



UNITED STATES SENATE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20510

BARBARA A. MIKULSKI
MARYLAND

August 25, 2009

Mrs. Violet Ripken, Founding Chairwoman
Robbie Calloway, Chairman
Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation
1427 Clarkview Road, Suite 100
Baltimore, Maryland 21209-0030

Dear Mrs. Ripken, Mr. Calloway, Friends & Campers:

What a great day! I truly wish I could be there today with my good friends from the Foundation and all the campers who have signed on for the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation Summer Camp. Believe me, there was NEVER anything like this going on when I was growing up in East Baltimore. I think I am jealous!

Since its inception, the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation has been true to its mission to build character and teach critical life lessons to young people from across America through baseball and softball themed programs. This current partnership with the United States Marshals Service, *Badges for Baseball*, is just the latest example of innovative programming which teaches young people the importance of choosing a healthy lifestyle and making smart, productive decisions.

Like Cal and Bill, I owe much of my success to two great coaches, my mom and my dad. They taught me the American way – honesty, hard work and fair play. So I know exactly what you will be learning during this unique “camping” experience. Listen kids, take this great opportunity to watch and learn from the best – the U.S. Marshals and the Ripken family.

Have fun and learn about teamwork, respect, personal responsibility, and work ethic. Learn how you can lead the life you want and make a real difference for your family and community. Learn how law enforcement professionals like the cop on the beat in your neighborhood and the U.S. Marshals are on your side.

Have a great week.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Barbara A. Mikulski".

Barbara A. Mikulski
United States Senator