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After Fallen Female Police Officer Mary Ann Collura

Post Office Will Honor Borough's First Officer Killed In The Line Of Duty;

Congressman Gets Every House Colleague In New Jersey To Cosponsor Measure

Washington, DC - In an effort to honor the life of Mary Ann Collura, Fair Lawn, New Jersey's first police officer killed in the line of duty, Congressman Steve Rothman (D-Fair Lawn) today introduced legislation that would rename the main post office in the Borough, located at 14-24 Abbott Road, as the "Mary Ann Collura Post Office Building." Every member of the New Jersey House delegation signed onto Rothman's legislation to honor Officer Collura, who was also the first woman to wear a Fair Lawn police officer uniform.

"Throughout her life, Mary Ann Collura embodied what is best in our communities - she was courageous, kind, and concerned about the world and people around her. Renaming the main post office in Fair Lawn after Mary Ann will help ensure that her legacy lives on," said Rothman, who noted that the idea to rename the post office was suggested by a Fair Lawn High School student. "The fact that a Fair Lawn High School student came up with the idea of renaming the post office speaks volumes about how much Officer Collura meant to the people of Fair Lawn. Officer Collura fought hard for what was right and worked tirelessly each day, risking her life, to make sure the residents of Fair Lawn and their families were safe. This post office redesignation is just one way in which we can honor her life in the Borough she loved."

After dutifully serving 18 years as an outstanding officer and as a role model in her community, Officer Collura was fatally shot on April 17, 2003 in the line of duty. Officer Collura was backing up a Clifton, New Jersey police officer who was trying to arrest three men following a car chase that ended outside a church in Fair Lawn. One of the men, Omar Marti, shot Collura in the chest and then stole her patrol car and ran over her body as he made his escape. Marti was later found in Florida and died in a shootout with police.

"By renaming the post office in Fair Lawn after Officer Mary Ann Collura, we are ensuring that she will always have a presence in our community," Rothman said. "Officer Collura was a beloved and trusted member of the Fair Lawn community, which is why renaming the main post office is fitting."

Rothman's bill now heads to the House Committee on Government Reform where that panel will need to formally sign off on the measure so that it can move to the House floor for a vote.

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