

March 25, Good Friday, 2016

President Barack Obama The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW Washington, DC 20500-0004

Re: 2016 United Nations International Day of Peace, Request to Recognize

Dear Mr. President,

Throughout your Presidency, you have honored your promise to listen to and dialogue with all world leaders, including those with different governing structures and ideological backgrounds. Your commitment to opening relations with Cuba and working with Iran to eliminate their nuclear program illustrates your courageous vision for a world where diplomacy has a seat at the table of peace.

We humbly request that you, as a Nobel Peace Prize recipient, enhance your Nobel legacy by becoming the first President of the United States to officially recognize the United Nations International Day of Peace celebrated annually on September 21st.

Perhaps you already know that on September 21 2015, one billion people across the world celebrated the United Nations International Day of Peace! The people have spoken but governments have not responded.

Since its inception in 1981, no President, Democratic or Republican, has officially recognized the United Nations International Day of Peace. This is your opportunity to inspire the American people to celebrate the idea that peace can be more than a universal hope. This single day is meant to be a seed that can be planted within all hearts, citizens of the United States and global citizens alike, to nurture this most basic of human rights.

Please join these many organizations and individuals that are working every day to build the infrastructures and pathways to peace. Our collaboration is an important effort to help lay the groundwork for achieving peace in our lifetimes.

Mr. President, this is a historic opportunity. Please recognize the International Day of Peace. Unite your legacies as Nobel Laureate with that of a visionary President of United States of America to again make history.

Jane and I have spent a quarter century helping inmates in a correctional facility to seek and achieve a greater level of peace in their lives. We hope to send them out to a country and a world less violent than the one they experienced before incarceration.

We thank you for your lifetime of service to the American people.

Most Respectfully,

Julien Olivier, D.Min., Board Certified Clinical Chaplain Jane E. Olivier, M.S., Hospice Volunteer and retired teacher