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National Black MBA Association®

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January 8, 2020

Dear Members:

This week's tragic events deserve our full attention – and for different reasons.

The treasonous actions we watched unfold in real time by rioters on the steps of the US Capitol will go down as a day we will all remember. While these actions need to be wholly condemned and those who participated held fully accountable, it is also clear we must force the broader conversation about the hypocrisy we witnessed.

Throughout most of 2020 and for many generations, Black people have pleaded, marched and sacrificed their lives – all with the hopes that the police in our communities would demonstrate the type of control that we saw yesterday. It is beyond infuriating to witness a mob storm the hallowed halls of what should be one of the most secure buildings in our nation with little resistance or repercussions.

While I know our community is well aware of this contrast, it is important in moments like this to reaffirm our commitment to engage this issue directly and work to turn dialogue into action and change through our racial equity initiative programming.

To our members in the DC and Greater Maryland chapters, we stand with you! Please continue to be safe and know this too shall pass.

Although we as a nation collectively watched evil this week, we also experienced history with the election of Rev. Raphael Warnock, an HBCU graduate and past NBMBAA® conference speaker, to the United States Senate from Georgia. This historic event was another reminder of why I believe in the fabric of our country, a fabric that has withstood the many stresses and strains the years have placed upon it. The NBMBAA® remains committed to our members and the work that lies ahead.

Sincerely,

Joseph "Joe" Handy  
President & CEO  
National Black MBA Association®

About the NBMBAA®

NBMBAA® is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) member-based professional organization which leads in the creation of educational, wealth building and growth opportunities for Black students, professionals, and entrepreneurs. Representing more than 20,000 members within 40 professional chapters, 33 Leaders of Tomorrow® chapters and over 500 corporate and non-profit partners, the Association is dedicated to developing alliances that create intellectual and economic wealth in the Black community through its five channels of engagement: career, education, entrepreneurship, leadership, and lifestyle.