



# NHAEON

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**HONORABLE VICTORIA P. SIPLIN**  
*Chairwoman*  
County Commissioner  
Orange County, Florida

**HONORABLE ALIX DESULME**  
*Vice-Chair*  
City Council, Member  
North Miami, Florida

**HONORABLE CHRISTINA ROMELUS**  
*Treasurer*  
City Commissioner, Member  
Boynton Beach, Florida

**HONORABLE EUNICE D. ZEIGLER**  
*Sergeant At-Arms*  
City Council, Member at Large  
Methuen, Massachusetts

**HONORABLE CHARNETTE FREDERIC**  
*Historian*  
City Council, Member at Large  
Irvington, New Jersey

**HONORABLE JOSEPH CHAMPAGNE**  
*Immediate Past Chairman*  
Former Mayor  
South Toms River, New Jersey

## IMMEDIATE PRESS STATEMENT:

**Media Contact:** Victoria P. Siplin  
Chairwoman

### UNREST IN HAITI

**FLORIDA** – As Members of the National Haitian American Elected Officials Network (NHAEON) we call on all of the factions to enter into a constructive and inclusive nonviolent dialogue with each other. It is our hope that all sides in the conflict will work as hard as is humanly possible to take steps to set aside the time to hear the issues that divide them and to set the course for resolution. If that is not done, instability will make progress impossible and Haitians will lose control of their affairs. Haitians should fight hard to preserve their self-determination by working on a peaceful resolution to the current situation.

It is imperative that we respect the people's aspirations for economic progress and justice. However, the method for resolution of the conflicts have so aggravated the situation that the country seems to be heading towards civil war. Already, several episodes of intense demonstrations have paralyzed the nation since last July. For stretches of time, businesses have closed their doors; the small merchants have been unable to sell their goods on the open markets; schools have been closed; violence have broken out; tourists have left the country; foreign embassies have downsized their staff; people are even dying. This situation is untenable.

NHAEON is an organization of approximately forty (40) Haitian-American elected officials and approximately ten (10) former elected officials from throughout the United States. The organization was formed in 2009 in Washington DC on the eve of the earthquake which devastated a significant portion of Haiti.

Additionally, if we can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at the below.

###