

Statement on Sixth Anniversary of 9/11

(September 11, 2007)

(Stuart, FL) - On the sixth anniversary of September 11, 2007, Congressman Tim Mahoney (FL-16) released the following statement:

"Today we remember those who died six years ago in the 9/11 terrorist attacks. It is also a time to honor those who responded on that day and those who stand at the ready to defend our country every day of the year. It is in their honor that we must renew our commitment to making America more secure and refocus on fighting terrorism.

"Six years after 9/11, Osama bin Laden is still on the loose and a resurgent Al Qaeda has largely restored itself to pre-9/11 strength. It is critical that America step up to this challenge and adopt an aggressive strategy focused on fighting terror at its root and making our communities as secure as possible.

"I was proud to cosponsor and help pass legislation which implements the recommendations of the bipartisan 9/11 Commission. This is a critical step forward in securing America's ports and planes, getting our first responders the equipment they need, and strengthening anti-terrorism efforts.

"We will honor the memories of those who died by continuing bipartisan efforts in Congress to prevent another terrorist attack from ever happening again on American soil. I extend my sincere sympathy and prayers to the family and friends of all those who perished six years ago today. I would also like to personally remember my close childhood friend Todd Rancke, who died on the 104th Floor of the South Tower that day."

The 9/11 Commission Recommendations Act became law on August 3, 2007. This law:

Requires 100% scanning of U.S.-bound seaborne containers within five years.

Requires 100% screening of cargo on passenger aircraft within three years.

Improves explosive screening of checked baggage on aircraft.

Improves explosive screening of airline passengers.

Creates a stand-alone grant program at DHS, authorized at \$400 million a year to get first responders the equipment they need.

Strengthens efforts to prevent terrorists from acquiring WMD - including beefing up the Nunn-Lugar program securing nuclear materials in the former Soviet Union and creating a high-level Presidential Coordinator for the Prevention of WMD Proliferation within the White House and a Commission on the Prevention of WMD Proliferation.

Ensures high-risk areas receive adequate homeland security funding.

Improves rail and mass transit security.

Better protects critical infrastructure.

Strengthens intelligence and information sharing with local law enforcement

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