

January 16, 2009 **Washington, D.C.** – Today, Congressman André Carson issued the following statement to commemorate the upcoming Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday:

“Dr. Martin Luther King’s unprecedented and altruistic advocacy for equality, justice and basic human rights cultivated a positive transformation in our nation’s social and cultural landscape that enabled America to escape the confining and inhumane grips of segregation.

His push for enhanced voting rights and the equitable enjoyment of basic civil liberties has made America a more welcoming and promising homeland for all our country’s varying and diverse constituencies.

“Through his many good deeds and outstanding pursuits, he showed us all that we must never falter in our ongoing quest for parity, fairness and a better tomorrow.

By devoting ourselves to inclusive discourse and public service, we can pass Dr. King’s encouraging message onto future generations of Americans, ensuring that they too might prosper in a world guided by peace, tolerance and understanding.

“As our tenured democracy continues to age and progress, Dr. King’s everlasting legacy will forever be embedded in our nation’s broad and vast societal framework.

By having this inspirational tradition entrenched in our history, we can collectively embark on a paralleled and symmetrical advancement that makes us better Americans and global citizens.”

###