



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY

Washington, D.C. 20503

April 3, 2014

The Honorable Pedro R. Pierluisi  
United States House of Representatives  
1213 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Pierluisi:

On January 17, 2014, the President signed into law H.R. 3457 (P.L. 113-76), which directs the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) to develop a biennial *Caribbean Border Counternarcotics Strategy (Strategy)* within 120 days (i.e., by May 17, 2014). The Act requires ONDCP to develop the *Strategy* on the same terms as it develops the *National Southwest Border Counternarcotics Strategy* and the *National Northern Border Counternarcotics Strategy*. Therefore, the *Strategy* will articulate the Administration's plans to substantially reduce the flow of illicit drugs and drug proceeds into and out of the Caribbean border with a focus on reducing drug related violence. The *Strategy* will address the combined efforts of the National Drug Control Program agencies in the following areas as they pertain to the Caribbean border: intelligence collection and information sharing; interdiction in the air and maritime domains as well as in and between ports of entry; investigations and prosecutions; disrupting and dismantling drug trafficking organizations, with a focus on the threat posed by drug related violence; and increased demand reduction efforts in affected communities.

The *Caribbean Border Counternarcotics Strategy* will be developed in close consultation with both Federal authorities and officials representing Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands. We recognize the situation in the Caribbean is dynamic; therefore, the development and implementation process will remain flexible and adaptable. We also recognize the importance of proper coordination at all levels, which makes your input so vital. It is my hope that the development of the *Caribbean Border Counternarcotics Strategy* will promote more effective cooperation among Federal law enforcement partners in the shared effort to substantially reduce the flow of illicit drugs and associated violence in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. As a Member of Congress with an interest in Caribbean border issues, your input and coordination will greatly assist in the creation of the *Strategy*.

We look forward to coordinating with you to develop a national response to prevent the illegal trafficking of drugs along the Caribbean border. If you have any questions please have your staff contact Kimberley Alton, ONDCP's Associate Director for Legislative Affairs, at (202) 395-6912. You may also submit your comments and recommendations in writing to Kimberley Alton at [kalton@ondcp.eop.gov](mailto:kalton@ondcp.eop.gov). Thank you again for your assistance in this important effort.

Sincerely,

Michael P. Botticelli  
Acting Director