



The families of the victims of September 11, 2001  
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## **NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2, 2006**

On September 26, 9/11 FSA joined with NumbersUSA to present our first Homeland Defender Awards to two members of the US Senate and two members of the House of Representatives who have shown strong leadership in securing our country's borders.

The two Senators chosen were Robert Byrd (D-W.Va.) and James Talent (R-Mo.), and the two Representatives were Lincoln Davis (D-Tenn.) and John Hostettler (R-Ind.) The awards were inscribed with the recipient's name and the following words: "Presented with gratitude for your ongoing tireless efforts to protect our country. It is our sincere hope that all elected officials aspire to your level of service and commitment to the people of our great nation."

Senator Byrd has one of the best records in the entire United States Senate on border security issues. This alone makes him worthy of recognition by those who have been victimized by our country's failures to control our borders. Even more than that, as a Democrat he has been a maverick in his own party, among the very few of that Party in the Senate to fight the power of the Open Borders Lobby. Joan Molinaro, Bruce DeCell, and Peter Gadiel 9/11 FSA and Roy Beck and Rosemary Jenks of NumbersUSA made the presentation to Senator Byrd in his office in the US Capitol. We were given nearly a full hour of his time and it was an extraordinary opportunity to speak with a man who began life in a West Virginia company coal town and who began his career in the Congress while Harry Truman was President. It was a remarkable experience.

Representatives Davis and Hostettler were presented their awards in a ceremony in the Rayburn House Office Building. Mr. Davis stated that his concern for the safety of the Nation, and not party politics is his greatest concern. His record confirms the truth of that statement; he has been a leader on the issue and has an A minus rating from Americans for Better Immigration. He will, he said, continue to vote his conscience, despite pressure from the leaders of his party.

Mr. Hostettler, who is Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Immigration and Border Security also has a strong record of support for secure borders. Not only is his voting record excellent as chairman of his committee he has used his influence to encourage the House Republican leadership to stand firm for secure borders when pressure from the White House has been at its worst.

With the recent 80 to 19 vote in the Senate for construction of a fence along the Mexican border it is clear that the Open Borders Lobby is losing its stranglehold on that body. Whatever progress this country has made away from the current state of collapse on our borders is due to the four men we honored and others like them in the House and Senate.

From the bottom of our hearts we thank Senators Byrd and Talent and Representatives Davis and Hostettler.