



Derrick Johnson
President and CEO
NAACP
4805 Mt. Hope Drive. Baltimore MD 21215

July 5, 2022

Dear President Johnson,

In keeping with the NAACP's historic mission for full social inclusion and an end to racial discrimination, we must stand with the clergy, civil rights and grass roots leaders, *and the segregated children* of New Jersey, in demanding that Governor Phil Murphy be uninvited to the 113th National Convention in Atlantic City.

We appreciate that Governor Murphy has a history with this great organization as a past board member and major donor, but that relationship cannot be allowed to excuse or obscure his inaction toward and opposition to school desegregation.

New Jersey is one of the worst states in the nation for school segregation by both race and income. Today, it ranks more segregated than any state of the former confederacy outside of Texas. The pandemic has only further revealed and intensified its damage while widening the already expansive gaps in educational opportunity and life chances for poor, Black and brown children.

We know that Governor Murphy did not create this problem, but he has been given a golden opportunity that he has so far squandered with avoidance, resistance, and opposition. As you know, the NAACP State Conference is party (along with other plaintiffs) to a lawsuit that Governor Murphy has chosen to fight rather than seek a remedy. And since 2018, even before the suit was filed, a statewide coalition of grassroots leaders, clergy, and local NAACP branches organized support across the state and with key legislators (including the state's Legislative Black Caucus) for a realistic yet meaningful approach to eliminating school segregation.

Governor Murphy has refused to even meet with this group (the New Jersey Coalition Against Racial Exclusion NJ-CARE) led by the Rev. Willie D. Francois or to consider their legislative proposal for desegregation developed in consultation with state and national civil rights leaders including Myron and Gary Orfield, John Brittan, David Sciarra, Linda Darling Hammond, Erika Wilson, and Jonathan Kozol.

We think it is wonderful that the NAACP chose New Jersey for this year's convention. It is also wonderful that a former national board member is the governor of the host state. But what good is having a former NAACP leader in a position of enormous power if he is not willing to use that power to reverse a wrong that destroys lives and is getting worse by the day. If a former NAACP board member won't do it, then who will?

Sincerely,

The Coalition Against Racial Exclusion (NJ-CARE) and supporters:

Rev. Willie D. Francois, Co-Chair

Mrs. Bahiyah Abdullah, Toms River Area NAACP, Barnegat

Timothy Adkins-Jones, Bethany Baptist Church, Newark

Ms. Sharonda Allen, East Orange
Mr. Michael Alves, Alves Educational Consultants Group, South Orange
Muhammad-Jenkins Anfal, Muhammad-Jenkins Anfal, Newark
Minister Patrece Baines, NAACP, Atlantic
Nikki Baker, Passaic
Audrey Bannister, Egg Harbor Township
Mr. Sabastian Belfon, Old Tappan
Mr. Paul Bellan-Boyer, Emmanuel Pentecostal Church, Jersey City
Mr. Keith Benson, Camden County East NAACP, Lawnside, NJ
VICTOR BERMUDEZ, LANDISVILLE
Hilda Bermudez, Landisville
Rev. Manuel Biagas, Williamstown NJ
Rev. Ronald Bonner, Redeemer LC, ATLANTA
Dianne Brake, Waterford
Katie Brennan, Jersey City
Carletta Briscoe, NAACP, ATLANTIC CIYT
Rev. George Britt, Elizabeth
Rev. Dr. Danielle L. Brown, Shiloh Baptist Church, Plainfield
Ms. DAWN BRYANT, Mount Zion Baptist Church, Pleasantville
Councilman Tom Bullock, Lakewood City Council, Lakewood, Ohio
Ms. Shirell Bullock, family, Penns Grove
Susan Butterfield, Roseland
Mr. John Capasso Sr Sr., Linwood
Dr. Natakie Chestnut-Lee, NAACP/ Pleasantville/Mainland Chapter, EHT
Ms. Juanita H Chiles, Mount Zion Baptist Church, Pleasantville NJ
Anika Collette, Mays Landing
Shelley Cordes, Oakdale
Ms. Kellie Cors, Peace Amongst Youth, Atlantic City
Marcus D. Cosby, Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church, Houston
Mrs. Stefanie Davenport, Pleasantville
Ms. Mary Anne Degenhart, EMBRACING RACE - The Conversation, Collingswood
Ms. Mesai Degraffenreidt, SaiyahGee Styles, Atlantic City
Minister Danielle Dufoe, Mount Zion Baptist Church, Pleasantville
Eidie Dunston Keyes, Atlantic city
Mr. ROSANNE FAISON, BUILDING ONE AMERICA, MAYS LANDING
Yizenia Ferrer, Pleasantville
Rev. Luella Franklin, Mainland NAACP, Galloway
Cheryl Georges, Penns Grove
Ms. Sharon Gooding, Pleasantville
Mrs. Louise Gorham-Neblett, MPVL NAACP and MZBC, Galloway
Rev. Michael Granzen, Second Presbyterian Church, Elizabeth
Mr. Henry Green, Peace and power media, Atlantic City
Mr. Nasef Guindy, We Care Corp, Mays landing
Ms. Antoinett Hall, NJEA, Orange

