



THE MAS REPORT

FROM STATE SENATE PRESIDENT MALCOLM A. SMITH
DISTRICT 14

Dear Friend,

I am delighted to say that although this year has just begun, my staff and I have been extremely busy and have accomplished a lot in a short amount of time.

First, let me start by saying that my thoughts and prayers have been with the people of Haiti and their many loved ones as we grapple with this devastating natural tragedy. Please know that my office is working with city, state and federal authorities to coordinate the most efficient manner to assist the Haitians. At this moment, the best way to help is by donating money, but only through reputable organizations. Please read the rest of this report for further details.

This January, history was made in the New York State Senate when my office hosted our 1st Virtual Town Hall Meeting, which focused on the proposed closure of three high schools in Queens. Dozens of people logged in to pose questions on this very important topic to me, members of my education advisory committee and representatives from the New York City Department of Education.

Very shortly my office will kick-off our Annual Send-A-Vet-A-Valentine Program, where we will distribute numerous items such as: shirts, hats, gloves, socks, prepaid calling cards and assorted toiletries to veterans at two local hospitals. All items are being donated by community organizations and constituents.

Next week, my office and I will be making history once again this year by hosting my first State of the District Address. Please join us as I discuss some of our important local initiatives, as well as the status of the legislative and budgetary process in Albany. This event will be held on **Wednesday, February 10, 2010 at the Robert Ross Johnson Family Life Center, 172-17 Linden Boulevard, St. Albans, NY 11434.** The program kicks off promptly at 6:30 p.m. I look forward to seeing you!

All my best,

Malcolm A. Smith
Senator, 14th District

HAITI ASSISTANCE & RELIEF EFFORTS

Important Information:

- To locate American citizens in Haiti and to get updates on conditions in Haiti please call the U.S. State Department at: 1-888-407-4747.
- Haitian Nationals in the U.S. who are eligible to apply for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) should go to www.uscis.gov or call USCIS toll-free at (800) 375-5283.
- You may visit the Center for International Disaster Information (CIDI) website at: <http://www.cidi.org/incident/haiti-10a> or call 1-703-276-1914.
- Please visit <http://nysenate.gov/haiti> to find local neighborhood organizations where you can donate and volunteer.

How You Can Help:

- To donate to the Clinton/Bush Fund for Haiti please visit <http://www.clintonbushhaitifund.org>
- To donate \$10 to the American Red Cross, text "HAITI" to "90999" (the charge will be added on to your cell phone bill). You can also visit www.redcross.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS.
- To donate to UNICEF please visit <http://www.unicefusa.org/haitiquake> or call 1-800-FOR-KIDS.
- To donate to Doctors without Borders please visit <https://donate.doctorswithoutborders.org> or call 1-212-763-5779.

How You can Volunteer:

- Please visit <http://www.nysenate.gov/haiti> and click on "Volunteer!" to fill out the volunteer form.
- Please e-mail the U.S. State Department at helphaiti@state.gov and in the subject line write "Donation of _____" and list the type of service or good you can provide.