

Marine Corporal Roger Rua wanted to become a police officer after completing his service to our country in our nation's armed forces. Unfortunately on March 29, 2012 an IED exploded under the vehicle he was riding in while serving in Afghanistan. Corporal Rua sustained fractures to his spine, femur, and sternum and he suffered traumatic brain injury.

Although he was initially paralyzed from the chest-down, miraculously through determination and physical therapy, Rua is now able to walk with only the use of a cane. However, his dream of becoming a police officer has been dashed. Even though Marine Corporal Roger Rua lives in permanent constant pain from his injuries, he still wants to protect us from the evil that wants to harm our country, and is studying national security at the University of West Haven. His current home has many steps and he awakes each day to knowing he must face the steps that lead down from the upstairs bedroom, and then face the set of cement steps to the street. He is currently on the wait list for a specially adapted house from the Homes For Our Troops national non-profit.

There is currently a fund drive to give donations to Homes For Our Troops to get his home built so Rua can live out the rest of his life as comfortably as possible. There are currently about 2,000 soldiers returning with severe life-altering injuries. I am hoping Corporal Rua winning your Warrior Award will bring to light the plight of many young military who are returning to our nation and needing the help our government is not providing. It is up to the American people to help our returning heroes.

Please award Marine Corporal Roger Rua of Naugatuck this award to let him know that we recognize and admire his loyalty, duty, integrity, and personal courage.

I thank Rua and all of our veterans for their military service.