

QUARTERLY REPORT
2nd Quarter
April 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023
WLIB-AM

2nd quarterly issues

April 22nd

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

Dr. Alvin Ponder-Vice President, NYC chapter, NAN

Katrina Jefferson-Special Liaison to the President, HOJ coordinator, NAN

Rev. Malcolm Byrd- Director of NY Operations, NAN

Minister Tyrone Richardson and the change ensemble

Guests

Rev Dorian Malloy, Pastor-Elect, Carolina Baptist Church, Bronx NY

Keynote: Rev. Al Sharpton

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

The following was included in the weekly message:

NAN Convention 2023

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National Action Network held a historic annual convention at the Sheraton, Times Square Hotel in New York City last week. It was the **largest turnout** in the 32 years of the civil rights organization, with thousands in attendance, and featured everyone from dignitaries, elected officials, celebrities, activists, clergy, members of the press and everything in between.

Vice President Kamala Harris delivered the keynote address to an energized audience that filled every corner of the main ballroom. She gave an impassioned speech where she touched on everything from voting rights and reproductive rights, to the Tennessee Three and efforts to silence our voices. She received a standing ovation and continuous applause from the packed crowd.

NAN Convention 2023 included plenary sessions and panels with **Earvin “Magic” Johnson, New York City Mayor Eric Adams, actress Kerry Washington, Secretary of the Department of Transportation Pete Buttigieg, Representative Al Green, Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona, Cabinet members, New York Governor Kathy Hochul, business titan**

Robert F. Smith, Domestic Policy Advisor Susan Rice and so many others. The annual **Keepers of the Dream** dinner honored **producer/director Tyler Perry, Co-Founder of Tribeca Enterprises Jane Rosenthal, former Ambassador Andrew Young, actor/author Hill Harper, NAN Board Vice-Chair Jennifer Jones-Austin** and **CEO of Medical Place Dr. Alfred Seawright**.

The theme of this year's convention was "**Dealing with the Dream Under Threat**" as so many of our gains are under renewed attack. After convening such an incomparable gathering over several days, NAN has committed to releasing objectives within the next two weeks around voter protections, criminal justice reform, education, health care and economic development/Black wealth. Stay tuned ...

1. **March on Washington**

On the heels of its annual convention, NAN kicks off its drive for the **August 26th March on Washington - The Continuation**. Rather than a commemoration, we will have a continuation of the fight for social justice, economic justice, civil rights and equality. As books are being banned, laws enacted to disenfranchise our vote, police brutality that continues, a lack of affordable housing, unequal schools, health care disparities and so much more, we will gather in Washington, D.C once again. Dr. King's vision has yet to be achieved, and we must continue his fight. **The Drum Major Institute** and **NAN** will sponsor the **March on Washington** in August as people from around the country gather in the nation's capital to collectively raise our voices and march in unison, step-by-step for equality.

1. **Justice for Ralph Yarl**

Rev. Al Sharpton, Founder & President of NAN, welcomes the mother of shooting victim **Ralph Yarl** and civil rights attorney **Lee Merritt** on his MSNBC show, **Politics Nation**, this weekend. 16-year-old **Ralph Yarl** is thankfully recovering at home from gunshot wounds after he was shot twice by an 84-year-old white man. Yarl mistakenly went to the wrong house to pick up his younger siblings and nearly lost his life.

Cleo Nagbe, Ralph's mother, and **attorney Merritt** will join **Rev. Sharpton** as they continue to call for justice in this horrific shooting. The teen was shot in the head, and then as he was still on the ground, he was shot in the upper right arm. Young Ralph went to three houses until someone finally helped him, according to the family. The shooter, Andrew Lester, was released hours after the shooting and was

later charged with two felonies. **Cleo Nagbe** and **attorney Merritt** will provide an update on Ralph's condition and the status of the family's call for accountability.

April 29th

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

Dr. Alvin Ponder-Vice President, NYC chapter, NAN

Tisha Hunter, soloist, NAN change choir

Rev. Dr. Malcolm Byrd- Director of Ny Operations, NAN

Victor Pate- Chairperson, The Second chance committee, NYC chapter, NAN

Minister Tyrone Richardson and the change ensemble

Guests

Pastor Warren Brice Hicks, Christ is Center Church, Bronx, NY

Governor David Paterson

Spike Lee

Keynote: Rev. Al Sharpton

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

The following was included in the weekly message:

Harry Belafonte's Impeccable Legacy

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National Action Network joins the global community in mourning the loss of actor, activist, singer and icon, **Harry Belafonte**. We recognize his decades of work breaking barriers and fighting for civil rights, at the risk of losing everything. Today, **Rev. Sharpton and NAN** will hold a memorial segment as part of the weekly rally. Acclaimed filmmaker **Spike Lee** and former **Governor David Paterson** will join us for the special memorial tribute segment later in the broadcast.

