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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-5401**

July 16, 2009

The Honorable Shaun Donovan  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development -  
451 7<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20410

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I write to express my strong support for Égida del Policía Inc.'s ("EPI") application for funding under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Neighborhood Stabilization Program 2 ("NSP2"). EPI's receipt of funding under NSP2 would allow the organization to expand its efforts to develop affordable housing options for low and moderate income Puerto Ricans.

Founded in 1983, EPI is a non-profit corporation specializing in the promotion, creation, ownership, and operation of affordable multifamily rental housing in Puerto Rico. Over the past 20 years, high land prices and limited financing sources have dramatically increased the island's housing needs. The current economic downturn has exasperated the housing shortage, as stagnant wage levels and growing unemployment make it increasingly difficult for families to obtain suitable housing.

EPI addresses Puerto Rico's housing needs by working with families to identify appropriate housing options and assisting those families with obtaining financing. In addition, the organization evaluates the feasibility of using available grants, loans, and incentive programs to assist in the creation and preservation of low to moderate income housing, including foreclosed and abandoned homes. EPI also promotes island-wide community awareness of the need for affordable housing.

EPI performs a vital service in addressing the housing needs in Puerto Rico. I hope that you give their grant application the full consideration that it deserves.

Sincerely,



Pedro R. Pierluisi  
Member of Congress