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ODA Economic
Development
Corporation

Opportunity Development Association

12 Heyward Street Brooklyn, New York 11211 • (212) 522-5620

File

February 13, 1984

Mr. Marshall Breger, Ph.D.
Special Assistant to the President
Office of Public Liaison
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Dr. Breger:

I was pleased to hear from Mr. Calvin Collier that you received the package outlining ODA's activities in advocating for minority recognition for Hasidim.

I tried to reach you by phone a number of times, but was unable to get through. I am hopeful that I will have the opportunity to speak to you personally and to invite you to visit our agency and our community so that we may discuss this vital matter in depth.

Respectfully,

Zvi Kestenbaum
Executive Director

ZK:th



ODA Economic
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File ✓

Opportunity Development Association

12 Heyward Street Brooklyn, New York 11211 • (212) 522-5620

July 11, 1984

Dr. Marshall Breger
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison
Old Executive Office Building, Room 197
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Dr. Breger:

Thank you for taking the time from your busy schedule to visit our community and our agency.

It is not surprising for us to note that your capabilities and stature have been recognized by the President realizing that you are a member and true heir of one of the most distinguished families of Ungvar.

We are most grateful to you for the key role you have played in the historic proposed recognition of Hasidim as a minority by the President.

While we still have a long way to go, I am sure that we can rely on you to achieve this long sought recognition.

I look forward to meeting with you again in the near future. In the meantime, Mr. Israel Rubin will call to meet you on our behalf.

The Grand Rabbi speaks very highly of you and sends you his greetings.

Dr. Marshall Breger
July 11, 1984
Page 2

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for
the assistance of your excellent staff person, Bruce
Soll.

With warmest personal regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Zvi Kestenbaum", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Zvi Kestenbaum
Executive Director

ZK:zg



ODA Economic
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file ↓
Opportunity Development Association

12 Heyward Street Brooklyn, New York 11211 • (212) 522-5620

September 18, 1984

Dr. Marshall Breger
Special Assistance to the President
for Public Liaison
Old Executive Office Bldg.
The White House, Room 197
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Dr. Breger:

On the threshold of the New Year 5745 I would like to take the opportunity to wish you and yours a very happy and healthy year.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time wishing that you be inscribed in the "Book of Life and Happiness".

May the Alm-ghty reward you for your good deeds.

Sincerely yours,

Zvi Kestenbaum
Executive Director

ZK:pk



ODA Economic
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Opportunity Development Association

12 Heyward Street, Brooklyn, New York 11211 • (718) 522-5620

December 18, 1984

Mr. Donald T. Baker
Deputy Assistant Secretary for
Trade Adjustment
International Trade Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
14th & Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room 4203
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Baker:

I was upset to learn in our recent telephone conversation that you have decided to terminate ODA's Trade Adjustment Assistance Outreach Program. Before receiving ITA's letter of November 14, 1984, we had never been made aware of any dissatisfaction with our activities. We respectfully, but urgently request you to reconsider your decision.

ODA's initial involvement in the Trade Adjustment Assistance Program grew out of its experience in providing consulting services to disadvantaged businesses in our community. We found that these and other small businesses were frequently entitled to participate in the Trade Adjustment Assistance Program, but were either unaware of these opportunities or reluctant to explore them. ITA agreed and decided correctly that eligible businesses should be provided with better information regarding the existence and availability of these Congressionally mandated programs. Accordingly, ODA was enlisted to engage in outreach activities in cooperation with the Trade Adjustment Assistance Program.

ODA's outreach activities have been highly successful, and I am deeply troubled by the apparent misinformation about them. In our telephone conversation, for example, you indicated that ODA had been responsible for only five petitions and forty-five contacts in a one year period. This information is false. Our Trade Adjustment Assistant Officer has made approximately twenty-five to forty-five

Mr. Donald T. Baker
December 18, 1984
Page 2

contacts each week, and of these, about twenty-five percent have resulted in personal interview visits. No less than eighteen petitions of high quality have been submitted as a result of these efforts. We anticipate the submission of an additional six petitions by the end of January. For these reasons I am concerned that you have made your decision on the basis of incorrect information. We are convinced from our experience that the need for outreach services, of the type being performed by ODA, are more necessary than ever to achieve the purposes that Congress intended for the Trade Adjustment Assistance Program. So long as that program is continued, fairness requires that ITA make arrangements through outreach activities to inform businesses of their potential eligibility.

