



MEDIA ADVISORY

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For Immediate Release

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Historic Black Church Organization and National Black Bankers to Gather for Press Conference Announcing Groundbreaking Agreement

AME Bishops, Black Banking Executives, African Ambassador to Make Historic Announcement and Sign Memorandum of Understanding During Council of Bishops and General Board Meeting in Atlanta

ATLANTA - Bishop Reginald Thomas Jackson, President of the Council of Bishops of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church and all 20 Bishops of the 231 - year - old denomination will convene a press conference on June 26th to announce the launch of a coalition for the economic empowerment of Black banks and Black communities across America.

The press conference will be among the highlights during the 2018 Council of Bishops and General Board Meeting in Atlanta. Featured speakers at the announcement and signing will include Bishop Jackson, President, Council of Bishops; Bishop Vashti McKenzie, General Board Chair; and Ron Busby, President/CEO, U.S. Black Chamber Inc.

In attendance at the Press Conference will be the Council of Bishops of the African Methodist Episcopal Church and the 19 presidents of Black banks in the United States, as well as Her Excellency Dr. Arikana Chihombori-Quao, Ambassador for the African Union to the United States. Also, attending will be the president of the U. S. Black Chamber.

The goals of the partnership are in sync with the goals of Black Wealth 2020, a national movement to increase Black wealth:

1. To increase Black home ownership by 2,000,000 Black families, to reach a 50 percent home ownership rate among Black Americans;
2. To increase the number and gross receipts of Black businesses from 2.6 million to 4.0 million and revenues from annual gross receipts of \$72,500.00 to \$150,000.00; and
3. To increase deposits in and quality loans with Black banks.

The membership of the AME Church includes more than 6,000 churches in the U. S. and 10,000 worldwide. This represents approximately 3 million congregants.

WHAT: Announcement of new coalition and signing of Memorandum of Understanding for a Black Church-Black Bank coalition.

WHEN: Tuesday, June 26, 2018

TIME: 12 Noon

WHERE: Hilton Atlanta
Room 219
255 Courtland Street NE
Atlanta, Ga. 30303

WHO: Council President Bishop Reginald Thomas Jackson and fellow Bishops, General Board Chair Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie, and U.S. Black Chamber President/CEO Ron Busby

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