Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515—0507

January 21, 2009

Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Chairwoman, Joint Inaugural Committee
Senate Hart Building 331
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein,

The historic Inauguration of President Barack Obama presented one of the greatest logistical challenges ever to face the men and women of the Capitol Police, the Sergeant at Arms, and the Inaugural Committee. Clearly, an enormous effort went into the planning for this event and I congratulate you for it and I appreciate the hard work and dedication that you, your staff, the Sergeant at Arms and the Capitol Police put into making this event a great success and an occasion to remember for years to come for our entire nation.

However, as you know, not every aspect of the planning worked as well as had been hoped for. In particular, it appears that many people with Blue and Purple tickets, and possibly other ticket holders as well, were not able to get into their specific viewing area as they had been told they would be able to do.

On behalf of many of my constituents and thousands of other Americans from across the country who traveled great distances and spent a considerable amount of money to attend the Inauguration and who waited in line in their designated areas for many hours on Tuesday morning only to be turned away without seeing the Inauguration as planned, I would appreciate receiving an explanation from your office regarding what went wrong with this part of the Inauguration plan. I know this group would be grateful for an explanation regarding the absence of Capitol Police and information for the waiting crowds at the locations where ticket holders could not get through security. I am sure that many of my colleagues would appreciate receiving this information as well on behalf of their constituents.

Again, thank you for the enormous effort that you and your colleagues put into this tremendous event. And, in advance, thank you for your timely response to my request.

Sincerely,

George Miller

CC: Hon. William T. Livingood, House Sergeant at Arms