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September 22, 2011

The Honorable Janet Napolitano
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Secretary Napolitano:

I wish to thank you for the Obama Administration's decision last May to re-designate Temporary Protected Status for Haitians still adversely affected by the devastating earthquake of January 2010 and to thank you for all of your efforts to assist Haitians.

As you may know, Massachusetts is home to one of the largest Haitian immigrant communities in the United States, and we benefit from all of the varied contributions that our Haitian neighbors make to strengthen our Commonwealth.

I am writing to respectfully ask that you take additional steps to address the scope of the current humanitarian crisis in Haiti by utilizing humanitarian parole for Haitians with pending family applications.

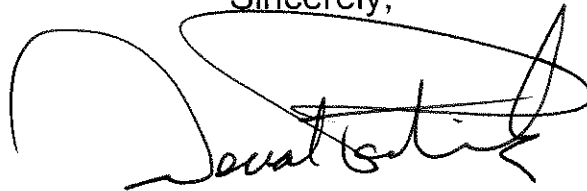
I ask that you consider using the Department's parole authority with respect to Haitians with family-based immigrant visa petitions that are waiting for an immigrant visa to become available. This action would mirror the existing Cuban Family Reunification Parole Program (CFRP) that was created by Department Homeland Security during the Bush Administration in 2007. The CFRP allows Cubans who are beneficiaries of approved

family-based immigrant visa petitions to come to the United States rather than remain in Cuba while awaiting a visa.

An exercise of parole authority would allow Haitians with an already approved, legal method of entering the United States to be reunited with close family members in the United States while awaiting visa availability. Expediting family reunification through safe and orderly channels would bring families together safely without the risk of a dangerous maritime migration, and would allow for greater remittances to be sent to aid Haiti's recovery.

I appreciate your attention to the plight of Haitians in the aftermath of this tragedy and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janet Napolitano", written over a large, loopy oval flourish.