



June 28, 2010

Administration Office of President Barack Obama
The White House, Greetings Office & Proclamation Department
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

For more than a decade, September has been designated as National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month. All of us who are touched by this disease greatly appreciate the White House's ongoing commitment to eradicate ovarian and other cancers.

On behalf of the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance, the Ovarian Cancer Research Fund and the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition, we respectfully request that you renew the Federal Proclamation designating September as National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month for 2010.

Increasing awareness of ovarian cancer is essential because diagnosing the disease is difficult. Fewer than 20 percent of women with ovarian cancer are diagnosed in the early stages of the disease, when survival is greatest. Ovarian cancer is the deadliest of the gynecologic cancers and the fifth leading cause of cancer deaths among women. In the more than 30 years since the War on Cancer was declared, ovarian cancer mortality rates have not significantly improved. Approximately 22,000 women are diagnosed with ovarian cancer each year and about 15,000 women die annually from the disease.

Recognizing September as National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month will contribute significantly to the awareness of ovarian cancer and will coincide with hundreds of grass-roots activities across the country, including health fairs, runs, fund raisers and events. Your proclamation reaffirming September 2010 as National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month is a major step in helping us draw national attention to the importance of this cause.

Thank you for considering our request.

Respectfully yours,

Christine Schmidt
President
Ovarian Cancer National Alliance

Faith Kates Kogan
President
Ovarian Cancer Research Fund

Elizabeth Isham Cory
President
National Ovarian Cancer Coalition

Karen Orloff Kaplan
Chief Executive Officer
Ovarian Cancer National Alliance

Audra Moran
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David Barley
Chief Executive Officer
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