

file Sicily

Il Sindaco di Palermo

Prot. n. 287 del 29.03.1999

Dear Madam,

I wish to thank you again for your kind attention during our meeting in Washington.

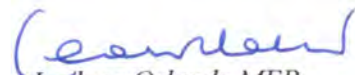
Palermo is living today a really magic moment, and the incredible attention our experience is stirring up in the U.S. and around the world is extremely important for us. Thanks to the strong commitment of Palermo's civil and religious society, and especially of the teachers, the cultural associations, and the law enforcement community, a new culture of lawfulness and of democratic citizenship characterizes now the majority of our citizens. The successful collaboration between educators and law enforcement community that has been experienced in our city appears to be a reason of interest worldwide, in a period in which the power of crime and corruption seems to rise strongly especially in newly – established democracies. It is for me extraordinary to think that, after several years during which Palermo has exported worldwide the disease, we can now export the therapy.

As you know, this collaboration, and more generally the building of a culture of lawfulness, is the topic of an International Conference that will be held in Palermo from June 18th to the 21st. The event will be organized by Civitas, a NGO aimed at strengthening education for citizenship in new democracies around the world, by the City of Palermo, and by the Italian Government, and will enjoy the support of the United States Information Agency.

As discussed in Washington it would be a real honor and a key element for the success of this event if the First Lady could attend.

I do hope that the First Lady's schedule will allow her to participate.

With best regards


Leoluca Orlando MEP

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Ms. Melanne Verveer  
Assistant to the President and  
Chief of Staff to the First Lady  
The White House