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Statement on the 40th Anniversary of the Supreme Court Decision in *Roe* v. *Wade*

January 22, 2013

On the 40th anniversary of *Roe* v. *Wade*, we reaffirm its historic commitment to protect the health and reproductive freedom of women across this country and stand by its guiding principle: that government should not intrude on our most private family matters and women should be able to make their own choices about their bodies and their health care. Today and every day, my administration continues our efforts to reduce unintended pregnancies, support maternal and child health, and minimize the need for abortion. On this anniversary, we recommit ourselves to supporting women and families in the choices they make and redouble our efforts to promote safe and healthy communities.

Statement on the Resignation of Ronald Kirk as United States Trade Representative

January 22, 2013

I want to thank Ambassador Kirk for his hard work on behalf of the American people over the past 4 years. There's no question Ron delivered results for the American people and for our economy. From bringing home new trade agreements with Korea, Colombia, and Panama and negotiating to open up new markets for American businesses, to cracking down on unfair trade practices around the world, he has been a tremendous advocate for the American worker. As a former mayor, Ron was relentless in making the case to the American public that a balanced, thoughtful trade policy can contribute to a stronger economic future for America. I appreciate his service and wish him the best of luck.

Remarks at the Staff Inaugural Ball

January 22, 2013

The President. Hello, everybody! You all clean up pretty good. You are looking good.

Couple of acknowledgements I want to make. First of all, please give it up for DJ Mel Sandico. The U.S. Army Band is in the house. We're so proud; they can play anything, anything. Go ahead and make a request; they'll play it. They are outstanding. And we are so grateful for their service to our country each and every day.

Now, this is just a little gathering, little party, among friends. Represented here are our outstanding OFA staff and volunteers; our amazing PIC, that would be Presidential Inaugural Committee team.

The First Lady. This has been a great Inauguration. They've done a great job.

The President. Michelle just said this has been a great Inauguration, and you've done a great job.

We've got the DNC convention team that did an amazing job. We've got the DNC team that did an amazing job. And we've got the White House team, which is pretty good. They did an amazing job.

Audience member. And you!

The President. I'm here too, that's true. And the First Lady of the United States, bangs and all, looking very sparkly and twinkly. [*Laughter*] Now, I'm not going to speak long, mainly because I've been speaking a lot and you all have heard me before.

The First Lady. And the entertainment is pretty good.