

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

December 10, 2024

Vice Admiral Yvette M. Davids
Superintendent
United States Naval Academy
121 Blake Road
Annapolis, MD 21402

Lieutenant General Steven W. Gilland
Superintendent
United States Military Academy
606 Thayer Road
West Point, NY 10996

Dear Vice Admiral Yvette M. Davids and Lieutenant General Steven W. Gilland:

We are writing to express our concern and seek clarification regarding the decision to deny the inclusion of a full-page advertisement honoring Major James Capers in the commemorative program for the upcoming 125th anniversary of the Army-Navy football game.

Major Capers, a distinguished Marine veteran and Medal of Honor nominee, embodies the values of courage, dedication, and sacrifice that our service academies strive to instill in their cadets and midshipmen. As a pioneer and hero, his story serves as an inspiration to all who aspire to serve our nation. Recognizing him in the commemorative program for such a historic event would have been a fitting tribute to his legacy and contributions.

Given the significance of this anniversary and the values our military institutions uphold, we are deeply troubled by this decision. We respectfully request a detailed explanation as to why this advertisement was not permitted and whether there were specific guidelines or criteria that led to this outcome. Transparency in this matter is essential to ensure that the legacy of our nation's heroes is appropriately honored in future events.

We look forward to your response and remain hopeful that this matter can be clarified in a manner that reflects the respect and appreciation Major Capers has earned through his remarkable service to our country. Moreover, since the program has already gone to print, we are inquiring of other ways we can recognize this American hero at the game.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter, and **we request a response by Thursday, December 12, 2024**. Please do not hesitate to contact us sooner should you require additional information or wish to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,



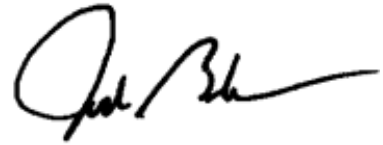
Ralph Norman
Member of Congress



Jeff Duncan
Member of Congress



Joe Wilson
Member of Congress



Josh Brecheen
Member of Congress



Troy Nehls
Member of Congress



Keith Self
Member of Congress



Morgan Griffith
Member of Congress



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Tim Burchett
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Dan Bishop
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Barry Loudermilk
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Eli Crane
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Mary Miller
Member of Congress