

So I'm asking all of you to join me. I'm asking all of you to work your hearts out. It's only 30 days. Work hard. Get out there. But if you're willing to work hard with me, with Michelle—and by the way, if you don't work hard, Michelle might, you know—[laughter]—you don't want to mess up with Michelle, I know. If you're willing to do this for me, then I am absolutely confident that not only are we going to win an election, but more importantly, we're going to send a message to our kids about who we are. We're going to reaffirm what this country is about.

Look, one thing I've learned over the last 8 years is, a lot of problems are hard, and progress is rarely overnight, even in the great victories that we've had, like passing health care legislation that is improving the lives and saving lives of people right now. It's a grind. And you've got to battle it out. And whatever policies you put in place, they're not going to be absolutely perfect, and then you've got to tweak them and continue to work to expand and make them work even better. When you look at issues like climate change, you know that there's going to be—for every two steps forward that we take, there are going to be some folks who want to block progress. There's too much money in politics. We know that the lobbyists and special interests are still going to be having a big impact out there.

So democracy is not easy. It requires citizens who believe deeply that this form of government, the idea that we all have a voice and that we listen to each other and engage each other and we argue, but we don't demonize each other—that out of that process comes something better—it requires work; it requires commitment. It's the kind of service that Tammy Duckworth understands. She's made the kinds of sacrifices that most of us can't imagine. And the kinds of sacrifices she and her family are now making aren't as obvious, but

they're just as meaningful, because ultimately, what she does is to show us what real patriotism means. She's showing us what true love of country means.

And for her to succeed, for Hillary to succeed, it's not enough just to mark a ballot box, although that's important. We're going to have to make sure that we've got their back every step of the way. And I can tell you, this has been the honor of my life serving as President. I am very much looking forward to life as a private citizen. [Laughter] But I will still be a citizen, and I will still have obligations. And I am going to be working just as hard, after a sizeable break and a lot of sleep—[laughter]—to make sure that we leave to the next generation the same kind of incredible inheritance that we received from our parents and our grandparents.

So let's get busy, everybody. Are you fired up?
Audience members. Yes!

The President. Are you ready to go? Thank you, Chicago. I love you. Thank you, Tammy Duckworth!

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:58 p.m. at the Stony Island Arts Bank. In his remarks, he referred to Gov. Nathan J. Deal of Georgia; Gov. Nikki R. Haley of South Carolina; Gov. Patrick L. McCrory of North Carolina; Gov. Richard L. Scott of Florida; John Atkinson, executive vice president and managing partner, Willis Towers Watson, PLC, and his wife Bonnie; Martin H. Nesbitt, cofounder and co-chief executive officer, Vistria Group, LLC; Anita K. Blanchard, professor of obstetrics and gynecology, University of Chicago Medicine; artist Theaster Gates; Sen. Mark S. Kirk; Chicago City Clerk Susana A. Mendoza, in her capacity as a candidate for Illinois State comptroller; Illinois State Rep. Barbara Flynn Currie; and Lamai Duckworth, mother of Rep. Duckworth.

Statement on the Observance of Yom Kippur October 11, 2016

I extend my best wishes for an easy and meaningful fast as Jewish communities in the

United States, Israel, and around the world observe Yom Kippur. The Day of Atonement is a

humble reminder to take stock of our shortcomings, but also a testament to our capacity to change and to grow, to lead a life of meaning, and to make a difference in the lives of others.

Through our prayers, deeds, and character, we can do our small part to create a better future for ourselves and our world. On behalf of Michelle and our family, *G'mar Chatimah Tovah*.

Remarks at a Campaign Rally for Democratic Presidential Nominee Hillary Rodham Clinton in Greensboro, North Carolina October 11, 2016

The President. Hey, North Carolina! Oh, this is a good-looking crowd! Now, I think I've got to take off my jacket. This is a—we've got some work to do. How you all been? It's good to be in North Carolina.

Let me begin by saying what an honor it was to have Judge Frye introduce me here today, the extraordinary work that he has done.

Audience member. We love you!

The President. I love you back. I do. I love North Carolina. I do. I always used to say, in North Carolina, people are so nice. In North Carolina, even the folks who didn't vote for me are still nice to me. [Laughter] I mean I—just some good people in North Carolina.

We've also got a number of outstanding elected officials who are proud to work for you each and every day. Your Representatives in Congress: Alma Adams is here; G.K. Butterfield is in the house; David Price is here; and your next United States Senator, Deborah Ross, is here. And although he couldn't be here this evening, I just want to mention your outstanding candidate for Governor, Roy Cooper. He is a good man, and he deserves your support. He is outstanding.

Now, those of you who have seats, feel free to sit down. If you don't have a seat, don't sit; you'll fall. [Laughter] But you don't have to. I'm just saying, your feet might get tired. I'm going to talk for a little bit.

Hurricane Matthew

I want to begin by thanking everybody in North Carolina for looking out for one another these past few days. As all of you know, a lot of communities are dealing with terrible flooding. Lives have been lost. And so the entire country

has been thinking about North Carolina. Thoughts and prayers are with folks who are still dealing with rivers that are overflowing, homes that are being flooded. We made sure that FEMA was on the ground early.

Audience member. Thank you! Thank you!

The President. We've been making sure that the Governor, local and State officials all have what North Carolina needs to recover and rebuild.

And it is a reminder of what we do here in America, which is, we have to look out for one another no matter what. But when it comes to making sure that people are safe and cared for, there are no politics. Everybody has to look out for one another.

2016 Presidential and Congressional Elections

Now, this will probably be one of the last times I get to visit as President.

Audience members. No!

The President. It's okay. I'm going to come back more when I'm not President. Now I'm just allowed to come on business. I'm coming for fun in North Carolina next time I come.

But our term is coming to an end. Michelle and I—our lease was only for 8 years. And we're already looking around making sure we haven't broken any china—[laughter]—or messed anything up. Bo and Sunny haven't ruined any of the carpets because we want to get our security deposit back. [Laughter] You've been through that, right? Sometimes, these landlords, they'll look. They'll be like, look, oh—

Audience member. Bill Clinton's a rapist! Bill Clinton's a rapist! Bill Clinton's a rapist!

The President. Oh, no!