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February 26, 2010

Elizabeth J. Clark, Ph.D., ACSW
Executive Director
National Association of Social Workers
750 First Street, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20002

Dear Dr. Clark:

I extend my sincere congratulations to the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) for the 50th Anniversary of the Academy of Certified Social Workers (ACSW). Established in 1960 as the first social work credential, the ACSW proudly stands as a symbol of social work leadership today.

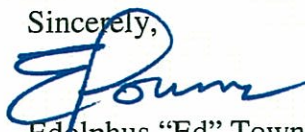
This 50th Anniversary is significant for Americans because it honors those past and present Academy members who have made noteworthy contributions to society. The achievements of Academy members such as Whitney Young, James Dumpson, Ada Deer, Delwin Anderson, Bernice Harper, Warren Graham, and Jessica Sawyer can be found in today's social programs.

Members of the Academy of Certified Social Workers (ACSW) represent the thought leadership of the profession. In clinical settings and case management; in courtrooms, communities, government agencies, and medical facilities; in university and other professional educational venues, and at local, state and federal policy levels, ACSWs span the range of social work practice from direct service to research and systems analysis for individuals, families, groups, and communities.

Social workers with NASW credentials, including Academy members, hold themselves to a higher standard of social work practice by indicating they have met *national* practice standards, completed knowledge requirements, and have shown evidence of professional mastery in social work practice. The nation recognizes the contribution of credentialed social workers, such as Academy members both past and present, and offers our thanks for the difference you make in the lives millions of people within the US each year.

Again, I extend my congratulations to the members of the Academy of Certified Social Workers and look forward to outstanding social work achievements in the future.

Sincerely,



Edolphus "Ed" Towns
Member of Congress