Please note that in the area of cost-effectiveness of the Trade Adjustment Outreach at ODA, our Trade Adjustment Officer not only performed outreach in our community, but was requested by Metro TAAC to offer Trade Adjustment Assistance throughout New York City boroughs, Long Island (Nassau and Suffolk), Westchester and Rockland counties. This, seems to us, much greater productivity for the same budget. ODA is a showcase for cost-effectiveness in all of its activities for the monies entrusted to it.

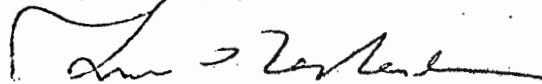
ODA is proud of its excellent reputation for efficient and effective implementation of cooperative programs with federal, state and local agencies. We have no interest in participating in any program that is not effective. We respectfully submit that our outreach program has been highly successful in achieving its intended and important goal and accordingly urge you to reconsider your decision.

In order to prevent a highly disruptive break in the continuity of our services, I strongly urge you to extend our present agreement for another month through the end of

Mr. Donald T. Baker
December 18, 1984
Page 3

January 1985. I also request that you meet with us to discuss a longer extension of the agreement and to hear the facts on which an ultimate decision should be made.

Very truly yours,



Zvi Kestenbaum
Executive Director

ZK:zg
Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Malcolm Baldrige
Dr. Marshall Breger ✓
Senator Alfonse M. D'Amato
Mr. Harold Goldfield



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
International Trade Administration
Washington, D.C. 20230

Mr. Paul Radow
Director, Metro New York TAAC
17 John Street, Suite 800
New York, New York 10038

Dear Mr. Radow:

Due to the extremely limited resources available for the Trade Adjustment Assistance Program in FY-85, and the scheduled expiration of the Trade Act in September 1985, you are hereby required to terminate (by the end of November), the commitment of funds on the Opportunity Development Association contract.

We can appreciate the need for outreach assistance in the Hasidic communities, and we regret that we cannot consider additional funds for this purpose.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Donald T. Baker", is written over the typed name.

Donald T. Baker
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Trade Adjustment Assistance





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October 17, 1985

Mr. Max Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison
Old Executive Office Building
The Executive Office Building
The White House, Room 197
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Green:

I want to take this opportunity to wish you Mazel-Tov on your new position.

We in the Hasidic community have worked closely with Mr. Breger and look forward to continuing this excellent relationship with you.

With warmest wishes for every success in this new endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Zvi Kestenbaum', is written over a horizontal line.

Zvi Kestenbaum
Executive Director

ZK:mu



ODA Economic
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Opportunity Development Association

12 Heyward Street, Brooklyn, New York 11211 • (718) 522-5620

January 21, 1987

Mr. Max Green
Associate Director
Office of Public Liaison
Old Executive Office Building
The White House - Room 196
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Green:

Thank you for the time you spent with me.
It was a pleasure to speak to you.

Your advice is excellent, and I do thank you
for putting me in touch with the National Jewish
Coalition.

I met with Mr. Kohr, and, I discussed everything
with him. Mr. Kohr advised me that he will try
to arrange for me to meet with the person who will
assume the directorship of the SBA.


Mr. Leonard Burchman, the General Deputy Assistant
Secretary to the Office of Public Affairs of Housing
and Urban Development offered to join me at such
a meeting on behalf of Secretary Pierce. If you
could possibly find the time I would be especially
pleased if you too could attend such a meeting.

I am hopeful that you on behalf of the White
House will do your utmost to assist us at this critical time.

Please let me know what the status of the
Commission to Preserve America's Heritage Abroad is.

