

Dear Honorable President Obama,

Date- August 19, 2009

I am writing to inform you of things that are happening in south Louisiana with the commercial shrimpers industry. The August shrimp season just opened 2 weeks ago. The price of shrimp that the commercial fishermen are being paid is .40 cents per pound.

The price that the factories and other distributors are getting is up to \$8.00 per pound. August 17, 2009 we had a meeting with our Parish President of Plaquemines Parish William Nungesser. He provided the commercial fishermen with buses to bring them to the state capitol on August 18, 2009 to be heard on what has been going on. There were fishermen there from other parishes also. Jefferson Parish, Terrebonne Parish. St. Tammany Parish, and Plaquemines Parish. Louisiana Governor Jindal was not present, but one of his Representatives was there. State Representative Charlie Melancon was in attendance. The Representative of the Louisiana Shrimpers Association was there.

There was talk of price fixing and it was going to be investigated in the future.

Dear Mr. President we are writing due to the fact that we do not have weeks, months or even days. We have lost our last year August 2008 shrimpers season due to Hurrricanes Gustav and Ike. We have waited till this season and a lot of us have had our Homes and Automobiles repossessed and we are living with other family members. We cannot afford to buy clothing, food, school supplies or other basic essentials for our children at this time. Not to mention that Christmas is coming up. And we feel the way it is going by the time any investigation is conducted the season will be over and we will have to wait till May of next year. Sadly if something does not change we will not have a vessel to shrimp with next year.

I know we seem like some people that might not be that important to the rest of the nation but we are human beings, we are Americans starving to death right here in our own country. We cannot wait for an investigation, Sir by the time that is conducted and proven that they are price fixing, the season will be over and it will be just us, the commercial fisherman to try to pick up the pieces.

A lot of commercial fishermen do not know any other way of life. Nor do they have the education or experience to do something else. Not to mention the economy these days, companies are cutting back not hiring.

Mr. President Please Hear Our Prayer. Try to intervene and help us, our lives and our children are counting on some kind of help.

Plaquemines Parish President William Nungesser can confirm what is going on. And you can send some people to Plaquemines Parish to check with the commercial fishermen.

PLEASE HEAR OUR CRY FOR HELP!!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAIL TO:

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500  
ATTN: PRESIDENT OBAMA