

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

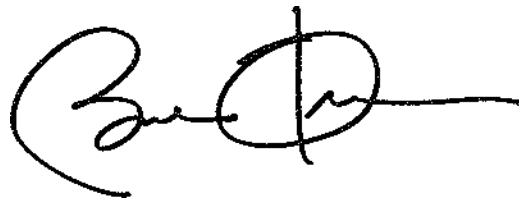
September 1, 2015

I am pleased to join in celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and to extend my deepest gratitude to the dedicated professionals at HUD who work to lift up their fellow Americans.

On September 9, 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed a bill that established HUD, paving the way for millions of Americans to live in safe, stable, affordable housing and reach for greater opportunity for themselves and for their families. Created in the midst of the fight for civil rights, HUD has helped ensure our Nation's founding ideals of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness are real for all people.

For the last half-century, committed public servants at HUD have worked to provide Americans with essential and often life-saving services, always seeking to carry our economy and society toward a better day. By building inclusive and sustainable communities, HUD leverages the comfort and security that a home provides to help improve lives in every corner of our country.

As you reflect on the last 50 years of progress and celebrate the tremendous difference HUD has made for generations of Americans, and particularly for those who have worn our Nation's uniform, please know how much I appreciate your service. I wish you the very best for the years to come.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be Barack Obama's signature, consisting of a large 'B' followed by a stylized 'O' and a horizontal line extending to the right.