

Dear Friends,

2015 has been a busy year. I am honored to have served you over the last year and I look forward to serving you in 2016. I have supported legislation that ensures an equal opportunity to quality education for all students, continued investments in our local transportation infrastructure and legislation that supports our families and our veterans. I have also made it a priority to meet with constituents in the District to discuss the issues most important to our communities. As I look back on this year, I am reminded of all that we have accomplished and the bright future we have ahead. Take a look below to share in some of my fondest memories from this year.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alma Adams".

Congresswoman Alma Adams, Ph.D.



### A Message from Congresswoman Adams





## Legislative Actions

### Legislation Introduced

**STEM Prep Act:** Creates a pipeline of qualified workers to fill the skills gap that exists for STEM jobs that do not require a four year degree.

**Greensboro Four Resolution:** Honors the contributions and sacrifices made by the Greensboro Four during the Civil Rights Movement.

**American Civil Rights Cities Act:** Directs the National Park Service to designate at least one city in the United States each year as an "American Civil Rights City" based on the city's contributions to protect civil rights history.

**Veterans Benefits Network Act:** Helps to establish public-private partnerships that better connect veterans to the benefits promised to them.

**Maya Angelou Memorial Post Office:** Designates the Center City post office located in Winston-Salem to be named the Maya Angelou Memorial Post Office.

**Homelessness in American Resolution:** Calls on Congress to end homelessness by 2020.

**Veterans Small Business Tax Credit Act of 2015:** Provides a tax credit of up to \$12,000 for veterans who start small businesses.

**Hunger Resolution:** Calls for the increase in federal funding for unemployment assistance programs and calls for summer feeding programs to be streamlined in order to assist more children in need.

**Coal Ash Amendment:** Enhances safety standards for well water and ground water to prevent coal ash contamination.

**Women in Education Resolution:** Highlights the significant advances made by women in education to bring about racial, ethnic, and gender equality in the United States.

### Legislation Cosponsored

**Police CAMERA Act**

**Raise the Wage Act**

**HBCU Historic Preservation Program**

**Voting Rights Advancement Act**

To see all legislation that was co-sponsored in 2015 [click here.](#)

### Letters

**HIV Prevention Funding:** Urged the CDC and White House to expand funding for HIV prevention in rural and suburban areas of deep southern states. [Read more here.](#)

**Home Heating Assistance Funding:** \$77.7 million in funding was secured for low income housing recipients after a bipartisan letter, led by Congresswoman Adams, was sent to the secretary of Health and Human Services to advocate for the release of the funds. [Read more here.](#)

**Federal FTA Funding for Charlotte Blue Line Extension:** \$100 million dollars has been appropriated through the omnibus to continue construction on the 9.4 mile LYNX blue line extension in Charlotte. Congresswoman Adams wrote to the House Appropriations Committee, urging them to support federal transportation programs and other initiatives that would help fund major projects like this one. [Read more here.](#)

**Passed the U.S. House of Representatives:**

**Teach Safe Relationships Act:** A provision was included in the recently passed Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) to fund programs in schools on the subjects of dating and relationship violence. Congresswoman Adams is a lead cosponsor of the Teach Safe Relationships Act, which aims to prevent domestic violence. [Read more here.](#)

**National Defense Authorization Act Amendment:** Recommends changes in the Department of Defense's handling of service members with PTSD. [Read more here.](#)

**Bipartisan Measure to Protect Elderly Women:** Increases funding for the Elderly Abuse Grant Program, authorized under the Violence Against Women Act.



## **District Highlights**



Top: Congresswoman Adams hosted a round table discussion with veteran small business owners from the 12th District and introduced the Veterans Small Business Tax Credit Act of 2015.

Bottom Right: Congresswoman Adams met with the North Carolina teacher of the year, James Ford. Mr. Ford, from Charlotte, is the only African American male to ever win teacher of the year throughout the entire United States and its territories.

Bottom Middle: During a tour of historic downtown Thomasville, Congresswoman Adams stopped in a local shop for refreshments and met the store owner.

Bottom Left: Congresswoman Adams is photographed during a visit to Boral TruExterior, located in Salisbury. Boral is the nation's second largest recycler of coal combustion residuals, providing a safe alternative to the disposal of coal ash.



Congresswoman Adams hosted a Congressional Art Competition for 12th District students earlier this year. She is pictured with Caroline Li of Winston-Salem, who was the first place winner of the competition. Caroline won tickets to D.C. for the nationwide reception and her art is displayed in the U.S. Capitol.



Congresswoman Adams held a Service Academy Day to inform students and parents about the service academy nomination process.



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## **Memorable Moments**



Congresswoman Adams participates in the 150th Anniversary of the ratification of the 13th amendment - which formally ended slavery. The ceremony was held in the United States Capitol Visitors center.



Top Left: Congresswoman Adams and President Obama take a selfie aboard Air Force One on the way to an economic summit in Charlotte.

Top Right: Chancellor Abbot Placid Solari and Congresswoman Adams discuss the Pope's visit while they await his arrival on Capitol Hill.

Bottom Left: Congresswoman Adams is pictured with her bipartisan HBCU Caucus Co-Chair Republican Congressman Bradley Byrne at an HBCU Caucus event.

