

**Chair**

David O. Fakunle, Ph.D.

**Vice Chair**

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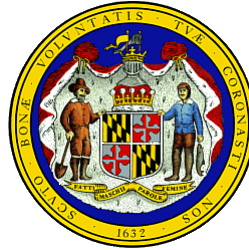
Sophie Asike, Esq.

Trish Floyd

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.

Roger Davidson, Ph.D.

Maya Davis

Teisha Dupree-Wilson, Ph.D.

Christopher E. Haley

Elizabeth Hughes

Amy Millin

Robert Parker

Carl Snowden

Marshall Stevenson, Ph.D.

Stephanie Suerth

## Monthly Business Meeting Minutes

**Date:** Monday, December 9th, 2024**Time:** 12:00am-1:30pm Eastern Time**Location:** Virtual

### Attendance

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

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 11:30; a quorum was reached.

## **Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner Fakunle thanks everyone for attending, and thanks those who contributed to a meaningful hearing on that previous Saturday. He confirms that the meeting was well attended by the public, however more Commissioners would have been appreciated.

Commissioner Creary updates that the reconciliation committee met on December 6<sup>th</sup>, and they discussed the final report writer, and the Attorney General's office staff are working to draw up a contract to get 3PV on board. He requests that the team get them up to speed so that they can start sorting through all the impressive data that the research committee and Heritage Associates have developed.

Regarding the institutional hearing, Commissioner Creary advises it was initially planned for February 8<sup>th</sup>; however, they will need more time to prepare. As of now, they have a tentative date of April 12<sup>th</sup>.

## **Research Committee Report**

Commissioner Armenti updates that the Research Committee met on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, where much of the conversation was around the upcoming hearing for December 7<sup>th</sup> and making sure that as much material as possible was prepared and shared, in relation to the individuals that were being remembered. They would like to make sure that the model of the research committee is to be responsive and prioritize research based on the hearings that are upcoming and preparing not just committee members. But the full commission with all the primary sources, as well as case study profiles that have been prepared by Heritage Associates.

The commission, as well as the liaison are working with coalitions, and a large amount of energy is being put toward genealogical profiles, as well as which requires a lot of collaboration with the research side, as well as with those potential family members.

Commissioner Armenti announced that he is stepping down as Research Committee chair and will continue to serve as a commissioner representing the former Maryland Historical Society, now Maryland Center for History and Culture.

## **Logistics Committee Report**

Commissioner Millin advises that the logistics team collected feedback from Commissioners within the committee. They also had debriefing meetings with local stakeholders for both the Harford and Cecil County hearing, as well as the Southern County hearing with St. Mary's, Calvert, and Charles Counties, so that the feedback continues to inform future hearings in positive and dynamic ways. The next meeting will be held on Monday December 16<sup>th</sup> at 3PM.

Commissioner Millin would like to express appreciation to Commissioner Baker for continuing to support marketing efforts by developing and creating flyers and posting on her professional LinkedIn page. She urges everyone to use her posts and share them on their own platforms. Appreciation was also extended to the counselors at Living and Growing. Their continued presence at the hearings has been impactful as they talk with people attending the hearings.

During the November 16<sup>th</sup> St. Mary's, Calvert and Charles County hearing, the lead Commissioner Liaison was Commissioner Coles. It was a strong hearing, and the public comment period was engaging, and many connections were made.

On December 7<sup>th</sup> in Chestertown, the Kent Caroline and Queen Anne County hearing was held. The lead commissioner liaison was Commissioner Hughes. This included five known lynchings, plus one additional victim. The comment section offered a variety of opinions and reflections.

January 11<sup>th</sup> – Howard County in Columbia Maryland, at the Harriet Tubman Cultural Center

January 25<sup>th</sup> – Prince Georges County at Bowie State University, in the Student Center

February 1<sup>st</sup> – Carol County, in Westminster (venue TBD)

## **New Business**

Commissioner Creary updates that the reconciliation committee met on December 6<sup>th</sup>, and they discussed the final report writer, and the Attorney General's office staff are working to draw up a contract to get 3PV on board. He requests that the team get them up to speed so that they can start sorting through all the impressive data that the research committee and Heritage Associates have developed.

Regarding the institutional hearing, Commissioner Creary advises it was initially planned for February 8<sup>th</sup>; however, they will need more time to prepare. As of now, they have a tentative date of April 12<sup>th</sup>.

Sophie updates that the contract has been executed with the report writer.