

## MEDIA ADVISORY

# Maryland Lynching Truth and Reconciliation Commission to Hold Public Hearing on Racial Terror Lynchings in Cecil and Harford Counties on October 26, 2024

For Immediate Release

HARFORD, Md.— The [Maryland Lynching Truth and Reconciliation Commission](#) (MLTRC) will hold a public hearing for Cecil and Harford counties on October 26, 2024, as part of its ongoing effort to bring awareness to Maryland's history of racial violence and to foster reconciliation in the present. Research reveals that at least 2 Black people were lynched in Cecil County, 3 Black people were lynched in Harford, and 38 were lynched across Maryland.

The hearing will focus on the history of lynching in the two counties, including the killings of [Frederick Pearce in 1861](#), [John Jones in 1872](#), [Isaac Moore in 1868](#), [Jim Quinn in 1869](#), and [Lewis Harris in 1900](#). Descendants of the victims and aggressors, expert witnesses, community members, scholars, and archivists will have the opportunity to provide testimony and make recommendations for achieving racial healing.

Established in 2019 through [House Bill 307](#), the MLTRC is the first statewide commission of its kind in the nation. MLTRC defines lynching as the unlawful killing of an African American by white mob violence, often with the apparent complicity of state and local officials, intended to incite racial terror and subservience to white supremacy. The commission researches cases of lynching throughout the state and holds public hearings in communities where lynchings took place to shine a light on the dark legacy of lynching in Maryland and its enduring impacts on the ~~the Black~~ community, ~~particularly the Black community~~—and communities of color. At the heart of the MLTRC's mission is the pursuit of justice and healing for the victims of lynching and their descendants.

### HEARING DETAILS

When: Saturday, October 26, 2024

Time (in person and streaming): 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Where: Ames United Methodist Church, 112 Baltimore Pike, Bel Air, MD 21014

How to Attend:

- *In-person*: [Preregistration](#) is required to help manage attendance.
- *Livestream*: A link to stream the hearing will be posted on MLTRC's [website](#) one day before the hearing.

### SUBMIT TESTIMONY

Members of the public are encouraged to submit written testimony about how the lynching of the victim (or other unidentified victims in these counties) has impacted their lives and their communities or make recommendations to address the legacy of lynching in Maryland and promote racial healing. Written testimony can be submitted to [mltrc@maryland.gov](mailto:mltrc@maryland.gov) or collected at the public hearing.

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