With warmest regards,

Sincerely,


Zvi Kestenbaum
Executive Director


mult-pls check this out.

ZK/gz



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April 3, 1987

Mr. Max Green
Associate Director
Office of Public Liaison
Old Executive Office Building
The White House
Room 196
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Green:

Your interest and support of our community is always most gratifying. I am especially grateful for all that you did to arrange the wonderful meeting with the President.

This occasion is a historic milestone and a great honor for us.

I look forward to your continued friendship.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Zvi Kestenbaum
Executive Director

ZK/gs



ODA Economic
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12 Heyward Street, Brooklyn, New York 11211 • (718) 522-5620

April 6, 1987

Mr. Matt Zachari
Staff Assistant
Office of Public Liaison
Room 196
Old Executive Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Zachari:

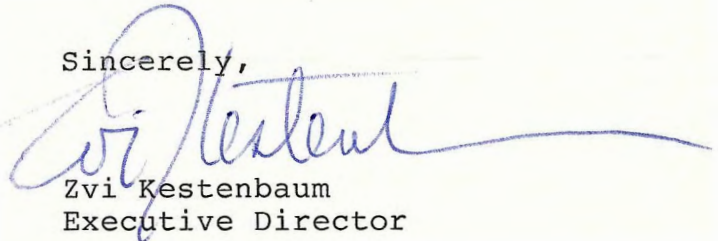
Permit me to offer you our best wishes for a joyous, festive holiday. We wish to provide you with a commemoration of the Passover Holiday which carries great significance and a message which, although very ancient, is relevant to our present time.

The message of redemption from slavery and the freedom of religious expression and observance are proclaimed by the observance of this holiday.

The significance of the "Matzoh" and its ancient message are presented as a gift to you because your actions and friendliness to our community are a part of that message which we still carry today.

With sincere best wishes for a happy and festive Passover Holiday.

Sincerely,



Zvi Kestenbaum
Executive Director

ZK/gs
Enclosure



ODA Economic
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Opportunity Development Association

12 Heyward Street, Brooklyn, New York 11211 • (718) 522-5620

April 29, 1987

Mr. Matt Zachari
Staff Assistant
Office of Public Liaison
Old Executive Office Building
The Executive Office Building
The White House, Room 197
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Zachari:

I want to thank you for all that you did to arrange for this historic meeting and for your assistance in providing us with photos of this most memorable occasion.

Enclosed, are the pictures with notations on the back identifying the individuals with the President.

There are two (2) additional photos I would like to get. One is a photo of myself making my presentation. The other is the President with Mr. Abraham Wieder, whose photo is attached to help you identify him.

With warmest regards and best wishes,

Sincerely;

Zvi Kestenbaum
Executive Director

ZK/gs
Enclosure



Abraham Wieder,

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 27, 1987

Dear Rabbi Kestenbaum,

Enclosed are the two photos you requested.
Is the second one of Abraham Wieder? Let
me know if it is the wrong picture.

Thank you again for all your patience.

Sincerely,



Matt W. Zachari
Office of Public Liaison

Rabbi Zvi Kestenbaum
Executive Director
Opportunity Development Association
12 Heyward Street
Brooklyn, New York 11211



ODA Economic
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Opportunity Development Association

12 Heyward Street, Brooklyn, New York 11211 • (718) 522-5620

August 19, 1987

The Honorable Ronald Reagan
President
United States of America
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The late Secretary Malcolm Baldrige's friendship and support of the Hasidic community have earned him our deepest respect and gratitude. On the occasion of Minority Entrepreneur Development (MED) Week 1987, ODA will pay tribute to Mr. Baldrige at a reception dedicating the ODA Meeting Room as the Malcolm Baldrige Conference Room.

Mr. President, it would be a very great honor for us to have you attend this reception on Tuesday, September 1, 1987, 10:00 A.M., at our office, 12 Heyward Street, Brooklyn, New York 11211.

If you cannot attend, we would appreciate your sending us a message which we could read at this occasion.

Respectully,

Zvi Kestenbaum
Executive Director

ZK:zg