

(Washington, DC) Congressman Alcee L. Hastings (D-Miramar) made the following statement in remembrance of the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the United States:

"Today, we remember all those who lost their lives in the attacks of September 11, 2001. My thoughts and prayers go out to the families and friends of the nearly 3,000 people who were killed in the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and Shanksville, Pennsylvania. For their loved ones and our nation as a whole, things will never be the same again.

"We also take this moment to honor the sacrifices of our heroes – the first responders, fire fighters, police officers, and everyday citizens – who risked and lost their lives to help their fellow Americans. On that day, we saw the best of America shine through one of the darkest times for our country. We showed the world that, even in the face of tragedy, our great nation could come together, put aside our differences, and rebuild what hate had attempted to destroy.

"Over the past 11 years, we have worked diligently to bring Osama bin Laden and members of al-Qaeda to justice, as well as detect and prevent terrorist attacks of all types. In particular, I would like to recognize the dedicated men and women of our nation's intelligence community, military, and law enforcement for all that they do each and every single day to ensure the safety of the American people. We owe them a deep debt of gratitude.

"As we take a moment to pause and reflect on the 11th anniversary of 9/11, let us pay our respects to all those affected by the attacks by reaffirming our commitment to protecting each other and continuing our efforts to root out hatred and extremism."

Congressman Alcee L. Hastings serves as Senior Member of the House Rules Committee, Ranking Democratic Member of the U.S. Helsinki Commission, and Democratic Chairman of the Florida Delegation.

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