

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEES:

CHAIR, COMMERCE, TRADE
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COMMUNICATIONS, TECHNOLOGY AND THE INTERNET

CO-CHAIR, AFRICAN PARTNERSHIP FOR
ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT CAUCUS

CO-CHAIR, CONGRESSIONAL BIOTECHNOLOGY
CAUCUS



BOBBY L. RUSH
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
1ST DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

WEBSITE: <http://www.house.gov/rush>

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
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3235 WEST 147TH STREET
MIDLOTHIAN, ILLINOIS 60445
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(708) 385-3860 (FAX)

May 28, 2010

Mr. Bryan Traubert
President, Board of Commissioners
Chicago Park District
541 N. Fairbanks Court
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear President Traubert:

As you know on May 19, our city was shocked and saddened by incidents leading to the murder of Chicago Police Officer Thomas Wortham IV. A community leader, mentor to youth and outspoken opponent against crime and violence, this young hero survived two tours of duty in Iraq only to be gunned down in his own neighborhood in front of his parent's house.

By all standards, 30-year-old Officer Wortham was a pillar to his community, a leader among his peers and a hero to our nation. He was not only my constituent, he was a leader in the 6th Ward organization and president of the Cole Park Advisory Council. He was a son to all of the elders who knew him, and the best big brother children in our community could have. The 1st Congressional District has lost a hero and war veteran but his heroism and love for his community and country will forever live on in our hearts and minds. His spirit serves as the best example of leadership, commitment and selfless service to others.

Therefore, in light of this tragedy, the high crime in the area, and a lack of quality recreational services for our neighbors in the Chatham community; and because of Officer Wortham's commitment to bettering the lives of children and his neighbors for whom Cole Park, 361 E. 85th Street, was a center of activity, I request the Chicago Park District apply for a grant under the U.S. Land and Water Conservation Fund managed by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR). These, and yet to be identified public and private dollars, will be used to build a state-of-the-art field house and resource center on the grounds of the park. Written applications are due to IDNR by July 1st, 2010. I also request your agency name the facility the "Thomas Wortham IV Field House."

I look forward to discussing this with you further. I can be reached at 773-224-6500 or at my Washington office at 202-225-4372. Let us honor the memory and commitment of Thomas Wortham IV and through our creative efforts save countless more lives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bobby L. Rush".

Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress

CC: Mayor Richard M. Daley
Ald. Fredrenna Lyle
Supt. Timothy J. Mitchell
Cole Park Advisory Council

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May 28, 2010

The Honorable Roland Burris
U.S. Senator
Kluczynski Federal Building
230 S. Dearborn, Suite 3900
Chicago, IL 60604

Dear Senator Burris:

On May 19 of this year, I was shocked and saddened to learn of a horrific incident which led to the murder of Chicago Police Officer Thomas Wortham IV, who worked and lived in my congressional district. A community leader, mentor to youth and outspoken opponent against crime and violence, this young hero survived two tours of duty in Iraq only to be gunned down in his own neighborhood in front of his parent's house.

By all standards, 30-year-old Officer Wortham was a pillar to his community, a leader among his peers and a hero to our nation. He was not only my constituent, he was a leader in the 6th Ward organization and president of the Cole Park Advisory Council, which governs the park at 261 E. 85th Street. He was a son to all of the elders who knew him, and the best big brother children in our community could have. Our nation has lost a hero and war veteran but his heroism and love for his community and country will forever live on in our hearts and minds. His spirit serves as the best example of leadership, commitment and selfless service to others.

Therefore, in light of this tragedy, the high crime in the area, and a lack of quality recreational services for our neighbors in the Chatham community; and because of Officer Wortham's commitment to bettering the lives of children and his neighbors for whom Cole Park was a center of activity I have formally requested the Chicago Park District apply for a grant under the U.S. Land and Water Conservation Fund, managed by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, to help construct a state-of-the-art field house and resource center on the grounds of the park. As a senator and a leader within our Illinois Delegation, I need your both your support and help to identify federal resources to make the "Thomas Wortham IV Field House" a reality.

I look forward to discussing this with you further. I can be reached at 773-224-6500 or at my Washington office at 202-225-4372. Let us honor the memory and commitment of Thomas Wortham IV and through our creative efforts save countless more lives.

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Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress

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May 28, 2010

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
U.S. Senator
230 S Dearborn Street
Suite 3892
Chicago, IL 60604

Dear Senator Durbin:

On May 19 of this year, I was shocked and saddened to learn of a horrific incident which led to the murder of Chicago Police Officer Thomas Wortham IV, who worked and lived in my congressional district. A community leader, mentor to youth and outspoken opponent against crime and violence, this young hero survived two tours of duty in Iraq only to be gunned down in his own neighborhood in front of his parent's house.

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