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BIDEN ADMINISTRATION MUST WELCOME HAITIAN REFUGEES, STOP FUNDING CRUEL & RACIST IMMIGRATION SYSTEM

Washington, D.C. - In response to Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) horrific and abusive treatment of Haitian migrants seeking safety at the border, JFL releases the following statement:

“We stand with Haitian and Black immigrant communities to condemn the cruel and reprehensible treatment of Haitian migrants at the border, and of all Black immigrants. The recent actions of CBP are yet another example of a sprawling and dysfunctional immigration enforcement system that is deeply rooted in racism and cruelty, and that must be abolished.

Congress and the Biden Administration must take immediate action to deliver justice to Haitian immigrants:

• Halt all deportation flights and expulsions to Haiti and other Black countries, and terminate the use of Title 42.

• Treat Haitian people at Del Rio as refugees who require humanitarian assistance, not deportation. They have suffered a series of crises of enormous proportions, including the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse, continuing food insecurity, and the recent 7.2 magnitude earthquake that wiped out schools and entire neighborhoods. Half of those impacted by the earthquake have yet to receive humanitarian aid.

• Grant humanitarian parole to Haitians seeking protections, allowing them to be released to safer conditions away from CBP mistreatment and to seek asylum and/or refugee status.

• Investigate CBP and hold them accountable for their inhumane actions. Specifically, the Office of the Inspector General must immediately start an investigation into the use of whips, or whip-like devices, and other mistreatment of Haitians by Border Patrol.”

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