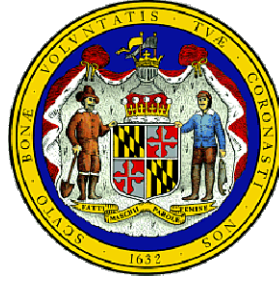


**Chair**  
David Fakunle, Ph.D.

**Vice Chair**  
Charles Chavis, Jr., Ph.D.

**Staff**  
Maya Davis  
Christopher Haley  
Zenita Hurley, Esq.  
Kristin McFarlane, Esq.  
Sonya Osei  
Will Schwarz

# Maryland Lynching Truth and Reconciliation Commission



**Commissioners:**  
David Armenti  
Damika Baker  
Timothy D. Baker  
Iris Leigh Barnes, Ph.D.  
Simone Barrett, Ph.D.  
DeNeen L. Brown  
Nicholas Creary, Ph.D.  
Roger Davidson, Ph.D.  
Omar Eaton-Martinez  
Kirkland Hall, Sr. Ph.D.  
Elizabeth Hughes  
Elgin Klugh, Ph.D.  
Gary Norman  
Carl Snowden  
Marshall Stevenson, Ph.D.  
Tamara Wilson, D.Min.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## **DR. DAVID FAKUNLE, DR. CHARLES CHAVIS, JR. ELECTED CHAIR & VICE CHAIR OF MARYLAND LYNCHING TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION**

*Governance Officially Led by Commission's Youngest Members*

**Annapolis, MD (May 26, 2020)** – Commissioners of the Maryland Lynching Truth and Reconciliation Commission have elected Dr. David Fakunle, Ph.D. as Chair, and Dr. Charles Chavis, Jr., Ph.D. as Vice Chair.

Dr. Fakunle represents The National Great Blacks In Wax Museum and currently serves as Associate in the Department of Mental Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore, Maryland. Dr. Chavis, one of four public Commissioners appointed by the Governor, serves as Director of the John Mitchell, Jr. Program for History, Justice and Race and Assistant Professor of Conflict Resolution and History at the Jimmy and Rosalyn Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution at George Mason University in Arlington, Virginia.

Dr. Fakunle, whose research focuses on manifestations of racism and the utilization of arts and culture in public health, previously served as Interim Chair since the Commission's inception. Dr. Chavis is a historian and museum educator whose work focuses on the history of racial violence and civil rights activism, and informing current and future approaches to peacebuilding and conflict resolution throughout the world. Dr. Fakunle and Dr. Chavis both serve on the Commission's Reconciliation & Justice subcommittee and have previously represented the Commission at events regarding racial terror lynchings, including a screening of the documentary *Always in Season* about the murder of 17-year-old Lennon Lacy in Bladenboro, North Carolina.

The Commission thanks Dr. Fakunle and Dr. Chavis for their public service and congratulates them on their recent appointments.

##

*The Maryland Lynching Truth and Reconciliation Commission was established by House Bill 307 in the 2019 session of the Maryland General Assembly.*

The Maryland Lynching Truth and Reconciliation Commission can be reached at <https://msa.maryland.gov/lynching-truth-reconciliation/> or via email at [mltrc@maryland.gov](mailto:mltrc@maryland.gov).