

Chair

David O. Fakunle, Ph.D.

Vice Chair

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

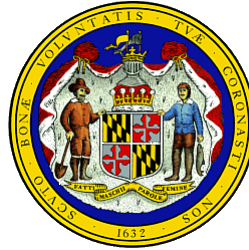
Staff

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, November 10th, 2025**Time:** 11:30am-1:30pm Eastern Time**Location:** Virtual

Attendance

Commissioners	
David O. Fakunle	X
Charles L. Chavis	X
David Armenti	X
Lindsey Baker	
Iris Leigh Barnes	X
Simone Barrett-Williams	
Michelle Coles	X
Nicholas Creary	X
Maya Davis	X
Teisha Dupree-Wilson	X
Holly Fisher-Hickman	
Christopher E. Haley	X
Elizabeth Hughes	X
Amy Millin	X
Robert Parker	X
Carl Snowden	
Marshall Stevenson	X
Stephanie Suerth	
Sophie Asike	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/>

Call to Order

The meeting started at 11:38 am; a quorum was reached.

1. Call to Order and Approval of Minutes

- The meeting was called to order at 11:38 AM EST.
- A quorum was confirmed.
- The approval of the October meeting minutes was tabled for the next meeting.

2. Chair's Comments & Soul Check

- Commissioner Fakunle opened the meeting, noting the historic nature of the commission's work and its nearing conclusion after six years.
- Shared preface of the final report, highlighting:
 - Dedication to victims and descendants.
 - Historical context of racial terror lynching in Maryland (1854–1933).
 - Importance of due process and systemic accountability.
 - Over 80 recommendations addressing criminal justice, education, health, land ownership, and economic equity.
 - Call for ongoing reconciliation beyond the commission's formal work.

3. Committee Reports

- Reconciliation Committee shared updates:
 - Major revisions of part two of the recommendations completed:
 - Legal history to be presented as a timeline.
 - Comparative reparations analysis added.
 - Recommendations streamlined from ~140 to 84.
 - New table includes success metrics, cost estimates (~\$670M, ~1% of Maryland's budget), and applicability categories.
 - Preface finalized; report expected to go to printer within a week.

4. New Business

- **Final Report Revisions:**
 - Commissioners praised the work on specific recommendations with metrics of success and cost estimates by Michelle Coles and the team.
 - Emphasis on clarity for multiple audiences and realistic implementation strategies.
- **Advocacy Strategy Updates:**
 - Meeting with Delegate Peña-Melnyk scheduled for next week to discuss legislative strategy.
 - Press conference proposed for early January (around Jan 9–10, tied to historical lynching anniversary).
 - Media outreach plan discussed:
 - Engage local and national outlets (AFRO, WAMU, NPR, Baltimore Sun, Baltimore Banner).
 - Coalition partners and Lynching Memorial Projects to amplify messaging.
 - Explore mobilization tools (e.g., Five Calls) for grassroots advocacy.
 - Legal guidance requested on lobbying limits for commissioners.
 - Focus will shift to advocacy and media rollout as the final report moves to publication.

5. Announcements

- Upcoming events:
 - Nov 18: Student research showcase on Baltimore Black Sox at Coppin State.
 - Nov 23: “Teach Truth and Purpose” online event honoring Emmett Till.
- MLMP conference recap: positive feedback and recorded presentation available on YouTube.

6. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:23 PM EST.