



ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA CALLS FOR CALM IN BALTIMORE, DEMANDS FAIR INVESTIGATION



CHICAGO — April 27, 2015 — Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority urged Baltimore protestors, activists and community leaders to call for calm and restore peace, as federal and local officials investigate the death of Freddie Gray.

International President Dorothy Buckhanan Wilson said the sorority's 283,000 members worldwide are closely monitoring the situation, and sending prayers to Gray's family. She also expressed outrage that yet another black man was killed while being detained by police.

"We expect Baltimore and federal officials to conduct a thorough, transparent and fair investigation into this matter," Buckhanan Wilson said. "Freddie Gray's family and the people of Baltimore deserve that much."

Buckhanan Wilson also said she hoped cooler heads would prevail. "Violence within the community is not the answer nor does it honor the life and legacy of Mr. Gray and his family," noting the escalation of violence, looting, and rioting taking place in Baltimore over the last 48 hours.

Over the last several months, Alpha Kappa Alpha members around the country have met with elected officials during the Sorority's Day at the Capitol events to speak to and urge action on issues of injustice and other issues that disproportionately impact African Americans, women, and minorities.

The sorority, through its network of chapters around the world, will continue its push for social justice for all, and will advocate for judicial fairness for black men and others who are victimized by the system. Locally in Baltimore, sorority chapters will continue to work with community groups and churches to provide needed supplies and support in the days ahead.

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