



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

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MICHAEL A. NUTTER
Mayor

July 9, 2014

Dear Mr. Sanyeah,

I write to you as a parent of two children and the Mayor of our great City. You, your family, your neighbors, the community, and the entire city suffered a tremendous tragedy with untold pain in the loss of your two children, Patrick and Taj. We are all deeply saddened, and I am very sorry, that your children did not survive the early morning fire on July 5th.

I pray daily for you, your family and community, and I've asked the entire city to keep you and all who have suffered in their hearts and prayers.

I want to assure you that the members of the Philadelphia Fire Department, the valiant men and women who risk their lives every day to protect us all, did their very best. Those professionals came to the fire scene within minutes, as quickly as they could once notified, and performed their life-saving duties – which they took an oath to carry out.

Notwithstanding their valiant efforts, we know that four innocent children regretfully died in that terrible fire. Our hearts are broken.

I want to assure you that as a City government we will do all that we can to get the facts about how this fire started. We will conduct a full and thorough investigation, including interviews with all people who may have any relevant information that can help you, your family, the neighborhood, and the entire city to understand better how and why this tragedy occurred.

Again, please accept my deepest sympathy and sorrow at the loss of your two children, Patrick and Taj, the other two children who perished, Maria and Marialla, and all who have suffered either physical injury or trauma as a result of this tragedy.

May God bless you and keep you in His ever-loving arms.

Sincerely,


Michael A. Nutter
Mayor