Bottom Right: Charlotte Assistant City Manager, Ron Kimble, was Congresswoman Adams'

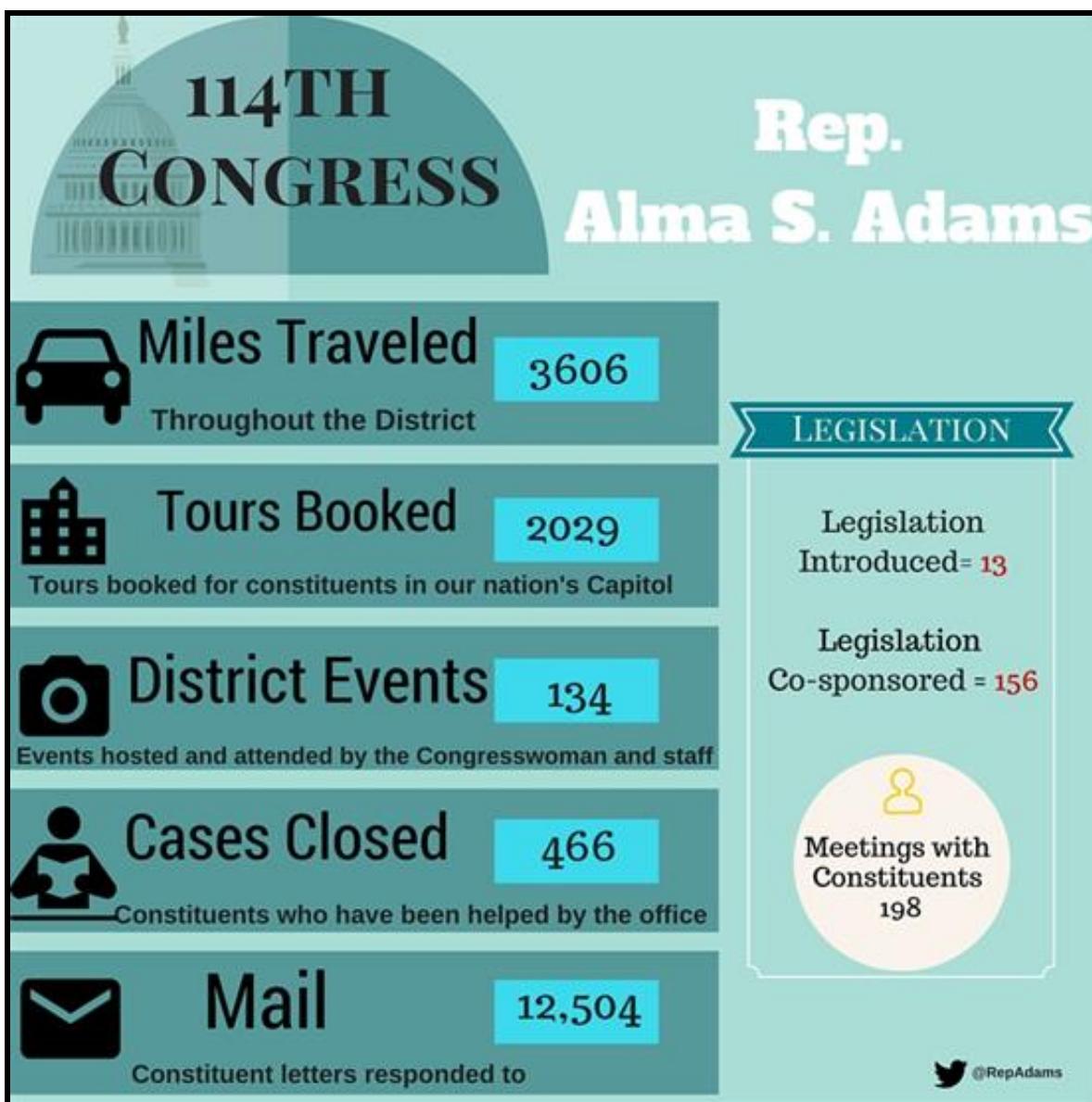
guest at the October new member meeting to share his family's story during Domestic Violence Awareness month.



## Case Work

To date, Congresswoman Adams' office has assisted constituents in receiving **\$412,561.40** in retro payments owed to them from the federal government. If you need assistance with navigating a federal agency, please contact Barbara Carter at [barbara.carter@mail.house.gov](mailto:barbara.carter@mail.house.gov) or call (704) 344-9950.

If you need help with a veterans issue please email [VAHelpNC12@mail.house.gov](mailto:VAHelpNC12@mail.house.gov).





## Grants Corner

Organizations throughout North Carolina's 12th District have received **\$240,887,467.99** in grants from the federal government in 2015.

Do you need assistance with a grant or would you like to receive our grants newsletter? Please email Kim Ratliff at [kim.ratliff@mail.house.gov](mailto:kim.ratliff@mail.house.gov). For more information please visit Congresswoman Adams' website [here](#).



**CONGRESSIONAL  
APP CHALLENGE**

**November 9, 2015 - January 15, 2016**

This competition is open to all high school students from participating districts. Students can design and create an app for a chance to be recognized and honored by their Representative. For rules and information, please visit:  
[CongressionalAppChallenge.us](http://CongressionalAppChallenge.us)



*If you would like to invite Congresswoman Adams to your community or to attend your event, please email [nc12scheduler@mail.house.gov](mailto:nc12scheduler@mail.house.gov).*