



Dear Friends,

This has been a wonderful journey. I've called it a working vacation and have met so many nice people who have been so helpful with the walking campaign I started in September to get to Washington, D.C. to talk to President Obama. We are entering the final days of our window of opportunity before he leaves office.

I need your help with my last ditch effort to see the President by showing your strong support for making Juneteenth a National Day of Observance. I could really use your help in the any of the following ways:

1. Please contact your two US Senators and ask them to sponsor and support the reintroduction of SJR 45 originally introduced by Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson in 2012 that amends Title 36 to add Juneteenth as a holiday.
2. Contact your US Representatives and those in the Congressional Black Caucus ask them to contact Emily Englander in US Congressman Marc Veasey's office at 202-225-9897 to let her know they are standing with us. She's working to try and get me the appointment with the President and needs their support.
3. Encourage friends, constituents, the public through email, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc. to sign or resign the latest petition on the website www.opalswalk2dc.com. We need those 100,000 signatures to show national support.
4. Ask them to send the attached letter to the President at the White House by mail at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, DC 20500 or send a comment at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact>. Maybe then he will get the message.
5. Finally, if you provide any contacts who would be helpful in getting us the appointment with President Obama or garner any additional media attention, I'd greatly appreciate it.

What matters most now is just to have a conversation with the President (would be nice even in the cold if we can talk while he does his morning walk). I know he's busy wrapping things up, but if he could just let me know what his concerns are about the holiday perhaps we can work on those so the next administration won't have the same reservations. I would love to dream that his last executive order would be to make Juneteenth a holiday and perhaps it might not get overturned by the new administration. Wouldn't that be something.

If you need have any questions please call me at (817) 229-3621 or my granddaughter Dione Sims at (682) 738-6055. Thank you for all your support of this wonderful journey.

Sincerely,

Opal

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