Belafonte marched, spoke out, contributed financially and used his platform to fight for racial equality and justice. He was an ardent supporter of the **Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.**, contributed a significant portion of money to help start the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, bailed activists out of jail and so much more.

He continually fought for justice even in the decades following Dr. King's assassination. Belafonte marched with NAN, was an advisor to **Rev. Sharpton** for years, mentored youth and was an active member of the civil rights community even at this later stage of his life. He changed both culture and politics for the better. NAN welcomes Spike Lee and former Gov. Paterson as we pay homage Saturday during a segment of our weekly rally to the fierce, incomparable and tireless advocate **Harry Belafonte**.

2) Kim Potter's Release

- **Kim Potter**, the former Minnesota police officer who shot and killed 20-year-old **Duante Wright**, was released from prison this week after serving only 16 months behind bars. Rev. Sharpton and NAN are appalled at this miscarriage of justice, and once again stand with **Duante Wright's** family and loved ones.

Potter's sentence was well below Minnesota's own minimum of six years and significantly less than the eight year maximum that the Wright family, attorney Crump and Rev. Sharpton pushed for. Potter should not be given special treatment, and should instead face the full extent of the law. This is what **Rev. Sharpton** called for in 2021 when he delivered the eulogy for young Duante Wright, and it is what he once again demands today.

There cannot be a different set of rules for police officers, and we cannot eliminate the bad apples if they are given a slap on the wrist when they commit such egregious actions. Just as Rev. Sharpton and NAN demanded accountability in the trial of former police officer **Derek Chauvin**, they call for justice in this horrific case. Kim Potter swore an oath to protect and serve, which she clearly failed to do.

3) CNN Owes An Explanation

- NAN publicly calls on **CNN** to provide a valid explanation as to why they terminated **Don Lemon** from the network after 17 years. He was one of the few Black primetime hosts that we had, even in 2023. His voice should not be silenced, and viewers deserve a right to know why he was let go.

In a statement on Twitter, Lemon said in part: "It is clear that there are some larger issues at play." **NAN and Rev. Sharpton** demand that CNN address what these larger issues may be and provide a thorough explanation for their decision to part ways with the longtime anchor. Unless there is a justifiable reason for their actions, it will be taken as nothing more than a way to eliminate a strong Black voice from media and the public discourse.

4) McDonald's Is On Notice

- Rev. Sharpton and NAN put **McDonald's Corporation** on notice this week for failing to advertise in Black-owned media, and for failure to address multiple accusations of racial discrimination against the company. To add insult to injury, McDonalds removed **John Rogers**, a well-respected business leader for the Black community, from their Board of Directors.

NAN has submitted a letter to McDonald's CEO Chris Kempczinski, and will mobilize a boycott against the fast food giant if it fails to address these very grave concerns. There are allegations of **Black executives** experiencing incidents of racist and hostile treatment, and several **Black owners** of McDonald's franchises who claim executives purposefully placed them in high-crime neighborhoods.

If these issues are not addressed expeditiously, NAN will push for a boycott. As **Rev. Sharpton** stated: you cannot sell Black folks Big Macs and give us little justice.

May 06th

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

Dr. Alvin Ponder-Vice President, NYC chapter, NAN

Tisha Hunter, soloist, NAN change choir

Rev. Dr. Malcolm Byrd- Director of Ny Operations, NAN

Myles Hollingsworth from the NYS NAACP to talk about his experience at the freedom to learn rally

Rev. Keith Gadson and Nolan Farrell to join him on stage to talk about the series of rallies NAN will be doing in queens for them.

Minister Tyrone Richardson and the change ensemble

Guests

Rev. Dr. A. Alfred Carson, Presiding Elder, NYC District, AME Zion Church

Keynote: Rev. Al Sharpton

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

The following was included in the weekly message:

1) All Roads Lead To Washington, D.C.

On the 60th anniversary of the historic **March on Washington, National Action Network** and the **Drum Major Institute** will sponsor the continuation March on Washington on August 26, 2023. Civil rights leaders, elected officials, clergy and members of the public will gather at 11 am in front of the Lincoln Memorial as we not only commemorate the **Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.** and his historic dream, but vow to continue the fight for equality and justice.

