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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0920

April 15, 2016

PLEASE RESPOND TO:

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The Honorable Barack Obama
President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Obama:

I am writing to request that you issue a proclamation to declare the month of April as Workplace Violence Awareness Month. Workforce violence is one of the leading causes of job-related deaths. Regardless of how it manifests itself, workplace violence has continued to be a growing concern for employers and employees nationwide.

Every year, approximately two million people throughout the country are victims of non-fatal violence at their workplace. However, workplace violence impacts victims of all ages and has been the leading cause of fatal injuries at work with about 1,000 workplace homicides each year. Violence against employees occurs in a variety of circumstances that can take many forms to include: robberies, actions by frustrated or dissatisfied clients and customers, acts perpetrated by disgruntled co-workers or former co-workers, and domestic incidents that spill over into the workplace. These incidences impact thousands of workers, their families, and friends.

Nothing can guarantee that an employee will not become a victim of workplace violence; however, a proclamation to declare April as Workplace Violence Awareness Month provides an opportunity to increase employees and their employer's awareness on how to recognize early warning signs of potentially violent situations, to help understand how to respond to actual or potential incidents.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my request, and respectfully look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Alcee L. Hastings".

Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress