



Rep. Nadler Responds to Crisis in Ferguson

On August 18th, Congressman Nadler spoke about the growing crisis in Ferguson, Missouri.

“The current situation in Ferguson is the result of the alienation of the town’s people from the town government and local police department, and total lack of trust both ways. There will have to be a change in the police department and town structure to be more responsive and more respectful of the people. Deep-seated racial bias and heavy handedness are a toxic mix.”

Regarding the issue of the overmilitarization of the local police, Congressman Nadler called for a reexamination of the federal policy that allows local police departments to purchase surplus military weapons and equipment.

“I think that that’s a ridiculous policy that should have stopped long ago,” said Congressman Nadler. “I certainly think that what’s going on in Ferguson should be a loud wakeup call that this policy will need to be reexamined and reversed.”

Rep. Nadler Leads Letter of NY Officials to Mayor de Blasio on Unregulated Helicopters

On August 8th, Congressman Jerrold Nadler (NY-10), partnered with 20 other leading New York officials to send a letter to Mayor Bill de Blasio speaking against the unregulated tourist

helicopter traffic over New York City and New Jersey.

“We are concerned about the safety implications of unregulated tourist helicopter flights, as well as the helicopters’ impact on quality of life in neighborhoods in both States that experience take-offs and landings or heavy flyover helicopter traffic,” the officials wrote. “To address these real quality of life issues of residents of New York and New Jersey and to protect the safety of helicopter users we urge you to eliminate all tourist flights and traffic from the City owned Downtown Heliport as soon as possible. The status quo of largely unregulated flights that endanger tourists and disturb the peace in Manhattan, Brooklyn, the Bronx, Staten Island and New Jersey neighborhoods is unacceptable.”

This letter was sent in addition to a letter sent to the Federal Aviation Administration and New Jersey Department of Transportation by New Jersey officials. Their letter also expressed concerns about the issue of tour helicopter traffic in the northern New Jersey-New York City airspace.

“For months, we’ve been talking with stakeholders, convening roundtable discussions, and trying to take steps towards a rational way to deal with these helicopters, but the time for talk is long over,” said Sen. Robert Menendez (D-NJ). “It is time for the FAA to use any-and-every tool they have to shut down these helicopters and put an end to this problem, and if they don’t have the tools they need, then we will do all we can to make sure they have them.”

Rep. Nadler and Rep. Roskam Introduce Resolution Condemning Growing Anti-Semitism Abroad

On July 31st, Congressman Jerrold Nadler (NY-10) joined with Congressman Peter Roskam (R-IL) to introduce a Congressional resolution condemning growing anti-Semitism abroad.

“We must unequivocally condemn all forms of anti-Semitism and reject attempts to justify anti-Semitic hatred or violent attacks as an acceptable expression of frustration with political events in the Middle East or anywhere else,” said Congressman Nadler. “Already in 2014 alone, in Jewish communities across the world, we have seen increased incidents of murder at Jewish sites, violent attacks and death threats against Jews, as well as gun violence, arson, graffiti, and other property desecration at Jewish places of worship. We must condemn these acts in the strongest possible terms and do all that we can to prevent the spread of anti-Semitism.”

“I commend Representatives Nadler and Roskam and their colleagues in the House for amplifying a call we hope the world will hear: that Jews should be able to live securely and with dignity, regardless of what happens in the Middle East. Parliamentarians around the world should follow their important lead and demonstrate the will to ensure anti-Semitism has no place in their country and that Jews have the right to live free of harassment and the fear of violence solely because they are Jewish,” said Abraham H. Foxman, National Director of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL).

Rep. Nadler Speaks on the America Invents Act

On July 30th, Congressman Jerrold Nadler (NY-10), as the Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property and the Internet, delivered an opening statement at the subcommittee’s hearing on “The

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: The America Invents Act and Beyond, Domestic and International Policy Goals.”

“The America Invents Act was designed to help process patent applications faster, reduce the application backlog, increase patent quality through expedited patent challenges, and improve examiner recruitment and retention. As we examine the continued implementation of the America Invents Act, we will study what changes if any, are needed for the patent system as a whole. In recent years, there has been an increasing awareness about abusive patent litigation. There has also been a public and private effort to combat abusive patent litigation. We need to continue to develop other creative solutions to deal with instances of abusive patent litigation without diminishing the rights of legitimate patent holders. Finally, we should make sure that American companies continue to receive adequate patent protection in key overseas markets.

Reps. Nadler and Rep. Burgess Introduce Bipartisan Bill to Protect Organ Donors

On July 30th, Congressman Jerrold Nadler (D-NY) and Congressman Michael Burgess (R-TX), M.D., introduced the Living Donor Protection Act, to promote organ donation and protect the rights of living organ donors.

“Every year, thousands of living Americans donate kidneys, livers, and other organs to save the lives of family members, friends, and complete strangers struggling with chronic, life-threatening illnesses. An organ donor’s decision to undergo these invasive procedures saves lives and it also saves money,” said the Congressmen. “Organ donation saves Medicare millions of dollars every year. It cuts health care costs as much as two-thirds by reducing the need for dialysis and other expensive medical interventions to treat chronic illnesses. Yet, after

taking this heroic step to save a life, living organ donors may unfortunately face discrimination when they try to take medical leave or buy insurance – our bill would address that injustice.”

