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10TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA AND GLOBAL HEALTH  
CHAIRMAN

SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL  
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OVERSIGHT

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
AND LABOR

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WORKFORCE PROTECTIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EARLY CHILDHOOD,  
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AT-LARGE WHIP



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January 20, 2010

Dear Constituents:

I extend my deepest condolences to the people of Haiti, Haitian-Americans in my district, family members, loved ones, and all those who have been affected by the earthquake that hit Port-au-Prince on Tuesday, January 12. Words cannot describe the pain and psychological trauma this tragedy caused, nor is there solace for the tragic loss of life and destruction that have resulted.

As you continue to send your prayers, donations, and kind thoughts to help in the relief effort towards the sparing of precious lives, I would like to provide the following information.

I am pleased to share with you that Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano announced **the designation of Temporary Protective Status (TPS)** to Haitian Nationals who were in the United States on January 12, 2010. Haitians in the U.S. who are eligible to apply for TPS should go to [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov) or call the toll-free USCIS Forms Hotline (800) 870-3676.

Again, I express my heartfelt sorrow to all who have lost loved ones and whose lives have been forever changed as a result of the earthquake. I will continue to do all I can in the district and in Washington to ensure that immediate assistance is provided towards saving lives and, eventually, rebuilding, so that people can begin to pick up the pieces. Please contact my offices for further information or for inquiries at (973) 645-3213 (Newark office) or (202) 225-3436 (Washington office).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donald M. Payne".

DONALD M. PAYNE  
Member of Congress

## MEMO

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To: Citizens of the 10<sup>th</sup> District of New Jersey  
From: Congressman Donald M. Payne  
Date: January 20, 2010  
Re: Information and Resources on Haiti Relief

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### To Locate Family Members in Haiti

- The State Department Operations Center has set up the following number for Americans seeking information about family members in Haiti: **1-888-407-4747** and/or visit the **Person Finder** on [state.gov/haitiquake](http://state.gov/haitiquake). This tool is available in Kreyol, French and English for individuals who are trying to contact friends and relatives in Haiti.
- You may also email inquiries to: [Haiti-Earthquake@state.gov](mailto:Haiti-Earthquake@state.gov). *When you submit your inquiries, please include the following information:*
  - Name(s) of the American citizen(s) in Haiti on the subject line of the email.
  - The body of the email should also include the full name, date of birth, and passport information (if known) of the persons in Haiti you are trying to contact. In addition, please include a telephone number, email address, hotel name, or local Haiti address (if known).
  - Relationship and contact information for the next of kin in the United States (parent, spouse, friend, etc.).
  - Please mention any special needs or urgent circumstances.

### Text "4636" for Help in Haiti

- Comcel Voila customers can now access the 4636 (INFO) short code in Haiti to report their needs and locations. **If you know someone in Haiti, please share the "4636" program with them so they can text their needs and sign up for further information on relief efforts.** You can also sign up someone else's phone number by texting REGISTER or REGISTRE and their location and number to 4636. This is also available internationally by texting REGISTER or REGISTRE and the person affected in Haiti's number and location to +4673 749 4535.

PLEASE NOTE: For those texting internationally, including from the United States, regular international rates will apply. We must do all we can to empower people affected by this catastrophic situation.

### The International Red Cross has set up a database to locate lost relatives

- Inquiries should be directed to the website of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) [www.icrc.org](http://www.icrc.org), select the "**Looking for a family member**" link. The process is being managed by the ICRC, in cooperation with the tracing services of the Haitian Red Cross Society and by National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies worldwide.

### How You Can Help

- Make **cash donations** to credible international relief organizations: The Administration is urging CASH donations because it is difficult to transport items to Haiti at this time.
- Please **hold off on travel** Private citizens are encouraged to hold off on travel to Haiti. We applaud the American spirit of giving but we want to ensure that citizens are not detracting from relief efforts and not placing themselves in harms way as aftershocks continue.
- **Send a list of in-kind services and supplies:** Contact [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) to donate earth-moving equipment, planes, and container barges.
- **Contact organizations such as:** NJ for Haiti [www.nj4haiti.org](http://www.nj4haiti.org); Text "QUAKE" to 20222 to charge a \$10 donation to the Clinton Bush Haiti Fund (the donation will be added to your cell phone bill); InterAction (For complete list of all organizations involved with Haiti relief efforts) <http://www.interaction.org/crisis-list/earthquake-haiti>
- **The Center for International Disaster Information** is a partner organization of the US Agency for International Development (USAID) that can help put usable donations on the ground in Haiti. Prospective donors can register their donation

on [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) and CIDI will respond with information about the international community's ability to absorb this offer.

