



Reverend Roy W. Johnson  
Establishmentarian  
Bishop K. Jevon Chambers, Th.D.  
Sr. Pastor & First Episcopal Diocesan Prelate  
Melvin McPhaul Sr.  
Chairperson, Board of Trustees  
Reverend Bernard E. Turnbo, Jr.  
Executive Director of Administration  
Charity Brown  
Church Treasurer

The Honorable Alejandro Mayorkas  
Secretary of Homeland Security  
Washington DC 20528  
[dhsexecsec@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:dhsexecsec@hq.dhs.gov)

**RECEIVED**  
By ESEC at 9:25 am, Dec 06, 2024

Secretary Mayorkas,

We are members of the Historic Mount Calvary Community Church, and delegates of the First Episcopal Dioceses of the Metropolitan Spiritual Churches of Christ, Inc., are gravely concerned about our immigrant friends, neighbors and work partners who are currently protected by Temporary Protected Status. Many of whom have expressed fear that under a Trump Administration their TPS status will be rescinded or simply left to expire.

As a nation built on the principles of compassion, justice, and opportunity, it is imperative that we uphold these values by ensuring the safety and well-being of those who have sought refuge within our borders. TPS provides a lifeline to individuals who have fled from countries experiencing armed conflict, environmental disasters, or other extraordinary conditions. These individuals have become integral members of our communities, even our faith communities, contributing to our economy, culture, and society in countless ways. Removing TPS protections would not only disrupt their lives but also harm the communities that have come to rely on their presence and contributions.

In California, Missouri, Nebraska, and Nevada we have thousands of long-term TPS residents who contribute greatly to our economy and local churches, workplaces and neighborhoods. Currently there are approximately 1,000,000 immigrants from 16 countries with TPS status.

I urge you to take all necessary actions to protect and extend TPS for all eligible immigrants. This includes re-designating and extending TPS for countries currently under this status and considering new designations for countries facing dire circumstances. By doing so, we affirm our commitment to humanitarian principles and demonstrate our leadership on the global stage. It is imperative that you take action where you are able to provide ongoing protection for our TPS designees.

---

***“Jesus is the Light of the World”***

*Metropolitan Spiritual Churches of Christ, Inc., First Episcopal Diocese*



**Reverend Roy W. Johnson**  
Establishmentarian  
**Bishop K. Jevon Chambers, Th.D.**  
Sr. Pastor & First Episcopal Diocesan Prelate  
**Melvin McPhaul Sr.**  
Chairperson, Board of Trustees  
**Reverend Bernard E. Turnbo, Jr.**  
Executive Director of Administration  
**Charity Brown**  
Church Treasurer

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. I trust that you will continue to advocate for policies that reflect the best of our nation's values and ensure the protection of vulnerable individuals seeking safety and stability.

In Persona CHRISTI

*K. Jevon Chambers*

+K. Jevon Chambers, ThD.

Senior Pastor/First Episcopal Diocesan Prelate

+KJC/djwc

---

*“Jesus is the Light of the World”*

*Metropolitan Spiritual Churches of Christ, Inc., First Episcopal Diocese*



**U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services**

January 7, 2025

Bishop K. Jevon Chambers, Th.D.  
Senior Pastor/First Episcopal Diocesan Prelate  
Mount Calvary Community Church  
5112 Ames Ave.  
Omaha, NE 68104

Dear Bishop Chambers:

Thank you for your December 5, 2024 letter to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) requesting the extension and redesignation of countries currently designated for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) and the initial designation of additional countries. I am responding on behalf of the Department.

I appreciate the concerns you have outlined in your letter. Please be assured U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is reviewing conditions in TPS-designated countries to determine whether they continue to meet the criteria for designation and considers whether non-designated countries meet the conditions for initial designation. DHS makes these decisions in consultation with interagency partners and after careful consideration of each individual country's circumstances, in accordance with statutory requirements.<sup>1</sup>

USCIS also offers support that may be available upon request to assist eligible noncitizens affected by emergencies or unforeseen circumstances.<sup>2</sup> Such support may include:

- Change or extension of nonimmigrant status if eligible nationals are currently in the United States, even if the request is filed after the authorized period of admission has expired;
- Expedited processing of requests for advance parole documents;
- Expedited adjudication of requests for off-campus employment authorization for F-1 students experiencing severe economic hardship;
- Expedited adjudication of employment authorization applications, where appropriate;

---

<sup>1</sup> See Immigration and Nationality Act sec. 244(b)(1), (b)(3), 8 U.S.C. 1254a(b)(1), (b)(3).

<sup>2</sup> Additional information is available on the USCIS website at [uscis.gov/newsroom/immigration-relief-in-emergencies-or-unforeseen-circumstances](https://uscis.gov/newsroom/immigration-relief-in-emergencies-or-unforeseen-circumstances).

- Assistance if applicants received a Request for Evidence or a Notice of Intent to Deny and were unable to appear for an interview, submit evidence, or respond in a timely manner because of the emergency or unforeseen circumstances; and
- Replacement of lost or damaged immigration or travel documents issued by USCIS, such as a Permanent Resident Card (Green Card).

Thank you again for your letter and interest in this important issue. Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact the USCIS Public Engagement Division by email at [public.engagement@uscis.dhs.gov](mailto:public.engagement@uscis.dhs.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ur M. Jaddou", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ur M. Jaddou  
Director