

## **P R E S S   R E L E A S E**

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**What: Protest/Demonstration** calling for all Haitian people, friends and supporters of Human Rights to stand up against President Bush's discriminatory Immigration & Naturalization Service (INS) policy. More than 200 Haitian asylum seekers have been jailed in Florida since December 2001 when they arrived in Florida. They are being subjected to expedited immigration hearings and are not being paroled even after they have met the standard for credible fear of persecution if returned to Haiti. Many of them are women. These jailed Haitians are undergoing tremendous stress as a result of the maximum-security prison, poor diet and deteriorating health. These conditions have led to a suicide watch on many of them. 37 men began a Hunger Strike on Saturday, July 6. On July 16, some women began a Hunger Strike of their own.

**Where:** Boston City Hall Plaza, in front of the JFK Federal Building

**When:** On **Thursday, July 25**, from **11:00 AM to 2:00 PM**, thousands of demonstrators will protest in front of the JFK Federal building on Boston City Hall Plaza. We need your support to send a clear message, that the United States is a country for all people who seek freedom.

**Who: Leaders in the Haitian community, elected officials, students, friends and supporters**