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STATEMENT BY PIMA COUNTY ATTORNEY BARBARA LAWALL ON THE RESIGNATION OF CONGRESSWOMAN GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

It is appropriate that Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords' final day in office was marked by the passage of legislation she introduced to make Arizona and our country safer. As Pima County Attorney, I know that our congresswoman worked tirelessly from the very first day she took office to enhance public safety in our community. It was a privilege and an honor to work with her in that effort.

So, on this, her last day as our Representative in Congress, I would like to personally thank Congresswoman Giffords for the dedication, energy and grace she brought to her job. She never forgot that being a public servant means serving the public. She knew that her goal was to achieve real results, not to score political points or wage ideological battles.

Thanks to Congresswoman Giffords' advocacy, my office was able to hire and retain prosecutors and essential support staff. Thanks to her, we were able to secure federal funding for innovative approaches to public safety, such as the Drug Treatment Alternative to Prison program. And thanks to her advocacy and support, we were granted \$1.2 million of federal funds to establish a Border Crime Prosecution Unit to target identified, prolific, and dangerous drug trafficking organizations.

Congresswoman Giffords worked each and every day to make Arizona a better place to live, work and raise a family. Our community and our nation owe her a tremendous debt of gratitude. She is and will remain an inspiration for us all. She will be missed.

Godspeed, Gabby.

Barbara LaWall
Pima County Attorney

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