

Chief of Police, City of West Palm Beach

Congressman Hastings delivered the following statement on January 20, 2004, honoring Chief Delsa Bush, the first African American and first woman to serve as the City of West Palm Beach's Chief of Police.

"Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recent promotion of Ms. Delsa Bush as the new police chief of West Palm Beach, Florida. Chief Bush is the first African American and first woman to serve in this prestigious and demanding position.

"Through honesty, hard work and determination, Chief Bush has risen from a childhood of poverty in the Mississippi Delta to a very prominent position in the criminal justice field. Though others might have given up when faced with the many challenges she has had to overcome, Delsa Bush never took her eyes off of her goal. As a result of her strong will and optimistic attitude, she graduated college, continued on to receive her Master's degree and is currently pursuing her Doctorate.

"Mr. Speaker, as previously mentioned, Chief Bush is West Palm Beach's first black and first female police chief, as well as one of few black women police chiefs in America. Courage and excellence are just two of many words of praise that have been used to describe this remarkable law enforcement professional. Delsa Bush is an excellent role model and someone whom we can all be proud.

"I am delighted that Chief Bush lives and works in my Congressional District. It is an honor and a privilege to represent such a great American. I say on.

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