



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
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CHRIS CHRISTIE
GOVERNOR

October 28, 2010

Dear Congressman Smith:

I am honored to address you on the 10th anniversary of the enacting of the Trafficking Victims and Protection Act (TVPA), a landmark piece of legislation that you sponsored, which has been tremendously beneficial and influential in the war against human trafficking in the United States and abroad.

Human trafficking is a heinous and increasingly widespread crime that victimizes thousands of men, women and children every year for the purposes of forced labor and exploitation. As author and prime sponsor of TVPA, you have led the way in establishing the groundwork for effective strategies of preventing human trafficking, responding to the needs of victims and investigating and prosecuting perpetrators of human trafficking.

As the United States Attorney for New Jersey, I made the fight against human trafficking a priority and will continue to support you and other leaders on this critical issue. While this issue is thought by many to be a strictly international concern, any community can be a target of this devastating crisis. It is imperative that state, national and international agencies have the tools and resources they need to combat human trafficking.

I am pleased to recognize the members of the New Jersey Statewide Human Trafficking Task Force who join you today to promote this worthy effort. Your dedicated work on behalf of New Jersey's residents is vital to the safety and well-being of our communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Christie".

Chris Christie
Governor