



Position Statement on Haitian Migrant Mistreatment

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 9/30/21

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During the past few weeks, we have seen shocking photos of inhumane expulsions of Haitian migrants at U.S. borders. Haitian migrants have been arriving at the U.S. borders seeking asylum. Seeking safety has been especially pertinent in recent months, especially after the July 2021 assassination of the Haitian president and after the country has faced a severe earthquake and natural disasters that have left thousands of Haitians dead.

While the current U.S. administration ran an electoral campaign [centered on racial justice](#), they have, unfortunately, taken an antithetical approach towards Haitian migrants at the border. On September 18, 2021, [the Biden Administration announced](#) that they would be deporting Haitian migrants promptly. Since then, we have also seen Haitian migrants being treated inhumanely at the U.S. borders. We have seen alarming and violent images of U.S. border patrols on horseback brutally chasing down Haitian migrants, grabbing at them, and blocking them with their horses.

Such actions, unfortunately, reflect a long-standing history of racist immigration policies within the United States, whereby Black migrants have faced more barriers and have been [deported at disproportionately higher rates](#) than other migrant groups. In 2018-2021, Haitians, in particular, were [granted asylum at the lowest rate](#) compared to 84 other groups of migrants.

As an organization that strives to advance the social and economic empowerment of Latinx communities within New Jersey, the Latino Action Network Foundation stands in support of communities from the Black diaspora and immigrant communities. We stand in solidarity with the Haitian migrants and disavow the unjust and dehumanizing actions that have been taken by the U.S. government in response to Haitian migration. No human deserves to be treated as the U.S. border patrol has been treating Haitian migrants. Especially when they are fleeing dangerous or difficult circumstances, it is important that we treat Haitian migrants with compassion. We also urge that Congress move toward an earned pathway to citizenship and racially unbiased immigration reform.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/09/20/us/politics/haitians-border.html>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-58654351>

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