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**NATIONAL DISASTER HELP DESK FOR BUSINESS
OFFERS ASSISTANCE FOLLOWING EARTHQUAKE IN HAITI
WITH SUPPORT FROM THE OFFICE DEPOT FOUNDATION**

*Companies with Interests in Haiti Can Call 1-888-MY-BIZ-HELP to Access Resources
Provided by U.S. Chamber of Commerce Business Civic Leadership Center*

BOCA RATON, Fla., January 13, 2010 – In the wake of Tuesday’s devastating earthquake in Haiti, many businesses in the United States are seeking ways to help their colleagues in the region – and to assist with international relief and recovery efforts.

Businesses can ask specific questions and access a wide range of resources by contacting the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Business Civic Leadership Center’s (BCLC) [National Disaster Help Desk for Business](#) (1-888-MY-BIZ-HELP), which is supported by the [Office Depot Foundation](#).

The Help Desk is designed to enhance community economic recovery after a disaster. It provides on-the-ground coordination of information among businesses, local chambers of commerce, nongovernmental and non-profit organizations, government responders and disaster recovery specialists. Businesses are encouraged to call the Help Desk if:

- They have interests in the impact area and want to work with the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, the UN and other international assistance programs.
- They want information about recovery best practices.
- They want to support the recovery process and connect with chambers of commerce or businesses in the impact area.

“Our thoughts and prayers go out to the people of Haiti,” says Office Depot Foundation President Mary Wong. “We are proud that we can play a key role in offering much-needed assistance following this tremendous tragedy.”



The Foundation, which has provided leadership for the National Disaster Help Desk for Business financially since its inception, has announced that it will support the program again in 2010 – for the fourth consecutive year. Wong is co-chair of BCLC’s Disaster Assistance and Recovery Working Group.

“After a disaster, the Help Desk provides answers to a wide variety of questions very quickly,” notes Stephen Jordan, senior vice president and executive director of BCLC. “The Help Desk is staffed by disaster response professionals who are committed to accelerating the ability of victims and disaster aid providers to connect and get help.”

The Help Desk can also be reached at bclchelpdesk@uschamber.com. For more information, visit www.uschamber.com/bclc/programs/disaster/888mybizhelp.htm.

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About the Office Depot Foundation

The Office Depot Foundation is an independent foundation (tax exempt under IRC Sec. 501(c)(3)) that serves as the independent charitable giving arm of Office Depot, Inc. In keeping with its mission, Listen Learn Care®, the Foundation supports a variety of programs that help children succeed in school and in life; enable civil society (non-profit) organizations to become more efficient and effective; help people and businesses prepare for disasters, then recover and rebuild afterwards; strengthen local communities through grants, product donations and volunteerism; and encourage community development through entrepreneurship and economic innovation. For more information, visit www.officedepotfoundation.org.

About the Business Civic Leadership Center of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce

BCLC is a 501(c)(3) affiliate of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and is a resource and voice for businesses and their social and philanthropic interests. The U.S. Chamber is the world's largest business federation representing more than 3 million businesses and organizations of every size, sector and region.

