2012 and now serves as a Technical Sergeant at Travis Air Force Base. She was selected as a Senior Instructor at the Air Mobility Command's largest Airman Leadership School, where she educates, mentors, and certifies front-line supervisors on leadership skills, interpersonal skills, and behavioral theory. Her leadership in these positions have fortified strategic objectives in the personnel of Travis AFB. In addition to her official duties, Callie serves as the local Air Force Sergeant's Association Chapter President, and advocates for improved quality of life and economic fairness for all military personnel. Under her leadership, this organization surpassed membership goals by 217 percent. This community service has extended beyond Travis AFB and into the surrounding community where she has helped raise money for causes such as the Solano County Law Enforcement Torch Run and the Special Olympics. Callie was recognized as an NCO of the Year for the 60th Air Mobility Wing, Travis AFB Instructor of the Year in 2022, and ASFA's 2023 International NCO of the Year. Callie's dedication to her community and her country deserves recognition, as she goes above and beyond her official responsibilities to advocate for military personnel.

On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and recognize Callie Aberin for her positive contributions to our community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ALLISON ELIZABETH KENNEDY

HON. MARK E. GREEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today in honor of the life and legacy of Allison Elizabeth Kennedy, a devoted mother, beloved wife, cherished daughter, and follower of Christ.

Allison is remembered by those who knew her best as a woman with a servant's heart; the first to volunteer, the first to help, the first to pick up the phone. Throughout her life, Allison graciously shared the love and joy obtained through a deep and abiding faith with those around her. No one who met her was ever surprised to find that she was a woman of faith; she exuded her love for God in all that she did.

Born in California and raised in Vancouver, Washington, Allison grew up around a large

extended family that instilled the values of selflessness, generosity, and integrity in her from a young age. Even as Allison grew older, she stayed deeply connected to her roots. Her devotion to family only came second to her devotion to God.

Allison's mind was as strong and capable as her heart. Growing up, she consistently excelled in her studies. Her success in cheerleading and high school mock trial reflected her competitive spirit and relentless commitment to excellence. Allison went on to graduate from Washington State University with distinction. Her academic journey did not end there. She later earned a master's in public policy from American University in Washington D.C. where she developed an appreciation for our nation's capital. It was also here that she found a worthy mission—serving the public through road safety advocacy.

Allison proved to be a determined policy advocate who labored to improve safety conditions for drivers and pedestrians across our great nation. Allison's career began when she was hired at the Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety where she ultimately became Director of Government Relations, promoting safer transportation policies. Her efforts will live on through the policies she fought tirelessly for and that made it into landmark pieces of legislation like the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. Allison's service will continue to impact the lives of children, teen drivers, pedestrians, and motorists in America.

While in Washington D.C., Allison found new meaning and solace in her Roman Catholic faith. Allison became known for always being the first to volunteer or to welcome new faces into the Church. In particular, she enjoyed serving at the Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, where she helped prepare young couples to embark on the blessing of marriage. Washington is also where Allison met her devoted husband, Brian. Allison and Brian were engaged in December 2014 and married in November 2015.

Allison was an unwavering support to Brian and a devoted mother to her two sons: Christopher and Callahan. After five years of trying to start a family, she and Brian were blessed with the gift of Christopher through adoption. In 2022, they were granted another blessing when Allison discovered she was pregnant with her second son. Callahan was born in January 2023. Throughout the years of waiting to live her dream of becoming a mother, Allison found strength and resolve from leaning on the Lord's perfect plan and timing. As scripture teaches us in 2 Peter 3:9, "The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance." Allison's final days on this side of heaven were spent joyfully caring for her two children alongside Brian.

Allison will be greatly missed by her loved ones. It is a privilege to recognize her life and to celebrate the blessings God granted her. Her memory and impact on her family, community, and country will live on for generations to come. She may be gone from this earth, but her legacy will live on, especially in the lives of her two beloved sons.

HONORING THE 2023 WOMEN OF THE YEAR: MAYOR CATHERINE MOY

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Mayor Catherine Moy as she is honored as one of California's 8th Congressional District's Women of the Year.

Cat is a dedicated public servant who has offered years of service to her community. A Fairfield native, she stepped up to serve on the Fairfield City Council in 2008, following a career as a journalist. Cat's work on the City Council, and current service as Mayor, have helped make life better for the residents of Fairfield, including through reducing gang violence and working to address homelessness. As a member of the National Conference of Mayors, Cat serves on a task force aimed at finding solutions to homelessness for populations in need across our county. In addition to her work as an elected official, Cat offers her own time in service to her community. She has been involved with countless organizations serving youth and those in need, including Girls of the Run, Boy Scouts, and local youth sports programs. Cat also makes a point of reaching out to those living in homeless encampments, helping them to find the support they need while working toward a more permanent solution. She is an impactful leader who has offered her time and resources in service to her community.

On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and recognize Mayor Catherine Moy for her positive contributions to our community.

CELEBRATING THE WORK OF BO SHUFF

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise to recognize the indefatigable work of Bo Shuff, who recently stepped down as Executive Director of DC Vote after seven years. At DC Vote, Bo helped lead the movement to make the District of Columbia the 51st state and to prevent Congress from interfering in D.C.'s local affairs. I have worked closely with Bo on these efforts.

During Bo's tenure at DC Vote, the House of Representatives twice passed my bill, the Washington, D.C. Admission Act, that would make D.C. a state. Those are the only two times in history either chamber of Congress has passed the D.C. statehood bill.

