

Chair

David O. Fakunle, Ph.D.

Vice Chair

Charles L. Chavis, Jr., Ph.D.

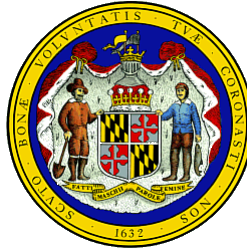
Staff

Sophie Asike, Esq.

Zenita Hurley, Esq.

Kristin McFarlane, Esq.

Maryland Lynching Truth and Reconciliation Commission

**Commissioners**

David Armenti

Lindsey Baker

Iris Leigh Barnes, Ph.D.

Simone Barrett-Williams, Ph.D.

Michelle Coles, Esq.

Nicholas Creary, Ph.D.

Maya Davis

Teisha Dupree-Wilson, Ph.D.

Holly Fisher-Hickman, Ph.D.

Christopher E. Haley

Elizabeth Hughes

Amy Millin

Robert Parker

Carl Snowden

Marshall Stevenson, Ph.D.

Stephanie Suerth, Ph.D.

Monthly Business Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, March 10th, 2025**Time:** 12:00pm-1:00pm Eastern Time**Location:** Virtual

Attendance

Commissioners	
David O. Fakunle	X
Charles L. Chavis	X
David Armenti	
Lindsey Baker	X
Iris Leigh Barnes	
Simone Barrett-Williams	
Michelle Coles	X
Nicholas Creary	X
Roger Davidson	
Maya Davis	
Teisha Dupree-Wilson	
Christopher E. Haley	X
Elizabeth Hughes	X
Amy Millin	X
Carl Snowden	
Marshall Stevenson	
Stephanie Suerth	
Robert Parker	X
Sophie Asike	X
Trish Boyle	X
Zenita Hurley	
Kristin McFarlane	X

For more information on the Maryland Lynching Truth and Reconciliation Commission, visit
<https://msa.maryland.gov/lynching-truth-reconciliation/>

Reconciliation Committee – Commissioner Coles’ Update

Call to Order

The meeting started at 12:00 pm; a quorum was reached.

1. Call to Order and Approval of Minutes

- The meeting was called to order at 12:00 PM EST.
- A quorum was confirmed.
- The minutes from the previous meeting were approved unanimously, with no abstentions or objections.

2. Chair’s Opening Remarks

- Commissioner Chavis reflected on the importance of continuing the Commission’s work amid current challenges in DEI spaces.
- Emphasized the Commission’s role in accountability and truth-telling for Maryland and the nation.
- Encouraged commissioners to continue creating spaces where truth is valued.

3. Commissioner Reflections

- Commissioners expressed feelings of renewed purpose and urgency.
- Commissioner Millin commended Trish and Sophie for representing the Commission at the House hearing on House Bill 1422.
- Commissioner Haley commented on the lasting impact of current boycotts and consumer power.
- Other commissioners emphasized the importance of truth, justice, and coalition building.

4. Committee Reports

- Final Public Hearing scheduled for **April 4–5 at the Reginald F. Lewis Museum, Baltimore.**
- Panels include:
 - **Criminal Justice Reform (State & Community)**
 - **News & Media**
 - **Social and Emotional Well-being**

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Logistics Committee – Commissioner Millin & Trish’s Update

- **Reparations Experts**
- **Legal Experts**
- **Community Perspectives**
- Key participants include Attorney General Anthony Brown, scholars, journalists, and community leaders.
- Commissioners are encouraged to volunteer as panel moderators or participants.
- Commissioners asked to confirm attendance and areas of expertise for panel alignment.
- Flyers and press releases are in development. All members asked to help promote the event.
- Next meeting scheduled for **March 17 at 3 PM**.
- On-site visit planned to finalize logistics (layout, security, accessibility, virtual streaming).
- Volunteer recruitment ongoing for check-in and usher roles.
- Commissioners asked to help recruit geographically diverse volunteers.
- Food truck vendors are being solicited but not yet confirmed.

5. Final Report Timeline

- Revised deadlines due to DOJ grant constraints:
 - **June** – Completion of case studies
 - **September** – Draft of reparations recommendations
 - **October** – Full draft of final report
 - **November** – Submission to Attorney General
 - **December 1** – Final submission to General Assembly
- Drafts will be made available via Google Docs for commissioner and coalition review.

6. Panel Composition & Speaker Discussion

- Concerns raised regarding the inclusion of Armstrong Williams on the News & Media panel.
- Suggestions for balancing the panel included inviting Kurt Schmoke, Nicole Hannah-Jones (declined), Denene Brown, Ava DuVernay, and others.
- Commissioners urged to provide concrete names and contact info for additional speakers.
- Final decisions on new invites are to be reviewed based on space and alignment with panel needs.

7. Outreach and Audience Engagement

- Commissioners encouraged to leverage their networks and institutions to promote public hearing.
- Audience includes the public, legislators (virtually), media, academics, and community coalitions.
- Emphasis on collecting public testimony and reflections during the event.

8. Announcements

- Commissioner Wilson: HBCU Radio Preservation Project is seeking graduate interns (paid).
- Women's Conference to be hosted at Coppin State University.
- Continued effort to compile and update media contact list for outreach.

9. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 1:16 PM EST.