The **March on Washington** will focus on protecting and preserving voting rights which are under threat across the nation, criminal justice reform (including police reform/mass incarceration), and calling for federal hate crime legislation to protect communities amid a rise in domestic terrorism and hate crimes. **NAN** is providing free buses to Washington, D.C. from various locations. For more information and to sign up for a bus, please visit nationalactionnetwork.net.

1. Tyre Nichols' Tragic Autopsy

Tyre Nichols, the 29-year-old who was viciously beaten by Memphis police officers in January, died from blunt force trauma to the head according to an official autopsy report released this week. The West Tennessee Regional Forensic Center released the report which also ruled Tyre's death a homicide.

Rev. Sharpton delivered a moving eulogy at Tyre's funeral where he called for justice, police reform and accountability. He poignantly asked: "In a city where they slayed the Dreamer, what has happened to the dream?" **Vice President Kamala Harris** also attended the funeral and said that the entire nation mourns with the family.

In April, Tyre's parents were at **National Action Network's annual convention** in New York City to share their fight for justice for their son, and the larger push for change. This latest autopsy further confirms what the family and NAN have been saying from the beginning, and why they pushed so adamantly for **accountability for Tyre's horrific death**. NAN vows to continue to stand with the family till the end.

1. Justice for Jordan Neely

Rev. Sharpton and NAN have spoken out publicly on several occasions demanding answers in the chokehold death of **Jordan Neely**. He was only 30-years-old and experiencing homelessness when a former marine placed him in a chokehold, killing the young Black man. He was known to many as an avid Michael Jackson impersonator and a frequent entertainer on New York City subways. His life was viciously cut short this week on one of those subways.

Disturbing video footage captured another train passenger **placing Neely in a chokehold** for an extended period of time. This individual was merely interviewed by police and then released, meanwhile Neely is dead. This is vigilantism at its worst and cannot be tolerated in New York City or elsewhere.

The horrendous incident harkens back to the 1984 **Bernhard Goetz** case where a white gunman shot four Black men on the subway, as well as the 2014 police killing of **Eric Garner**, who was also placed in a chokehold as he gasped "I can't breathe". **Rev. Sharpton** was closely involved in both incidents, demanding justice and accountability. He is once again calling for the same in the chokehold death of **Jordan Neely**. As he stated earlier this week: "We cannot go back to a place where

vigilantism is tolerable. It wasn't acceptable then, and it can't be acceptable now. We cannot sanction vigilantism in the City or anywhere else."

May 13th

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

Dr. Alvin Ponder-Vice President, NYC chapter, NAN

Tisha Hunter, soloist, NAN change choir

Rev. Dr. Malcolm Byrd- Director of Ny Operations, NAN

Thomas Carswell from the Men's Auxiliary, NYC chapter

Minister Tyrone Richardson and the change ensemble

Guests

David Banks- NYC CHANCELLOR, NYC public schools

Rev. Dr. A. Alfred Carson, Presiding Elder, NYC District, AME Zion Church

Keynote: Rev. Al Sharpton

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

The following was included in the weekly message:

One Year Since the Buffalo Hate Attack

May 14th marks the anniversary of the horrific racial attack at a Tops grocery store in Buffalo, NY which resulted in the **deaths of 10 innocent Black people**. **Rev. Sharpton** traveled to Buffalo to eulogize several of the victims and **National Action Network** paid for their funerals. **NAN** also partnered with World Central Kitchen and other community organizations to establish a food bank to assist those in need in the aftermath of the devastating shooting.

This Sunday, **Rev. Sharpton** will preach at two memorial services in Buffalo honoring the victims on the one-year anniversary of that tragic day. The first service will take place at 10 am at True Bethel Baptist Church, followed by a second one at 11:30 am at St. John Baptist Church. In the evening, **Rev. Sharpton** will broadcast his MSNBC show, **Politics Nation**, live from Buffalo as well. As hate crimes continue to rise, **NAN** stands in solidarity with victims of racial violence and reminds the nation of the dangers of racist rhetoric and actions.

2) Justice for Jordan Neely

- **Rev. Sharpton** and **National Action Network** continue to call for justice for **Jordan Neely**, the 30-year-old who was killed on a NYC subway when another passenger placed him in a chokehold for about 15 minutes. A funeral for Neely will be held next Friday, May 19th at Mount Neboh Baptist Church

in Harlem, where **Rev. Sharpton** will deliver the eulogy and **NAN national board member** and Senior Pastor of the church, Rev. Johnnie Melvin Greene will host the funeral.