Ms. Gloria Hamilton, Mt Zion Baptist Church of Pleasantville NJ, Galloway
Rev. STACEY HAMILTON, Mt Zion Baptist Church of Pleasantville NJ, GALLOWAY
Richard Hardaway, TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE, MERRILLVILLE
Mr. Nina Harden, Naacp, Vineland
Rev. Forrest Harris, American Baptist College, Nashville
Robert S. Harvey, St. Louis
Stacie Hawkins, Houston
Frederick Haynes, Friendship West Baptist Church, Dallas
Mr. Thomas Heaney, Bloomfield
Rev. Karen Hernandez-Granzen, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Trenton
Mr. Jason Howell, Our Revolution South Jersey, Hamilton Township
Mrs. Lenore Isleib, St. Anthony Social Justice Ministry, Hightstown
Marilee Jackson, Tara Village Neighborhood Association, Florence, SC
Evelyn Jackson, Atlantic City
Pastor Fred Jacobs, St. James Baptist Church, Williamstown
Marilyn Jaynes, Galloway
Mr. EDWARD JERNIGAN, B.L.A.C/LOCAL 54, Pleasantville
Joyce A Johnson, Salem
Rev. Anthony Johnson, Orange, NJ
Corinne Johnson, Bridge NYC, Clifton
Ms. Jessica Kaiser, Cranbury
Beaufus King, Millville
Mr. Michael Kruglik, BOA, Phoenix
Tabia Lee, NAACP HU Chapter, DC
Mr. Herman Lee, NAN, Egg Harbor Township
Pat Lindsay-Harvey, Willingboro
Marie Lopez Rogers, , Buckeye
Gloria M Hamilton, Mt Zion Baptist Church of Pleasantville NJ, Galloway
Michael Marrazzo, Leonardo
Mondell Matthews, Shiloh Baptist Church/ Building New Loves Inc., Port Norris
Lorraine Mccoy, Wildwood
Rabbi Abby Michaleski, Vineland
Lynn Mintchell, Urbana
Sonja Montague, Newark
Marcus Moore, Washington DC
Ms. Sandra Mordecai, Former President and Board of Ed Member, West Orange School District, West Orange
Ms. Sharnell Morgan, Pleasantville school district, Pleasantville
Rev. Albert Morgan, Union Baptist Temple, Bridgeton
Ms. KATHY L. KATHY MORGAN, Paterson
Ms. Jordan Muhammad, Building One America, South Orange
Kenneth Nelson, NAACP, Mays Landing
Mr. Vernon Newte, Millville
Mrs. Pat Nima-Mohammed, NAACP, Trenton

Mr. Myron Orfield, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis
Rev. Jerome Page, Pleasantville Board of Education and NAACP Member, Pleasantville
Mr. Michael Paris, SOMA Action, Maplewood
Rev. Joseph Parrish, St. John's Church, Elizabeth
Mr. Connie Pascale, Toms River
Dr. Carol Patterson, Setting The Captives Free, New Brunswick
John Penn, Pleasant ville
Jane Perry, Maplewood
Rev. Kent Pipes, Salt and Light Company, Inc., Westampton
Ms. Nicole Plett, Lawrence Citizen Activists, Lawrenceville
Roslyn Powell, Teaneck
MONEKE RAGSDALE, FREINDS OF CAMDEN COUNTY NAACP, CAMDEN
Mrs. Dawn Robinson, NAACP, Cape May Court House
Mr. SAMUEL D ROBINSON III, IBO Classics, Clifton Heights
Jean Ross, Esq., Member of POP, Skillman
Rev. Cassius Rudolph, Saints' Memorial Community Church, Willingboro, NJ
Mr. DAVID RUSK, Washington DC
Dr. Christine Ruth, Northfield
Charlene Rutherford, Vineland
Michele Salahuddin, Pleasantville
Kamilah Salahuddin, Pleasantville
Ms. Laverne Scott, By faith We Care Performing Arts Academy, Northfield
Mr. Paul Scully, Building One America, Collingswood
Mr. Stuart Sendell, Rumson
MITCHELL SHARP, BRIDGETON
Rev. Michelle Simmons, Why Not Prosper, Inc., Philadelphia
Mrs. Arleen simmons, Pleasantville
Rev. Robert Smith Jr., NBBC, Detroit, MI
Ms. Shanta Smith, Bridgeton
Mr. Mark Smith, Pleasantville
Mrs. Barbara Stewart, Building one American, Atlantic City
Mr. Jack Surrency, Former County Commissioner, Cumberland County
Mrs. Sondra Thompson, NAACP, Pleasantville
Mr. Steven Tolbert, Atlantic City
Rev. Alan Traher, St Martin Lutheran Ch, Severna Park, Md
Mr. charles walker, Takoma Park
Ms. Patrecia West, West Orange Human Relations Commission, WEST ORANGE
Shelly M williams Williams, MZBC, Pleasantville
Mr. Cleo Williams, Atlantic City N.J
Mr. Steven Young, Atlantic City
Ms. Deborah ZeldesNelson, Build One New Jersey, Atlantic city