

In Barbados, Sharpton Criticizes Giuliani on Immigration

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Body

The Rev. Al **Sharpton** attacked Mayor Rudolph W. **Giuliani**'s record on **immigration** issues yesterday, calling it "reactionary and repulsive." Mr. **Sharpton** said Mr. **Giuliani**'s actions as an Assistant Attorney General a decade ago, when he fought to hold Haitian refugees in detention camps, belied his recent efforts to present himself as a friend of immigrants.

"Rudolph **Giuliani** sat in President Ronald Reagan's Justice Department fighting against Haitians," Mr. **Sharpton**, a Democratic Mayoral candidate, said in a speech released in New York City and delivered last night at a celebration in Bridgetown, **Barbados**.

"Rudy **Giuliani**'s track record on immigrant issues is reactionary and repulsive," he said.

"He comes now in an election year posing as a friend to immigrants, but his record speaks volumes to the contrary," he said.

Mr. **Sharpton** made his remarks as the invited speaker at an Emancipation Day ceremony sponsored by the Ethiopian Orthodox Church. (Emancipation Day is the the anniversary of the freeing of slaves on **Barbados**.)

With his remarks, Mr. **Sharpton** set out to distinguish himself from the field of Democratic mayoral candidates by challenging Mr. **Giuliani**'s attempt to present himself as an advocate of immigrants.

Mr. **Sharpton** took note of Mr. **Giuliani**'s role as the No. 3 person in the Justice Department, who had led the effort to detain Haitians who fled their country in leaky boats.

Mr. **Giuliani** declined comment on Mr. **Sharpton**'s remarks.

"The Mayor does not respond to Mr. **Sharpton**," said the Mayor's campaign spokesman, Sunny Mindel.

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