Bo has been involved in campaigns and advocacy since 2000, when he worked on behalf of then-Vice President Al Gore as part of the Florida Coordinate Campaign. In 2002, he worked on the statewide coordinated effort to re-elect then-U.S. Senator Tom Harkin and then-Governor and now-Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. In 2003, Bo worked in more than 30 states for the Human Rights Campaign to pass equality legislation and to elect candidates who supported LGBTQ rights.

Bo has also worked for the Congressional Progressive Caucus, serving as Chief of Staff of its foundation, what is now the Progressive Caucus Center. In 2013, Bo became Campaign Manager for the mayoral campaign of now-D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser. After that successful campaign, Bo became Executive Director of DC Vote.

I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the important contributions of Bo Shuff to the District of Columbia and the Nation.

HONORING THE 2023 WOMEN OF THE YEAR: CHERYL SUDDUTH

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Cheryl Sudduth as she is honored as one of California's 8th Congressional Districts Women of the Year.

Cheryl is involved with numerous organizations that aim to improve the status of marginalized people in her community. As a Senior Director for Goodwill's AbilityOne program, she oversaw the building of thousands of fair housing units in Alameda County. Through this program, Cheryl also created programs that employ and train thousands of people who are traditionally excluded from the job market. Veterans, disabled individuals, formerly incarcerated people, and people returning to the workforce have benefitted from Cheryl's work. She has also been involved with Alliance 4 Girls, a local program providing mentorship to young girls to give them a space to grow and thrive. Through this program and others, Cheryl has personally mentored hundreds of girls in her community. In addition, she has served on a variety of boards and commissions, including the West County Wastewater District, Contra Costa Racial Oversight Body, ACLU, and NAACP. She also gives her time to a variety of organizations, ranging from racial justice, education, the environment, public safety, and much more. She has received numerous awards and recognitions for her considerable contributions to the community at-large. Cheryl's commitment to her community and improving all different aspects of public life serves as an inspiration to all who know her.

On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and recognize Cheryl Sudduth for her positive contributions to our community.

HONORING KRISTEN BENNETT

HON. CHUCK EDWARDS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to honor Ms. Kristen Bennett for her invaluable work as a Congressional Intern serving in my Hendersonville office. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her hard work and recognize the meaningful contributions she made at the office this year.

Interns work with staff to serve constituents in North Carolina's 11th Congressional district. Kristen was chosen from a competitive pool of applicants and exceeded every expectation.

It was a pleasure to work with Kristen, and I am proud to have such an intelligent and ambitious intern representing my office. Kristen exemplified the spirit of public service and represents the best that Western North Carolina has to offer. I congratulate her on the successful completion of her internship.

HONORING THE 2023 WOMEN OF
THE YEAR: CLAUDIA JIMENEZ

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Claudia Jimenez as she is honored as one of California's 8th Congressional District's Women of the Year.

Claudia has dedicated her life to serving the community of Richmond and is a current member of the Richmond City Council, serving the 6th District. As such, she is not only a proponent for positive social change but also a leader in her community. She has worked throughout her city to bring about transformative programs in areas such as affordable housing and homelessness. Claudia is known for forging alliances between key stakeholders across diverse communities. Her background as an immigrant from Colombia has helped shape her motivations as a community organizer. Trained as an architect in Colombia, she moved to Richmond in 2009, took English language classes, did volunteer work to practice her skills, and earned a Master of Environmental Planning from UC Berkeley. Claudia accomplished all this while caring for two children and still found time to lead campaigns and volunteer with other mothers in her neighborhood. Now as a Richmond City Councilmember, she is even more committed

to improving the lives of those in her community and making Richmond one of the more affordable places to live in the Bay Area. Her commitment to her community and improving all different aspects of public life is an inspiration to all who know her.

On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and recognize Claudia Jimenez for her positive contributions to our community.

HONORING THE 2023 WOMEN OF
THE YEAR: COURTNEY TINDALL

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Courtney Tindall as she is honored as one of California's 8th Congressional District's Women of the Year.

Courtney serves as a Senior Dependency Drug Court Case Manager for the Solano County Superior Court. In this role, she advocates for those who suffer from substance use disorder and has graduated hundreds of parents who have regained custody of their children. She is committed to helping those struggling with substance use disorder become sober and better their lives. Every day, she displays compassion and empathy as she advocates for children and families. Courtney has an unfailing commitment to her work and to reuniting families. She has received numerous awards for her work, including the Superior Court of California Customer Service Award, the California Bar Association Court Staff Award, the Child Abuse Prevention Council Henry Bergh Award for Practitioner of the Year, and Henry Bergh Award for Outstanding Contributions in the Dependency Drug Court and Support of Child Abuse Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment Efforts. The work Courtney does has touched the lives of countless vulnerable individuals and helped them make change for the better.

On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and recognize Courtney Tindall for her positive contributions to our community.

HONORING THE 2023 WOMEN OF
THE YEAR: EBONY ANTOINE

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Ebony Antoine as she is honored as one of California's 8th Congressional District's Women of the Year.

As a victim of gun violence herself, Ebony founded a nonprofit, Broken By Violence, to help families like hers heal after being impacted by gun violence. Broken By Violence has provided services to hundreds of families, including rental assistance, food assistance, emergency housing, mental health service referrals, and monthly healing spaces for survivors. She has worked with Solano Family Justice Center, the Vallejo Police Department, the City of Vallejo, and the Alameda County District Attorney to provide victims services and has also advocated for legislation that would better support survivors throughout California.

Although her life was irrevocably changed by tragedy, through her strength and determination, she became a beacon of hope for others. Her resilience and dedication to serving others is an inspiration to all who meet her. She truly embodies the values of a woman of courage by showing kindness, wisdom, humility, and compassion.

On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and recognize Ebony Antoine for her positive contributions to our community.