



MEDIA ADVISORY
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For Immediate Release
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Historic Black Church Organization and National Black Bankers to Gather for Press Conference Announcing Groundbreaking Agreement

AME Bishops, Black Banking Executives, African Ambassador to Make Historic Announcement and Sign Memorandum of Understanding During Council of Bishops and General Board Meeting in Atlanta
ATLANTA - Bishop Reginald Thomas Jackson, President of the Council of Bishops of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church and 20 Bishops of the 231 - year - old congregation will convene a press conference on June 26 to announce the launch of a coalition for the economic empowerment of Black banks and Black communities across America.

The press conference will be among the highlights during the 2018 Council of Bishops and General Board Meeting in Atlanta. Featured speakers at the announcement and signing will include Bishop Jackson, the Council of Bishops; Bishop Vashti McKenzie, general board chair; and Ron Busby, president/CEO, U.S. Black Chamber Inc.

In attendance at the Press Conference will be the Council of Bishops of the African Methodist Episcopal Church and the 19 presidents of Black banks in the United States, as well as Dr. Arikana Chihombori-Quao, ambassador for the Africa Union. Also, attending will be the president of the National Black Chamber of Commerce.

The goals of the partnership are in sync with the goals of Black Wealth 2020, a national movement to increase Black wealth:

1. To increase Black home ownership by 2,000,000 Blacks, to reach a 50 percent home ownership rate among Black Americans;
2. To increase the number and gross receipts of Black businesses from 2.6 million to 4.0 million and revenues from annual gross receipts of \$72, 500.00 to \$150,000.00; and
3. To increase deposits in and quality loans with Black banks.

The membership of the AME Church includes more than 6,000 churches in the U. S. and 10,000 worldwide. This represents approximately 3 million congregants.

WHAT: Announcement of new coalition and signing of Memorandum of Understanding for a Black Church-Black Bank coalition.

WHEN: Tuesday, June 26, 2018

TIME: 12 Noon

WHERE: Hilton Atlanta
Room 219

[255 Courtland Street NE](#)
[Atlanta, Ga. 30303](#)

WHO: Council President Bishop Reginald Thomas Jackson and fellow Bishops, General Board Chair Bishop Vashti Murphy Mckenzie, and U.S. Black Chamber President/CEO Ron Busby
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