

2024 National Police Week Tribute
U.S. Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-Miss.)
May 16, 2024

M_. President, every year, our nation comes together to honor and remember the brave men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their fellow citizens. This week, National Police Week, stands as a testament to the unwavering dedication and sacrifice of law enforcement officers across our nation, including those in my own state of Mississippi.

Every day, our law enforcement officers put on their uniforms, kiss their loved ones goodbye, and head out into the unknown, knowing that they may encounter danger at any moment. They stand as guardians of our communities, ensuring that peace, law, and order prevail, often at great personal risk.

We owe a debt of gratitude to these heroes, whose selflessness and bravery serve as an example of what it means to be a patriot. Their commitment to uphold the law, protect the innocent, and serve justice is at the foundation of what makes our nation great.

As we honor those who have fallen, it is important that we also remember the families they have left behind. This week, we, as a nation, join the spouses, children, parents, siblings, fellow officers, and friends in mourning the loss of these men and women. Their sacrifice is no less profound, and their resilience and strength get at the heart of what it means to be an American.

Even in the face of adversity, our officers have remained steadfast in their commitment to serve.

It's important to me that every officer in Mississippi knows that I greatly admire you for your loyalty, grit, and determination throughout such challenges. I will continue to work to ensure you have the resources you need to do your job.

My state of Mississippi is blessed with amazing law enforcement, who are not only hometown heroes, but also an integral part of our communities. Every loss of an officer is deeply felt by all.

I would like to specifically remember and honor the two fallen officers from Mississippi whose names have been added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial this year. These officers died heroes in service to their communities, and we are humbled by their service and sacrifice.

We remember: Madison County Police Department's Officer Horren Randy Tyler, 64, who was tragically shot and killed on June 1, 2023, after a man opened fire on officers during a hostage negotiation. Randy's colleagues regarded him as a leader and mentor, seeking his guidance in challenging situations, trusting his 27 years of experience. He leaves behind his wife, four children, and three grandchildren.

And we also remember: Mississippi Bureau of Investigation's Lieutenant Jeris Deon Davis, 51, who succumbed to Covid on December 29, 2020. Lt. Davis served in law enforcement for 22 years, including as an officer with the Mississippi Highway Patrol.

As we reflect on the lives lost and the sacrifices made, let us recommit ourselves to supporting those who serve and protect us. Let us stand shoulder to shoulder with our law enforcement officers, offering them the respect, appreciation, and support they deserve.

Let us honor the memory of those who have fallen, and pledge to carry forward their legacy of courage, integrity, and service. In doing so, we ensure that their sacrifices will never be forgotten, and that their spirit will continue to guide and inspire us for generations to come.

I will continue to be an advocate for law enforcement professionals and provide support where possible, and do all I can to honor their sacrifice.

I am praying that their families and loved ones of our fallen officers find comfort in knowing that not only is their loss deeply felt, but it will also never be forgotten. God bless our law enforcement officers, their families, and the United States of America.