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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**CENTRAL FLORIDA LEGAL COMMUNITY MOBILIZES TO OFFER LEGAL ASSISTANCE
TO OUR HAITIAN COMMUNITY**

ORLANDO, FL – In response to the devastation in Haiti caused by the recent earthquakes and the Department of Homeland Security's extension of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) to eligible Haitian nationals, we announce the creation of the Haitian TPS Project of Central Florida. On February 6, 2010, from 10:30AM to 2:00PM, at the First Haitian Baptist Church of Orlando located at 4701 Lenox Boulevard, Orlando, Florida 32811, local attorneys and law students will host a community legal educational event in order to provide information to Haitian nationals regarding Temporary Protected Status.

The event will consist of a legal educational presentation regarding Temporary Protected Status and will provide applicants the opportunity to schedule individual appointments to attend one of the bi-monthly legal clinics being held over a six month period beginning February 13, 2010. The Consulate of Haiti's Orlando office and volunteer translators will also be available to provide free/low cost services to applicants needing assistance with their Haitian legal documents. At the legal clinics, applicants will be able to receive free legal assistance with the preparation of their TPS application and also obtain a free consultation with an immigration attorney regarding their eligibility for this immigration benefit.

This event is being sponsored by the Consulate of Haiti in Orlando and a first time collaboration between the following non-profit private organizations and individuals:

Legal Aid Society of the Orange County Bar Association

Volunteer attorneys from the Orange County Bar Association

The Immigration Clinic of the Dwayne O. Andreas School of Law of Barry University

Volunteer immigration attorneys of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA)

and

The Center for Multicultural Wellness and Prevention

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