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**ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY RESPONDS TO
THE BRUTAL BEATING OF MARLENE PINNOCK**



Chicago, Illinois - August 22, 2014 - Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., (AKA) today expressed concern over the brutal beating of a 51-year-old homeless California woman.

Speaking on behalf of the Sorority's 265,000 members worldwide, International President Dorothy Buckhanan Wilson called for a swift and thorough investigation surrounding the incident that occurred in July. Video of the beating quickly went viral.

"The members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. are outraged by the beating of Marlene Pinnock," Buckhanan Wilson said. "Our thoughts and prayers go out to her and we are relieved that she has been provided with medical care and shelter, as she recovers from this traumatic experience." An investigation is underway so the facts in this case have yet to be determined. Buckhanan Wilson said, "The incident deserves quick action to ensure justice prevails."

Cell phone video from a passing motorist shows Pinnock being repeatedly punched in the head and face by a California Highway Patrol (CHP) officer on the side of a Los Angeles freeway. Authorities say officers were responding to a report of a woman walking into lanes on the freeway. Pinnock was hospitalized with a head injury and emotional trauma. Her attorney filed a federal civil rights lawsuit over the beating alleging excessive force and civil rights violation by the CHP officer. The CHP Commissioner is also named in the lawsuit.

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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