

**December 2, 2022**

**ATTORNEY GENERAL RAOUL URGES BIDEN ADMINISTRATION TO EXPAND TEMPORARY  
PROTECTED STATUS FOR HAITIAN IMMIGRANTS**

***Raoul and fellow Attorney General Karl Racine, both Haitian-Americans, Call for Life-Saving  
Support for Immigrants Arriving After Previous Eligibility Date***

**Chicago** — Attorney General Kwame Raoul and District of Columbia Attorney General Karl A. Racine, both Haitian-Americans, today urged the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to redesignate Haiti for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) and protect U.S. residents from being forced to return to dangerous, potentially life-threatening conditions.

“As the proud son of Haitian immigrants, one of whom was a community doctor, I can attest to the importance of the contributions Haitian immigrants make to our communities,” said Raoul. “Conditions in Haiti have deteriorated due to governmental instability, public health concerns and violence. I am proud to join my friend and colleague Karl Racine to urge the Department of Homeland Security to redesignate Haiti for Temporary Protected Status. Haitian immigrants have risked their lives to escape those dangers, and I will continue to advocate on their behalf so they are not forced to return to life-threatening conditions.”

Federal law provides for TPS, which offers temporary lawful status to foreign nationals in the United States from countries experiencing armed conflict, natural disasters or other extraordinary conditions that temporarily prevent their safe return.

“I am proud to join my fellow Haitian-American friend and colleague Attorney General Raoul in urging the Biden Administration to do the right thing now: extend TPS to Haitians that arrived in this country after August 2021,” said Racine. “Like my parents, Haitians who have immigrated to the United States have massively contributed to their communities and our country.”

On Aug. 3, 2021, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced the designation of Haiti for TPS. That designation, which was extended through June 2024, protects certain Haitian migrants from removal and authorizes work permits while in the United States. However, migrants who arrived in the United States after August 2021 are ineligible for TPS.

In [the letter](#), Raoul and Racine urge DHS to make that group eligible, particularly as socioeconomic and political conditions continue to worsen within Haiti, making it unsafe for Haitian migrants to return.



**OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY  
GENERAL OF THE DISTRICT OF  
COLUMBIA**



**OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF ILLINOIS**

President Joseph Biden  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

The Honorable Alejandro Mayorkas  
Secretary of Homeland Security  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
245 Murray Lane, SW  
Washington, DC 20528

December 1, 2022

Re: Redesignation of Haiti for Temporary Protected Status

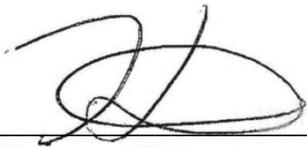
Dear President Biden and Secretary Mayorkas:

As the Attorneys General of the District of Columbia and the State of Illinois, and as the only two attorneys general of Haitian descent, we respectfully call on the Department of Homeland Security to redesignate Haiti for Temporary Protected Status (TPS). Haitian immigrants are essential members of many communities and embedded in the fabric of American society. They enrich the cultural diversity and vibrancy of our country. Unfortunately, conditions within Haiti continue to deteriorate and the redesignation of Haiti's TPS status is imperative.

Our offices have been heavily involved in issues related to Haitian migrants and the Haitian community in the United States. We have jointly led [amicus briefs](#) arguing that the U.S. government cannot expel non-citizens to a country where they might face persecution or torture, as well as letters calling on the administration to [engage in humanitarian solutions](#) to address the Haitian refugee crisis at the U.S border and [in support of the Haitian Family Reunification Parole Program](#). We know all too well the challenges that Haitian immigrants face and are saddened by the continued and severe crises within Haiti including extreme political instability, gang violence, a cholera outbreak, and food insecurity.

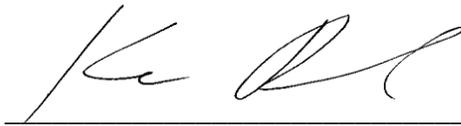
We recognize and applaud the Department's recent decision to extend TPS for current holders through June 30, 2024. However, we urge the Department to ensure that Haitian migrants who have arrived since the TPS eligibility date of August 3, 2021 are also eligible for protected status. These migrants, like those before, have risked their lives to escape violence and acute poverty. If forced to return to Haiti, these individuals and families would face a country whose conditions have only worsened since they fled. Redesignating Haiti for TPS would provide critical protection against removal and make these immigrants eligible for work authorization in the United States. We urge the administration to adopt this path forward.

Sincerely,



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KARL A. RACINE  
Attorney General for the District of Columbia



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KWAME RAOUL  
Attorney General of Illinois