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COMMEMORATING THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRAGIC COLLISION OF AMERICAN
EAGLE FLIGHT 5342 AND U.S. ARMY CALLSIGN PAT 25

HON. SHARICE DAVIDS
OF KANSAS

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Mister Speaker, I rise today in somber recognition that January 29, 2026, will mark one year since the tragic collision of American Eagle Flight 5342 and U.S. Army callsign PAT 25.

On that night one year ago, American Airlines Flight 5342, flying from Wichita, Kansas to Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, collided with a UH-60 Army Black Hawk helicopter while on final approach to runway 33 at DCA. There were no survivors and 67 innocent lives were lost — 60 passengers; 4 flight crew; and 3 Army soldiers. They were our neighbors, our coworkers, and our loved ones.

For Kansas, this tragedy hit especially close to home. Wichita is the Air Capital of the World, and countless Kansas families

have deep ties to aviation — whether through work, training, or innovation. The loss of this flight was not an abstract headline in our state; it was felt deeply in our communities, at kitchen tables, and in workplaces across Kansas.

While folks across the country embraced the stark reminder that we must never take our time with loved ones for granted, this event also underscored the vital need to enhance our nation's aviation safety.

While nothing can be done to undo this tragedy or bring back those lost on January 29, 2025, we can do everything in our power, working across the aisle, to prevent this from ever happening again. I look forward to working with my colleagues, both Republican and Democrat, to address these issues and keep our skies safe.

Sharice Davids
Member of Congress
Third District, Kansas