

WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Rob Wittman (VA-1), Chairman of the House Armed Services Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee, released the following statement today after allegations of mismanagement at Dover Air Force Base came to light. Wittman echoed concerns from Richard L. DeNoyer, the national commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. “You only get one chance to return our fallen warriors to their families with all the dignity and respect they deserve from a grateful nation — and that mortuary affairs unit failed.”

Wittman stated, “As our nation pauses this week to honor our heroes who have served this country so selflessly, I am deeply concerned about the families who have suffered due to the recent revelations regarding the Dover Air Force Base mortuary. I have participated in ceremonies at Dover to honor our fallen servicemembers and am troubled to learn about the allegations of mishandling and mismanagement. I fully agree with the comments of Mr. DeNoyer and will do everything I can to ensure accountability, as I continue to do at Arlington National Cemetery. We must have an in-depth and detailed accounting of what happened. We must ensure that appropriate action is taken. We must ensure that every family affected by this incident is well-informed and given an opportunity to participate in the process. Most importantly, we must ensure that this never happens again.”

Congressman Rob Wittman represents the First District of Virginia. He serves on the House Natural Resources Committee and the House Armed Services Committee where he is the Chairman of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee.