

from us. You work hard, you do what's right, and you expect leaders who do the same. You sent us to Washington to do the tough things, the right things, not just for some of us, but for all of us; not just what's enough to get through the next election, but what's right for the next generation.

You expect us to get this right, to put America back on firm economic ground, to forge a healthy, growing economy, to create new jobs and rebuild the lives of the middle class. And that's what I'm committed to doing.

Thanks.

NOTE: The address was recorded at approximately 2:15 p.m. on July 15 in the Library at the White House for broadcast on July 16. In the address, the President referred to former Speaker of the House of Representatives Newton L. Gingrich. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on July 15, but was embargoed for release until 6 a.m. on July 16.

## Statement on Nelson Mandela International Day

July 17, 2011

As the people of the world celebrate Nelson Mandela's 93d birthday on July 18, Madiba continues to be a beacon for the global community and for all who work for democracy, justice, and reconciliation. On behalf of the people of the United States, we congratulate Nelson Mandela and honor his vision for a better world.

Nelson Mandela said, "There is no passion to be found playing small, in settling for a life that is less than the one you are capable of living." A man who devoted 67 years of his life to public service, Madiba sets the standard for service worldwide, whether we are students, shopkeepers, or farmers, Cabinet Ministers or Presidents. He calls on us to serve our fellow human beings and better our communities.

Michelle and my daughters Sasha and Malia recently met Madiba during an official visit to South Africa that focused on service, youth leadership, education, and healthy living. Their time with Madiba was the most moving part of their trip. Mandela's legacy exemplifies wisdom, strength, and grace, and on the anniversary of his birth, we salute the example of his life.

In 2009, the United States was honored to join 192 other United Nations member states in the creation of Nelson Mandela International Day. As the global community honors Madiba on July 18 through individual and collective acts of service, we honor the man who showed his own people and the world the path to justice, reconciliation, and democracy.

## Remarks on the Nomination of Richard A. Cordray To Be Director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and an Exchange With Reporters

July 18, 2011

*The President.* Good afternoon, everybody. It has been almost 3 years since the financial crisis pulled the economy into a deep recession. And millions of families are still hurting because of it. They're trying to get by on one income instead of two, on fewer shifts at the plant or at the hospital. They're cutting expenses, giving up on a family night out so there's money for groceries. And for a lot of families, things were tough even before the recession.

So we've got to get the economy growing faster and make sure that small businesses can hire again, so that an entrepreneur out there can sell a new product, so that the middle class is getting stronger again, and so folks feel confident in their futures and their children's futures.

That's why we can't let politics stand in the way of doing the right thing in Washington. We can't stand in the way when it comes to doing the right thing on deficits. And that's why I