



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08608

TONY F. MACK
MAYOR

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September 30, 2011

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

Dear President Obama:

The City of Trenton desperately needs your intervention on a time-sensitive matter. Recently, our administration was forced to layoff a third of our police force because of the administration's budget crisis. These layoffs are detrimental to the safety of the residents of the Capital City of New Jersey. Unfortunately, we were passed over for emergency funding by the Department of Justice's Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) grant.

Trenton needs your help!

The administration inherited a \$55 million dollar budget deficit, and clearly has significant fiscal shortcomings. A total of 105 police officers were laid off on September 16, and we hoped to receive the COPS grant to get our police officers back to work. Since the layoffs, there have been incidents of violent crime in the City of Trenton.

As you know, urban centers like Trenton are facing an economic catastrophe. The unemployment rate is twice that of the national average, and now one-third of our police force are added to that statistic.

We need your assistance to help us correct our systemic issues. Our New Jersey Senate and Congressional delegation are extremely helpful and dedicated to assisting Trenton. However, even with their assistance, we did not receive the COPS grant, and were forced to make extremely tough decisions.

Recently, you visited New Jersey and saw the impact of Hurricane Irene on our State. It was our police and fire personnel who saved the day in the City of Trenton. Without those dedicated police officers, we may be reporting tragedies. With your administration's help, we intend to use your influence to encourage the discouraged and ignite the spirit of revitalization in Trenton.

The success of this endeavor, rather than a pattern of decline, can play itself out throughout the country. I look forward to working with you and anticipate Trenton becoming the blueprint for revitalization across the nation.

With your permission, we would like to formally request a meeting at The White House with you or your staff.

Sincerely,

Honorable Mayor Tony F. Mack