

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 21, 2020

The Honorable Peter DeFazio
Chairman
House Committee on Transportation
& Infrastructure
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sam Graves
Ranking Member
House Committee on Transportation
& Infrastructure
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves,

We write in support of the inclusion of language in the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2020 renaming the Moore Haven Lock and Dam after fallen Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) Officer Julian Keen, Jr.

Officer Keen was shot and killed in LaBelle, Florida after attempting to stop a hit-and-run suspect while off-duty. A lifelong resident of Southwest Florida, Officer Keen was a pillar in his community. Affectionately known as “Batman”, he was a six-year veteran of FWC who sought to help all those in need and make a difference in the community. Always smiling, he was known as a loving friend and family member and driving force for good. The Julian Keen Memorial Scholarship was established by his family and will offer the opportunity for youth in Hendry County, FL who are interested in a career in Law Enforcement, Criminal Justice, or related field to obtain that dream.

We believe renaming the lock and dam would be a fitting tribute to Officer Keen, and have included letters of support from the local community. We would respectfully request that the below language be included in 2020 WRDA bill:

SEC. XXX REDESIGNATING THE MOORE HAVEN LOCK AND DAM.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The Moore Haven Lock and Dam, Moore Haven, Florida, shall hereafter be known and designated as the “Julian Keen, Jr. Lock and Dam”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Lock and Dam referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Julian Keen, Jr. Lock and Dam”.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please contact either of our offices with any additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Mario Diaz-Balart
Member of Congress



W. Gregory Steube
Member of Congress