

November 16, 2007

Rene Garcia Preval
President of Haiti
c/o Embassy of Haiti
2311 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20008

Your Excellency:

I am deeply concerned about the disappearance of Lovinsky Pierre-Antoine, a prominent human rights advocate and community activist in Haiti. I urge you to use your influence to ensure a thorough investigation of his disappearance and take appropriate action to ensure his safe return to his family.

As you may know, Lovinsky Pierre-Antoine is the Co-Founder and National Coordinator of the September 30th Foundation (FTS), a human rights organization in Haiti that was formed after the 1991 *coup d'etat*. He had reportedly announced his intention to file as a Lavalas candidate for the next round of parliamentary elections in Haiti. He is admired and respected by numerous advocates of peace and justice for Haiti.

Lovinsky Pierre-Antoine was last seen on the evening of Sunday, August 12, 2007, after meeting with a U.S. human rights delegation visiting Haiti. After his disappearance, his car was found abandoned and was taken to the Delmas 3 Police Station in Port-au-Prince. I have been informed that there was a ransom demand on Tuesday, August 14. However, the presumed kidnappers have not pursued the ransom demand, and no further information is available regarding his fate.

I urge you to ensure that Lovinsky Pierre-Antoine's kidnapping is thoroughly investigated, determine if at all possible his whereabouts, and take appropriate action to ensure his safe return to his family.

Sincerely,

/s

Maxine Waters
Member of Congress

cc: The Hon. Janet A. Sanderson, U.S. Ambassador to Haiti
MINUSTAH