

*Administration of Barack Obama, 2015*

**Remarks on Signing the Rafael Ramos and Wenjian Liu National Blue Alert Act of 2015**

*May 19, 2015*

Well, as some of you aware, several weeks ago, we lost two of New York's finest, Rafael Ramos and Wenjian Liu. They were serving their community with great honor and dedication and courage. And all of New York grieved, and all of the Nation grieved. It was a reminder of the incredibly difficult and dangerous work that so many of our law enforcement officers are engaged in every single day.

I had a chance to meet the families of Officers Ramos and Liu at the memorial that we did just a few days ago. But it's important for us not only to honor their memory, it's also important for us to make sure that we do everything we can to help ensure the safety of our police officers when they're in the line of duty.

And this legislation, which has been sponsored on a bipartisan basis by people like Senators Cardin and Representatives Reichert and Pascrell, represent, I think, the best of a bipartisan support for law enforcement. What this legislation is going to do is to initiate a Blue Alert System so that when we know there is an active threat against law enforcement, that the alerts are going out at a comprehensive, expeditious way. That prevents the possibility that other officers may be caught by surprise, and it ensures that appropriate steps can be taken as quickly as possible.

So I want to again thank the Members of Congress who have come together to put this legislation in place. Most of all, I want to thank the families who obviously are still grieving from a terrible tragedy, but have worked hard to make sure that it is translated into something concrete.

And we're very proud of them. I'm particularly proud of the children here, these young men who, I think, are obviously grief stricken, but we know they're going to do a great job looking after their mom moving forward.

So with that, what I'd like to do is sign the legislation.

*[At this point, the President signed the bill.]*

Done. Thank you very much, everybody.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:07 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Jaden and Justin Ramos, sons, and Maritza Ramos, wife, of Rafael L. Ramos, a New York City Police officer who was killed in the line of duty on December 20, 2014. S. 665, approved May 19, was assigned Public Law No. 114–12.

*Categories:* Bill Signings and Vetoes : Rafael Ramos and Wenjian Liu National Blue Alert Act of 2015, signing remarks.

*Names:* Cardin, Benjamin L.; Pascrell, William J.; Ramos, Jaden; Ramos, Justin; Ramos, Maritza; Reichert, David G.

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