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**Contact:**

Leona Dotson  
Communications Chairman  
[press@aka1908.com](mailto:press@aka1908.com)  
(559) 670-1592

October 27, 2015



**ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY EXPRESSES  
OUTRAGE OVER INCIDENT AT RICHLAND  
COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL**



Chicago, Illinois — Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, (AKA) expresses outrage over the recent disturbing events that took place at Spring Valley High School in Richland County, South Carolina. On Monday, October 26, a video surfaced of a school resource officer, Senior Deputy Ben Fields, forcefully subduing a female student to the ground and throwing her across the floor in front of her fellow students and teacher.

"The members of Alpha Kappa Alpha are outraged about the conduct of this resource officer and his apparent use of brutal force based on the students alleged classroom disturbance," stated International President Dorothy Buckhanan Wilson. "A full investigation is necessary so that all of the facts in this case are determined. We call on the authorities to make a quick and thorough investigation and to take appropriate action upon completion of the investigation."

On behalf of the organization, a letter expressing our concern has been issued to Richland County Sheriff Leon Lett, Richland School District Two Superintendent Dr. Debbie Hamm, and the Mayor of the City of Columbia, Stephen K. Benjamin. Further, the sorority urges residents to continue to peacefully let their voices be heard until a full investigation is complete.

"In addition to ensuring that our voices are heard and equality prevails, we will continue to facilitate opportunities for African American communities, especially our youth, and law enforcement agencies to learn and work with one another in a more meaningful and trusting manner," Buckhanan Wilson said. "However, continued incidents such as this further enable a climate of distrust between our youth, minority communities and law enforcement."

Buckhanan Wilson said Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, with a massive network of members in 986 local chapters worldwide, plans to monitor the investigation and will remain vigilant to ensure that justice is served.

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