WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (D-MD) today released the following statement in recognition of Navy Lt. j.g. Nicholas Juron of Lexington Park, who was killed on December 13, 2005, when his helicopter crashed into the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Colombia:

“I was extremely honored to have the opportunity to appoint Nick Juron to the United States Naval Academy, and proud of the service that he gave to our country. Nick was a very bright young man, a gifted athlete, student, and a ‘star’ in every sense of the word. And, without question, he was a patriot who wanted to serve his nation and our people.

“A 1998 graduate of Great Mills High School, Nick was admired by his friends, family, and community. He received a perfect score on his SAT, was a member of the National Eagle Scout Association, and earned a spot on the USA Rugby team. But his intention was always to make a career in the Navy.

“Nick’s sacrifice will always be remembered by a grateful community, state, and nation. In this difficult time, my heart goes out to his family and friends.”

###