

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 9, 2013

Ms. Teresa Taylor
Mr. Art Shamsky
New York, New York

Dear Art and Teresa:

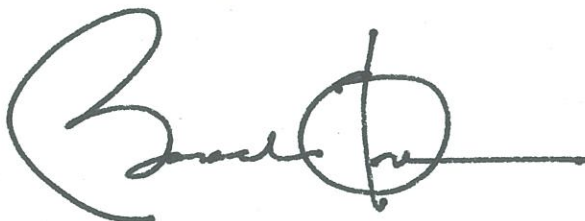
Thank you for writing about the heartbreaking events surrounding the Boston Marathon in April, and for your kind gifts. As our Nation continues to heal, our thoughts are with all those who have been affected, and we stand with the families who lost loved ones and with those who were injured.

In the days that followed the attacks, the world witnessed one sure and steadfast truth: Americans refuse to be terrorized. Ultimately, what we will remember from that week are stories of kindness, resolve, and love. I am extraordinarily grateful for the heroism of the first responders, medical professionals, and volunteers who ran toward danger to help their fellow citizens, and whose dedication helped save countless lives—both during the immediate aftermath of the explosions and throughout the search that ensued. Their compassion and courage inspired people around the world, and their actions reflected the very best of the American spirit.

My Administration continues to work closely with Federal, state, and local officials to support ongoing investigation and security efforts, and we will continue to assist victims as they rebuild their lives.

In the wake of such terrible events, the city of Boston has reminded us of the resilience, generosity, and values that define us as a people and inspire us to carry on. Michelle and I, along with all Americans, will continue to keep those touched by this tragedy in our thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be Barack Obama's signature, written in a cursive style with a large initial 'B' and a circular flourish.