

STEVE COHEN
9TH DISTRICT, TENNESSEE

2404 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

TELEPHONE: (202) 225-3265
FAX: (202) 225-5663

CLIFFORD DAVIS/ODELL HORTON
FEDERAL BUILDING
167 NORTH MAIN STREET
SUITE 369
MEMPHIS, TN 38103

TELEPHONE: (901) 544-4131
FAX: (901) 544-4329

www.cohen.house.gov

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4209

November 11, 2015

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

SUBCOMMITTEES:
CONSTITUTION AND CIVIL JUSTICE - RANKING MEMBER
COURTS, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND THE INTERNET

COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE

SUBCOMMITTEES:
AVIATION
HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT
WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND
COOPERATION IN EUROPE
(U.S. HELSINKI COMMISSION)

His Excellency Uhuru Kenyatta
President
Embassy of the Republic of Kenya
2249 R St. NW
Washington, DC 20008

His Excellency Robinson Njeru Githae
Ambassador
Embassy of the Republic of Kenya
2249 R St NW
Washington, DC 20008

Dear President Kenyatta and Ambassador Githae:

We write to you on behalf of our constituent, Anthony "Amp" Elmore, to request that you meet with him, in addition to city and business representatives, to discuss his proposal to develop new cultural and economic ties between Kenya and Memphis, Tennessee. We support opening new channels for partnerships that would initiate cultural exchanges while boosting opportunities for trade. Mr. Elmore's proposal would be beneficial to both of our homes and we hope you will give this request consideration.

Mr. Elmore has long envisioned a plan that would make Memphis a hub for cultural exchanges and trade with African countries. His plan is a culmination of his efforts to lay the foundation for achieving this partnership with Kenya. Since the 1990s, he has traveled to Kenya and worked to build relationships with Kenyan government officials with the focus of opening exchanges between Kenya and Memphis. He has also met with Kenyan officials in both Washington, D.C. and Memphis. In 2004, Mr. Elmore was instrumental in getting Kenya honored at the "Africa in April Cultural Awareness Festival," which is an annual event in downtown Memphis that recognizes the culture, fashion, art, music and history of African countries. This underscores Mr. Elmore's and the city of Memphis's commitment to cultural exchanges.

As you may know, Memphis is considered "North America's logistics center." This is because our central location and intermodal facilities give Memphis access to major trucking routes, air transportation, rail lines, the Mississippi River and the Gulf Coast. Federal Express, one of the world's largest global courier delivery services, is headquartered in Memphis, and its operations at the Memphis International Airport have made the airport the world's second busiest airport by cargo traffic. Memphis is also served by major freight carriers, including Burlington Northern/

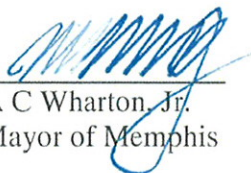
Santa Fe Railway, CSX Transportation, Norfolk Southern Railway, and Union Pacific Railroad Co. These Class 1 railroads have made Memphis the 3rd largest rail center in the U.S. Additionally, the International Port of Memphis is the second largest inland port on the Mississippi River and the 5th largest inland port in the U.S. With both of our homes operating as major world trade centers, we are confident that Memphis would make an ideal partner for goods distribution, economic output and jobs.

As we work to grow our economies and create opportunities for our citizens, we welcome creative ideas that seek to build and grow relationships through cultural exchanges and business opportunities. Cultural exchanges help partners better understand one another, which in turn, builds the foundation for cities and countries to work collaboratively to advance mutually strategic goals. It is in this spirit that we hope you will consider visiting Memphis to meet with Mr. Elmore and city and business representatives to learn more about his proposal to increase cultural exchanges and trade opportunities between Kenya and Memphis.

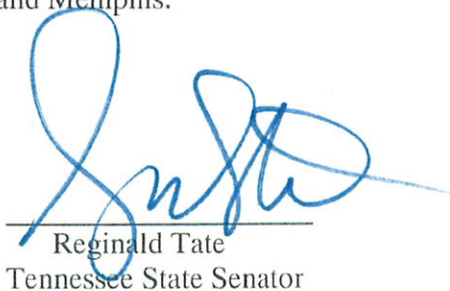
Sincerely,



Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



A C Wharton, Jr.
Mayor of Memphis



Reginald Tate
Tennessee State Senator