

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 381

Honoring the memory and legacy of Michael James Riddering and condemning the terrorist attacks in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso on January 15, 2016.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 1, 2016

Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. KIRK) submitted the following resolution;
which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

RESOLUTION

Honoring the memory and legacy of Michael James Riddering and condemning the terrorist attacks in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso on January 15, 2016.

Whereas, on January 15, 2016, terrorists perpetrated heinous attacks at the Splendid Hotel, the Cappuccino Café, and the Yibi Hotel in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, killing 30 innocent civilians from 18 countries, including Burkina Faso, Canada, France, Libya, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Portugal, Ukraine, and the United States;

Whereas Michael James Riddering was the only citizen of the United States killed in the terrorist attacks on January 15, 2016;

Whereas first responders, including Burkinabe forces, and French and United States security personnel, including

personnel of the Bureau of Diplomatic Security and of the United States Armed Forces, valiantly and quickly assisted with evacuating civilians trapped in the Splendid Hotel, transporting civilians to safe locations, and supporting the military of Burkina Faso in securing the area around the Splendid Hotel;

Whereas Michael James Riddering resided in Yako, Burkina Faso, was born in Chicago, Illinois, and was raised in Fort Lauderdale, Florida;

Whereas Michael James Riddering was a graduate of Fort Lauderdale Christian High School;

Whereas Michael James Riddering was a businessman, a boat builder, and a missionary who led an orphanage, a school, and a women's crisis center in Burkina Faso, and was a father, son, husband, brother, and friend;

Whereas Michael James Riddering and his wife, Amy, worked as a part of a team that cared for over 400 orphaned children and provided direct assistance to disenfranchised widows in Burkina Faso;

Whereas Michael James Riddering was in the capital, Ouagadougou, of Burkina Faso on January 15, 2016, to meet a group of missionaries who had arrived from Florida to volunteer for 10 days at the compound that he and his wife, Amy, ran in the city of Yako; and

Whereas the people of the United States stand united with the family, friends, and colleagues of Michael James Riddering to support the individuals touched by his life or affected by his death and to pray for healing, understanding, and peace: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

1 (1) strongly condemns the terrorist attacks in
2 Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, on January 15, 2016;

3 (2) honors the memory of Michael James
4 Riddering, the United States citizen who was killed
5 in the terrorist attack on the Cappuccino Café on
6 January 15, 2016, in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso;

7 (3) recognizes and honors the dedication of Mi-
8 chael James Riddering, who moved halfway across
9 the world to work with orphans and widows in order
10 to help them improve their lives and to contribute to
11 their communities;

12 (4) extends sincere condolences and prayers
13 to—

14 (A) the family, friends, and colleagues of
15 Michael James Riddering, particularly his wife,
16 Amy, and their children, Haley, Delaney, Biba,
17 and Moise; and

18 (B) the individuals touched by the life of
19 Michael James Riddering, including the dedi-
20 cated aid workers, missionaries, and volunteers
21 that continue to selflessly engage in important
22 humanitarian and development efforts; and

23 (5) pledges to continue to work to counter vio-
24 lent extremism, including through education and

- 1 community development, in the United States and
- 2 abroad.

