Monday July 25, 2016 Barack Obama Jr. President of the United States of America The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC 20500 Visit our website: www.homecomingcelebration.com

Re: Help us to open the door for family Celebration , Culture, trade and Education with Kenya and Africa

## Dear President Obama:

Thank you for being there for us. Your Presidency has changed my life and your message of hope has brought a change for us Americans. In 1971 as a student at Hamilton High school in Memphis, Tennessee I was a "Community Organizer." I organized the 1<sup>st</sup> 18 year old student voter registration in the state of Tennessee. In 1972 I quit college to join the liberation movement with Dr. King aide Rev. James Bevel who was the brainchild of the "Selma to Montgomery" March." I traveled with Rev. Bevel to Gary, Indiana as a delegate for the 1<sup>st</sup> Black political convention in 1972. We African/Americans hold a dream to connect with our family in Africa.

My life changed 10 years later on May 29, 1982 I found myself on E.S.P.N. as the "World Heavy Weight karate/Kickboxing champion." 10 years later in July of 1992 I found myself living a dream in "Nairobi, Kenya" where I met Kenya President Daniel Arap Moi. I explained to Kenya President Moi regarding my desire to bring the African and African/American family together. Many African/Americans desire to visit Africa. It is the dream of many African/Americans to visit our "Ancestral homeland of Africa."

President Obama just as you explained in your book "Dreams of my father" the spiritual awakening you experienced in Kenya, we experienced a life shattering experience in Kenya in 1990 during a tour of "Massai Mara." Since I first visited Kenya my life has not been the same and I have dedicated my life to bringing Americans, Africans and African/Americans together. We were the 1<sup>st</sup> to bring African/Americans to Kenya. We documented our trip via a "You Tube Video;" "African/Americans on a Kenya Safari." In 2004 I got Kenya honored in our Memphis "Africa in April Celebration." Kenya minister of Tourism "Najib Balala" came to Memphis as our special guest. In 1989 the City of Memphis cultural celebration "Memphis in May" also honored Kenya.

In 1992 Memphis elected its 1<sup>st</sup> African/American Mayor my friend Dr. W.W. Herenton. Although we had an African/American mayor a culture exists in America whereas those who associate with Africa are considered "extremist and un-American." Our Memphis Mayor Herenton flatly rejected any association with Africa. In December of 2008 Mayor Herenton and I met at a Christmas party and we discussed the issue. I informed Mayor Herenton that I had a better chance of getting support from our Newly elected President of the United States whose father was born in Kenya than I would he as Mayor of Memphis. Mayor Herenton's reluctance to connect to Africa comes from deep seated misconceptions many Americans have regarding Africa. We can change misconceptions of Africa.

Memphis Congressman Steve Cohen supports our efforts to bring our African family together. The culture to reject Africa comes not only from an African/American mayor; Congressman Cohen arranged for us to meet with the "Congressional Black Caucus" we were not able to make a "breakthrough." We in Memphis worked on the ground in Kenya, Ghana and Ethiopia. We operated an African import store in Memphis. We worked on the ground in Africa for over a decade. Trade and relationships with Africa could created 1000's of jobs in both America and Africa. We simply need to arrange a culture for family, small business and trade. There exist no support mechanisms for African/American travel, Micro-business or cultural integration.

Mr. President African/Americans spend over 400 Billion a year on "Home furnishings." We spend over 48 Billion a year on travel. African/Americans travel in groups to culture events more than any ethnic group in America. We African/Americans at one point were spending more on travel than Kenya's total GDP. We took groups to Kenya for over a decade. We know Kenya's minister of Tourism Najib Balala. We have a proven track record with Kenya. Congressman Steve Cohen, Former Memphis Mayor A.C. Wharton and Tennessee State Senator Reginald Tate signed a letter on our behalf asking for a meeting with Kenya President Uhuru Kenyatta. We want to encourage the Kenya embassy to progress to a modern 21 century relationship with America and Americans.

Mr. President we can change our world via bringing Africans and Americans together. While you Mr. President know and met your father Barack Obama Sr. we African/Americans are no less family to Africans and Africa than you. You Mr. President call Grandmother Sarah Obama "Granny" and she is your family and "Grandmother."



On May 16, 2013 I traveled to Kogelo and met Grandmama Sarah Obama. When she saw me the 1st thing she said that "I was family of the Africans they took to America and Africa and Kenya was my home and she was also my Grandmother." Since Grandmother Sarah is my Grandmother that make us cousins. I explained to her that I came to Kenya to ask Kenya President Uhuru Kenyatta to honor African/Americans with a "Formal State Reception" in three years. I also asked Grandmother Sarah to come to America and invite Americans and African/Americans home to Kenya for a "Homecoming Celebration" called the "Safari Initiative." Mr. President via Africans and African/Americans coming together we can "right a wrong" and help to build a family of humanity and a better world for future generations.

Mr. President August 15, 2016 marks the 60th Anniversary of Tom Mboya's 1st visit to America. History notes the 1st day Tom Mboya arrived in America as the start of the "Obama Legacy." On August 13, 2016 we in Memphis are honoring "The Obama legacy" via celebrating Mboya's 60th at my home in Memphis and the public is invited.

Mr. President as a youth who embraced his African culture while in high school I suffered and I was laughed at. In 1971 and in 2016 we Americans, Kenyans and Africans have no idea of the influence of Kenya's Tom Mboya whose influence was not only that of Barack Obama Jr. becoming the 1st African/American President of the United States Tom Mboya's influenced help John F. Kennedy to become President of America. We have a great history with Kenya that bonds us together in family and friendship.

Mr. President since the start of slavery in America no African Country has offered "African/Americans" a "Formal State Reception" or given a "Formal Invitation" to visit their Ancestry land of Africa. It was Kenya's Tom Mboya whose influence not only created the "Obama legacy" Tom Mboya gives America a "Historical Pathway" of both "Black and Whites being connected to Africa. It was Bayard Rustin an African/American and George Houser a white who organized "ACOA" or the American Committee on Africa. This "Civil Rights Organization" goal was to fight for the liberation of Africa invited Tom Mboya to America in 1956. Tom Mboya marched with Dr. Martin Luther King, he received an horary doctorate from Howard University and he was recognized as "Africa's leader" in America. Thurgood Marshall wrote Kenya's constitution and one has to look no further than Nairobi, Kenya to see the American influence in Kenya.

On July 5, 1969 Tom Mboya was assassinated in Kenya. While Tom Mboya is no longer here his work and sprit lives; in that, thanks to a "Tom Mboya" we have a Barack Obama. Mr. President we Americans have a history with Kenya in that we have to look no further that the J.F.K. Presidential Library to see the Influence of African students via J.F.K.



Mr. President we present a compelling case that as an America citizen and family to Africa and Africans who son is 1/2 Kenyan we African/Americans should "Formally Connect to our African Family. "Kenya is the idea African Country" in that both Black and White Americans have a connection with Kenya via the Tom Mboya influence. We want the Tom Mboya story told in American history books. We ask you Mr. President to intercede on our behalf. We want to ask Kenya President Uhuru Kenyatta honor African/Americans with a "Formal State Reception in 2019." We ask you Mr. President be the key note speaker.

April 4, 2018 marks the 50th Anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King. We ask that Kenya join with America and honoring the legacy of Dr. King. July of 2019 marks the 50th Anniversary of the Assassination of Tom Mboya. We Americans want to travel to Kenya honor the Repost of Tom Mboya. Our coming to Kenya in 2019 is fitting to bring our two nations together.

Sincerely

Anthony "Amp" Elmore