



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
January 13, 2018

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## OFFICIAL PRESS STATEMENT

### DONALD TRUMP: HOW TO MAKE AMERICA HATE AGAIN!

**DETROIT**– It will take more than a presidential proclamation creating a historic park for Martin Luther King Jr. to bring to an end the divisive, hateful, and racist rants of America’s 45<sup>th</sup> president. For the president to use the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday as a smoke screen to camouflage his own vicious and vile racism, does a disservice to the one known as the *Drum Major for Peace and Justice*.

Trump said, in proclaiming the nations newest park, *“Today we celebrate Dr. King, for standing up for the self-evident truth Americans hold so dear: that no matter the color of our skin or the place of our birth, we are all created equal by God.”* Yet, in his remarks identifying persons from Haiti, El Salvador, and African nations as coming from “shithole countries” only 24 hours earlier, it clearly demonstrates the innate contradictions residing deep within the spirit of this president.

Often in the law enforcement community, in order to determine whether or not an individual has a propensity for certain types of behavior, they look for a pattern. In identifying Donald Trump as a racist (*one who uses prejudices plus power*), the pattern has long been established. Let us review some of his history.

- Donald Trump has been identified in several law suits of racial discrimination against blacks concerning his real estate property in the state of New York.
- Trump never apologized for his wrongful attack, calling for a return to the death penalty for black and Latino youth, in the case of the Central Park Five, exonerated after being accused of assaulting and raping a white woman in 1989.
- Donald Trump is the prodigy of a father who was identified by the New York Times in 1927 for being arrested after a near riot involving the Ku Klux Klan and New York City’s police department.
- Mr. Trump is the originator of the Birther Movement, spreading the lie that America’s first African American president was not born in America but in Kenya.
- He identifies Muslims, with very little distinction, as being “radical Islamic terrorists.”
- He views Mexicans as “rapists and murderers.”

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- Trump has called the judge overseeing the case against Trump University as biased “because he is Mexican. “
- Haitians, according to Trump, “all have AIDS.”
- Nigerians, according to Trump, “will not go back to their huts”, after coming to America.
- NFL players taking a knee over police brutality are “sons of bitches.”
- Nazi’s and KKK members protesting in Charlottesville Virginia, where civil rights activist Heather Heyer was killed, are viewed as “good people.”
- Puerto Ricans who still do not have adequate power and medical supplies are viewed by this President as “wanting everything done for them,” as he made a visit to throw out rolls of paper towels to the victims of Hurricane Maria.

In 1972, Harold Melvin and the Blue Notes recorded a song entitled *If You Don't Know Me By Now*. Part of the lyrics are, “*If you don't know me by now, you will never, never, never know me. All the things that we been through, you should understand me like I understand you.*” The stark reality in 2018 is that we do know you, Mr. Trump. We do understand you. We have been through a campaign and now an election, witnessing your behavior. More importantly, we understand your racist, vile, embarrassing, and dangerous policies. For those who continue to support this man, regardless of what he says and what he does, you are simply co-signing, enabling, and blessing evil, ignorance, and hate. Enough of the milk toast, let Trump be Trump, don't pay attention to what he tweets or says, he's never held political office, he's simply a business man, political nonsense. He is unfortunately the President of the United States. Those who seek to normalize this political poison, choking the very life out of our nation, must not be more passionate in their darkness than others are in their light. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said it well, “*Nothing in all the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity.*”

The President is obviously ignorant of the history of Haiti with our nation fighting for its own independence against England. For if he were not, he would remember that in 1779 a force of more than 500 Haitians *gens de couleur libre* (free men of color) joined American colonists and French troops in the effort to drive the British from Savannah, Georgia. Eight years ago, a monument was raised as a tribute to these men (Chasseurs-Volontaires de couleur de Saint-Domingue) who aided America in its time of great need. For the record, Mr. Trump, please note that Nigerian immigrants have the highest level of education in America, according to census data. 37% of all Nigerians in this country hold bachelor's degree, 17% a master's degree, and 4% have a doctorate. This is according to a U.S. Census Bureau survey. They work in the petrochemical, medical, and business sectors in most communities. It is also important to point out that they did not receive any bogus degree from the now defunct Trump University.

It appears that Dr. King's meme of conscientious stupidity is reflected in Trump's past statement, “*I can stand in the middle of 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and shoot somebody and I wouldn't lose any voters.*” How low can America go under this president? This president does not have the moral authority to bring people together. He provides a terrible example of leadership to our children.

He cannot stand on the stage with world leaders, with true dignity and respect, trying to prop America up as the leader of freedom and democracy for the world. This is demonstrated by his forced withdrawal from a state visit to one of our oldest allies, Great Britain, due to his blatant racism.

The tragedy of Mr. Trump is that he is still in office. Therefore, the people must stand against him and his policies. It is his rhetoric, overwhelmed by his policies, which make this such a dangerous time. We must not forget that 91% of Trump's judicial nominees are white, 81% are male. Of the 58 nominees, reflecting positions in Appellate, District, and the Supreme Court at the end of last October, 53 were white, three Asian, one Hispanic, and one African American. Through his Attorney General, Jefferson Beauregard Sessions, he is ending the emphasis placed on 21<sup>st</sup> century policing, initiated by a Presidential Commission during the Obama Administration. This is a community approach to mutual respect forged between law enforcement and people in the neighborhoods in which they serve. He has moved away from prosecuting those who violate our voting rights. He has retreated from cases in federal courts which advocate for the right of citizens to exercise their voting franchise. There is only one African American in his official cabinet. He has moved to repeal the individual mandate from the Affordable Care Act resulting in 13 million few Americans being covered by health insurance through his disastrous tax plan. Certainly, his rhetoric will not enhance relations between African, Caribbean, and Latin American countries working with America on issues of terrorism and national defense.

We are forced to help save America from itself. America is better than Donald Trump. Therefore, the people must stand up to him and his policies. If Trump is not impeached for breaking the laws of the nation or violating the duties of his presidency, he must be un-elected. The actions of Donald Trump cannot be normalized, excused, or condoned. The very survival of our nation is at stake. Therefore, we must all step up in the mid-term elections in 2018. We must step out in the national elections in 2020. We must mobilize and organize against his policies, standing up against the efforts to return America back to a time when black folks had not rights that white folks had to respect. *Take Your Souls To The Polls* and vote like the future of our nation depends upon it, because quite frankly, it does!

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