



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **CONTACT:**

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On January 12, 2010, a major earthquake hit Haiti devastating the capital and its surrounding areas. The earthquake has been characterized as one of the deadliest that has ever hit the entire planet earth. The number of human beings who lost their lives is not yet established although CNN is currently reporting over 100,000. However, the death toll is expected to be much higher when all the rubbles have been cleared. Ground relief efforts in Haiti are difficult because of the extent of infrastructural damages that the quake has caused and information coming from Haiti is still very limited.

The Haitian Congress to Fortify Haiti would like to extend our deepest condolences to anyone affected by this tragic natural disaster. We would also like to extend our appreciation to all concerned citizens and members of the Haitian American community here in the Chicagoland area for the phone calls, e-mails and prayers we have been receiving. We will be holding another Town Hall as follows:

**When:** Wednesday, January 13, 2010  
**Place:** Levy Center  
300 Dodge, Evanston, IL 60202  
**Time:** 7:30 p.m.

We invite all organizations and individuals to join us in exchanging ideas on how to best proceed in providing assistance to Haiti, especially to those regions grossly affected by this disaster. The Red Cross will also be in attendance to provide mental health professionals who specialize in coping with tragedies of this nature. If you cannot attend the meeting tonight, you can visit our website at [www.haitiancongres.org](http://www.haitiancongres.org) for further updates.

In the past the Haitian Congress to Fortify has supported Haiti when faced with the hurricane crises through a special 501(c)3 fund / account at Charter One Bank: **Haitian Crisis Relief Fund**. For this relief effort, tax deductible donations can be deposited directly into this account or mailed to our offices as follows:

**Haitian Crisis Relief Fund**  
Haitian Congress to Fortify Haiti  
1227 Dodge Avenue  
Evanston, IL 60202

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