The current Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) does not specify that living organ donors can take unpaid leave to recover from their donation and does not guarantee that donors will have a job waiting for them after surgery. Further, according to a 2007 study in the American Journal of Transplantation, as many as 11% of living organ donors experience difficulty securing or paying for insurance after their procedures because of discriminatory practices.

The Living Donor Protection Act would promote organ donation and protect living organ donors in three easy, low-cost ways:

- 1) Prohibits life, disability, and long term care insurance companies from denying or limiting coverage and from charging higher premiums for living organ donors;
- 2) Clarifies that living organ donors may use FMLA time to recover from the surgeries and procedures involved in their donation; and
- 3) Directs the United States Department of Health and Human Services to update their materials on live organ donation to reflect these new protections and encourage more individuals to consider donating an organ

“Rather than putting roadblocks in the way of living organ donation, Congress should encourage more individuals to become living donors and protect the rights of those donors to receive the insurance and medical leave they need,” said the Congressmen.

The bill has support from numerous groups that advocate on behalf of organ transplantation including the National Kidney Foundation, the

American Society of Transplant Surgeons, the American Society of Transplantation, and the Organization for Transplant Professionals

Congressman Nadler Joins Bipartisan Coalition to Introduce the Trade Secrets Protection Act of 2014

On July 29th, Congressman Nadler (D-NY), joined a bipartisan coalition of six members of the House Judiciary Committee Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property and the Internet to introduce, H.R. 5233, the “Trade Secrets Protection Act of 2014.”

The legislation is part of a bipartisan, bicameral legislative effort to amend the Economic Espionage Act of 1996. The bill will help create a federal civil cause of action for companies to enforce their rights and safeguard trade secrets.

“The value of trade secrets to U.S. companies is matched only by their tremendous vulnerability to theft,” said Congressman Nadler. “Innovative technologies have made it easy to obtain information and transfer it across the globe with the click of a cell phone, tablet, or computer key. At the same time, U.S. companies are increasingly targeted for trade secret theft by competitors, with some foreign governments actively encouraging and facilitating the theft of U.S. trade secrets. In light of their value and vulnerability, it is essential that Congress provide robust protection for trade secrets and pass our bill.”

Rep. Nadler Delivers Statement on Combating Copyright Infringement

On July 24th, Congressman Jerrold Nadler (NY-10), the Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property and the Internet, delivered an opening statement at the subcommittee’s hearing of “Copyright Remedies.”

The Congressman recognized the importance of ensuring that copyright owners have sufficient remedies when their works are infringed, acknowledging that infringement not only damages the financial interests of copyright owners, but our Nation's economy as well.

He continued, to set forth the hearing's goals as determining "Whether or not we decide to make changes to statutory damages, increase the penalties for streaming, or set up new administrative processes to handle small copyright infringement claims."

Rep. Nadler Speaks in Support of the Satellite Television Access Reauthorization Act

On July 22nd, Congressman Jerrold Nadler (NY-10), the Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property and the Internet, delivered a statement on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives during consideration of H.R. 4572, "The Satellite Television Access Reauthorization Act of 2014."

Congressman Nadler spoke in support of the Act, which seeks to extend the statutory license that allows satellite providers to retransmit distant signals into local broadcast areas in certain circumstances by five years.

At its creation, the license was intended to foster competition with the cable industry, and to enhance consumer access.

"On these fronts, the system has been a tremendous success," said Congressman Nadler. "It is estimated that nearly 90 percent of American households now subscribe to a paid TV service provided by multi-channel video programming distributors, in most cases, cable or satellite operators, and nearly all households have a choice of at least three."

Rep. Nadler Applauds President Obama for Protecting LGBT Employees of Federal Contractors

On July 18th, Congressman Jerrold Nadler (NY-10), a veteran member of the House Judiciary Committee, applauded President Obama for announcing that he will sign an executive order on Monday to ban federal contractors from discriminating against lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) workers. Congressman Nadler is Vice Chair of the House LGBT Equality Caucus and a long-time supporter of measures to protect LGBT individuals from discrimination.

"I applaud President Obama for taking this historic step to expand equal rights with the signing of an executive order to ban LGBT workplace discrimination by federal contractors. I am also particularly proud that the President will be banning discrimination based on gender identity and gender expression. Civil rights are best advanced by protecting all members of the LGBT community," said Congressman Nadler. "However, even after the signing of this executive order, there will still be far too many workplaces where LGBT workers are not protected from discrimination. In America, sexual orientation or gender identity should not be a factor in employment and the Republican leadership of the House must stop standing in the way of Congress doing its part."

For nearly four decades, Congressman Nadler has been a lead sponsor of legislation to end LGBT workplace discrimination at the federal and state level. He is also the author of the "Respect for Marriage Act," legislation that would repeal the so-called "Defense of Marriage Act" (DOMA) in its entirety and is the author of the "Uniting American Families Act," which led the charge on legal protection of immigration rights for binational couples. The Congressman helped spearhead the amicus brief submitted by 212 members of Congress in *United States v.*

Windsor, the case that successfully challenged DOMA's federal definition of marriage as excluding married same-sex couples.

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