### Haitian Citizens in the U.S.

- President Obama has halted deportations of Haitians in the U.S.
- Haitian citizens in the U.S. should call the Haitian Embassy in Washington, D.C., (202)-332-4090, or the Haitian Consulate in New York City, (305)-859-2003.

### Congressional Action

*As of as of Wednesday, January 20, 2010*

- The Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) held emergency meetings regarding Haiti on Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>
- The Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) immediately organized Special Orders on Haiti – speeches on the floor of the House
- Congressman Donald Payne held first constituent conference call on Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>
- The U.S. State Department briefed CBC Members on January 13<sup>th</sup> and January 15<sup>th</sup> regarding the situation on Haiti.
- A congressional letter was sent to President Obama requesting Temporary Protection Status for Haitian Nationals on January 14<sup>th</sup> —*This request was granted on Friday, January 15, 2009*
- The Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) introduced a resolution of condolence and solidarity with the people of Haiti on January 20, 2010.
- To date, the CBC is requesting Debt Relief for Haiti
- To date, the CBC requesting assistance for relief and reconstruction in the form of grants, not loans, through the World Bank/ID

## **UPDATE ON SITUATION ON THE GROUND IN HAITI**

*As of Tuesday, January 19, 2010*

### **SEARCH AND RESCUE (SAR)**

- To date, international SAR teams have rescued more than 72 individuals. U.S. SAR teams have rescued 40 of the 72.

### **COMMODITY FLOW**

- On January 18, 9,600 ten-liter water containers, 7,602 hygiene kits, 300 rolls of plastic sheeting, and ten water bladders arrived in Port-au-Prince from the USAID/OFDA warehouse in Miami. On January 19, a commodity flight from the USAID/OFDA warehouse in Dubai delivered 40,200 ten-liter water containers, 13,056 hygiene kits, 200 rolls of plastic sheeting, six water treatment units, five standard medical kits, and eight water bladders.
- A convoy departed Santo Domingo on January 19, including a 6,000 gallon fuel truck and a refrigerated container to be used as a morgue.
- 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit arrived and is conducting limited distribution activities. Air drops of humanitarian aid will begin January 20.

### **EVACUATIONS/AMERICAN CITIZEN WHEREABOUTS**

- Governor Rendell and 28 orphans departed Port-au-Prince January 19, and arrived in Orlando, Florida.
- As of 2:00 pm EST, a total of 5236 have been evacuated to date.
- There are 26 confirmed American fatalities and another 36 reported.

- CBP, SOUTHCOM, HHS, and the State Department developed a system to ensure authorities at U.S. ports of entry are aware of incoming flights carrying orphans and repatriating Americans, and their assistance needs.

### **MEDICAL RESPONSE**

- USAID in the Dominican Republic will reprogram \$2 million to support three Dominican public hospitals in Jimani near the border with Haiti.
- Five Disaster Medical Assistance Teams (DMAT) are now on the ground in Haiti, and will provide support to eight severely damaged hospitals, health care centers, and the U.S. Embassy.
- Colombia established a small hospital staffed by 35 people.

### **INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION/REQUESTS**

- A January 25 “Friends of Haiti” conference in Montreal will prepare for an eventual donors’ conference.
- Canada committed to the deployment of an additional 1000 personnel to Haiti. In addition, two Canadian vessels are scheduled to arrive January 19.

### **DEPLOYMENT OF U.S. GOVERNMENT ASSETS**

- The USS Bataan arrived off-shore on January 18, with the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit consisting of 2,000 Marines.
- The Fleet Anti-Terrorism Security Team (FAST) of 53 marines arrived at Embassy Port-au-Prince at 0100 EST on January 19 to enhance embassy security.

- OFDA is working to establish 15 field hospitals; six are operational and nine are under construction.

#### **HUMANITARIAN/SECURITY/INFRASTRUCTURE**

- The security situation in Haiti remains calm overall with no indications of mass migration towards North America. Isolated incidents of violence and sporadic looting continue. A curfew remains in effect.
- The UN World Food Program (UNWFP) expects to expand feeding operations to 97,000 on January 19, up from 67,000 on January 18. UNWFP estimates it will require 100 million prepared meals over the next 30 days.
- Major U.S. cell phone carriers will advance funds to the Red Cross to cover the \$22 million in donations pledged for Haiti relief efforts via text, meaning funds will reach the organization within a week.
- The seaport at Port-Au-Prince should be at a minimal operating capacity by January 21.
- TRANSCOM personnel are assessing port damage to determine when the Port-au-Prince port can resume full operating capacity.