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CONGRESSMAN KENDRICK B. MEEK

December 9, 2005

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The Interim Government of Haiti (IGH) has unjustly imprisoned the Reverend Gérard Jean-Juste. We write to ask that you use every resource available to secure his immediate release and ensure his personal safety.

As the first Haitian-American priest ordained in South Florida and as a committed advocate for immigrant-refugee rights, Father Jean-Juste has long been a respected leader in the South Florida community. The founder of the Haitian Refugee Center in Miami, Father Jean-Juste served as its Executive Director for ten years. He fought tirelessly to both challenge the status quo and to improve the treatment of thousands of Haitians living in poverty in that country.

Father Jean-Juste, who has since been declared a prisoner of conscience by Amnesty International, was imprisoned under highly questionable circumstances. His continued detention by the U.S.-supported IGH underscores our failure to bring integrity to the Haitian Judiciary and to restore democracy to the country, the world's second oldest republic.

Mr. President, for these reasons, we urge you to take immediate steps to address these concerns. Thank you for your prompt attention to this important matter.

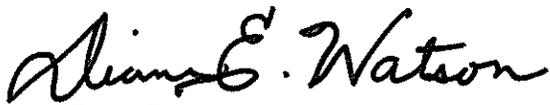
Respectfully,

Handwritten signature of Kendrick B. MEEK in black ink.

KENDRICK B. MEEK
Member of Congress

Handwritten signature of Melvin L. Watt in black ink.

MELVIN WATT
Member of Congress



DIANE WATSON
Member of Congress



MAXINE WATERS
Member of Congress



CAROLYN KILPATRICK
Member of Congress



STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES
Member of Congress



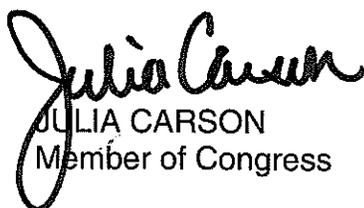
SHEILA JACKSON LEE
Member of Congress



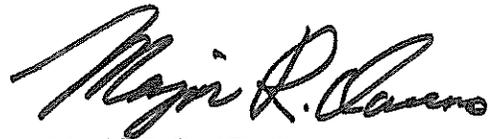
JOHN CONYERS
Member of Congress



ALBERT WYNN
Member of Congress



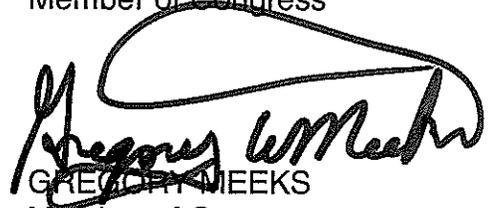
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EDOLPHUS TOWNS
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Member of Congress



BARBARA LEE
Member of Congress



G.K. BUTTERFIELD
Member of Congress



DONNA CHRISTENSEN
Member of Congress



AL GREEN
Member of Congress



JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD
Member of Congress



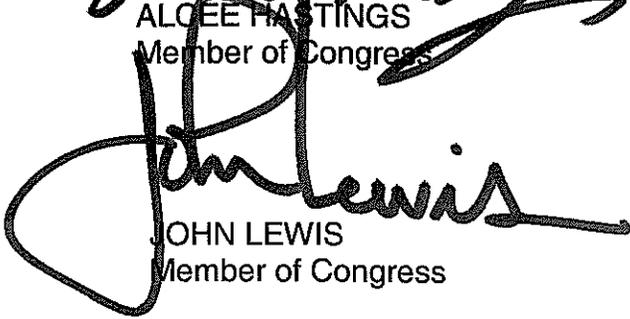
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Member of Congress



ALCEE HASTINGS
Member of Congress



WILLIAM L. CLAY
Member of Congress



JOHN LEWIS
Member of Congress



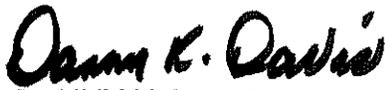
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Member of Congress



ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON
Member of Congress



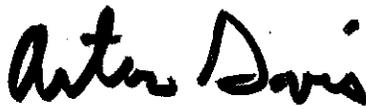
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