Thank you to all who made the 25th Anniversary celebration of Radio Voz do Emigrante a huge success.

I want to extend my appreciation to the more than a thousand people that attended, including Mayor William Flanagan, who gave me the Key to the City. Thank you to Congressman James Keatings; Maria Joao Avila, member of the Portuguese Parliament; Ambassador of Cape Verde, Dr. Fatima Veiga; Dr. Graca, Consul of Portugal in New Bedford; Vice Consul of Portugal in Providence, Dr. Leonel Teixeira, Consul General of Cape Verde, Dr. Pedro Graciano de Carvalho; Senators Michael Rodrigues of Fall River, Daniel da Ponte of East providence and Marc Pacheco of Taunton. Representatives Antonio Cabral of New Bedford, Paul Schmid of Westport and Alan Silvia of Fall River – Thank you to the numerous municipal elected officials and representatives of District Attorney Sam Sutter and Sheriff Tom Hodgson – as well as the presence of numerous social, civic and economic sectors.

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Finally, I want to thank the staff of Radio Voz do Emigrante and my love and affection to my family.

I would like to congratulate the following personalities that were honored:

Comendador Heitor Sousa of Fall River, founder of The Great Holy Ghost Feast of New England
Comendador Fernando G. Rosa of Newington, Conn., President of the Portuguese-American Leadership Council of the U.S.
Jorge Ferreira of Westport, Singer
Francisco J. Cabral of Tiverton, RI, Community Leader and Assistant Director of SER Jobs For Progress
Comendador Fernando J. Garcia of New Bedford, Businessman and Chair of Bristol Community College Board of Trustees
Francisco Feijoo Barbosa of Cumberland, RI, Businessman and former honorary Consul of Cape Verde
Shirley Nigri Farber of Stoughton, Journalist and Community Leader
Antonio C. Teixeira, Community Activist
Helena Da Silva Hughes of New Bedford, Executive Director of Immigrants; Assistance Center
Rogerio Medina of Pawtucket, RI, retired Vice Consul of Portugal in Providence and Community Leader
Hon. Carlton M. Viveiros of Fall River, former mayor of Fall River and retired Clerk/Magistrate, Southeastern Housing Court
Hon. Paul J. Tavares, East Prov., former Treasurer of RI and the Interim Exec. Dir. of the Prov. Housing Authority
Dr. Odete Amarelo of Fall River, retired educator and a teacher at Bristol Community College
Prof. Onesimo Almeida of Providence, Professor at Brown University and Author of numerous books
Eduardo Sousa Lima of New Bedford, Businessman, founder of Portuguese Channel and owner of Portuguese Times
Dr. Americo Almeida of Fall River, a physician and president of Prima CARE, P.C
Marie R. Fraley of Providence, Interim Director of Institute for Portuguese and Lusophone World Studies, RI College
Dr. Dana Mohler-Faria, Bridgewater, President of Bridgewater State University
The Honorable Phillip Rapoza of Dartmouth, Chief Justice of the Massachusetts Appeals Court
Comendador Carlos Andrade, Westwood, Businessman/Community Leader
Liberal Silva, Businessman/Community Leader
Victor C. Santos of New Bedford, Vice President of Human Resources, Cape Cod Comm. College, Comm. Leader
Carlos Spinola of Pawtucket, Case Manager, Aids Care Ocean State, Community Activist
Atty. David M. Simas, Washington, DC, Assistant to the President and Deputy Advisor for Communications and Strategies.