NAN is glad to see the alleged killer, Daniel Penny, finally surrender to authorities to face manslaughter charges, but he should have never been released the day of this outrageous incident. Charging him is just the beginning of this process and **NAN** vows to stand with Neely's loved ones through the trial and until the family receives justice. **Jordan Neely's life mattered**, and vigilantism cannot be tolerated anywhere.

3) **March On Washington**

On August 26th, **National Action Network** and the **Drum Major Institute** will sponsor the **Continuation March** in Washington, D.C. Sixty years since **Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.**'s historic March on Washington, **NAN**, **MLK III**, clergy, other civil rights leaders, activists, elected officials and thousands of others will march once more for equality, social justice, democracy, voting rights and so much more.

The **March on Washington** will focus on protecting and preserving voting rights which are under threat across the nation, criminal justice reform (including police reform/mass incarceration) and calling for federal hate crime legislation amid a rise in such crimes and domestic terrorism. **NAN** has met with members of the Latino, Asian, Jewish, LGBTQ and other communities as we collectively denounce hate fueled violence and attacks on democracy, and call for greater protections for us all.

We will convene at 11 am in front of the Lincoln Memorial in the nation's capital on August 26th. For more information and to sign up for a free bus, please visit www.nationalactionnetwork.net. It's not a commemoration, it's a continuation!

May 20th

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, **NAN**.

Dr. Alvin Ponder-Vice President, NYC chapter, **NAN**

Tisha Hunter, soloist, **NAN** change choir

Rev. Dr. Malcolm Byrd- Director of Ny Operations, **NAN**

Inola Tucker from the Welcome Auxiliary, NYC chapter

Brvon Neal, Guest Musical Director, **NAN** Change choir

Guests

Reverend Delvin Moody, The House of God Church, Freeport NY

Keynote: Rev. Al Sharpton

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

The following was included in the weekly message:

1. Jordan Neely Laid To Rest

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On Friday, May 19th, **Rev. Sharpton** delivered a powerful eulogy for **Jordan Neely**, the young Black man who was killed after a passenger on a NYC subway placed him in a chokehold for nearly 15 minutes.

“**Jordan** was not annoying someone on the train, **Jordan** was screaming for help,” said **Rev. Sharpton**. “A Good Samaritan helps those in trouble, they don’t choke ‘em out. How does somebody come from behind and claim self-defense?”

Rev. Sharpton questioned why police initially released Daniel Penny, the alleged killer. He urged everyone to stand with Neely’s family and loved ones to ensure that they receive justice. **National Action Network** paid for the funeral services for **Jordan Neely**, and vowed to push the City to better serve those experiencing homelessness or mental illness.

Representative **Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez**, NY Lieutenant Governor **Antonio Delgado** and Exonerated Five member **Yusef Salaam** were among the attendees at the service which took place at Mount Neboh Baptist Church in Harlem. It was the same church where a funeral for Neely’s mother was held years earlier when Jordan was just 14 years old.

2. Unity For The March On Washington

National Action Network has been diligently engaged in outreach efforts to various groups in preparation for the Continuation **March on Washington** taking place August 26th. The Anti-Defamation League, UnidosUS and others are all on board to support and march with **NAN** and the **Drum Major Institute** in the nation’s capital this August.

On the 60th anniversary of Dr. King’s **March on Washington**, **NAN** is proud to continue the fight for voting rights, criminal justice reform, police reform and push for federal hate crime legislation. At a time when domestic terrorism and hate crimes are targeting many minority communities, **NAN** has made it a point to include a diverse array of civil rights organizations and people from all backgrounds at the Continuation **March on Washington**, and is pleased to receive their support. True justice and equality can only be achieved when we include all and march in unison.

For more information and to sign up for a free bus, please visit nationalactionnetwork.net. It's not a commemoration, it's a continuation!

3. **RIP Jim Brown**

-
World renowned football player, civil rights activist and actor **Jim Brown** has passed away at the age of 87. **Rev. Sharpton** released the following statement following his death:

“**Jim Brown** was the epitome of athlete/activist extraordinaire. From when I was a young boy watching him stand with Muhammad Ali (when it wasn't popular till the last 40 years), I got to know him and work with him on economic empowerment and recidivism programs. He was a passionate activist and the greatest football player to go on the field.”

Jim Brown was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1971, the Lacrosse Hall of Fame in 1984 and the College Football Hall of Fame in 1995. He was a vocal advocate for civil rights and economic empowerment at a time when other athletes/celebrities chose to remain silent. **NAN** honored **Jim Brown** a few years ago at its annual convention. We mourn his passing and acknowledge his immense contributions to society.

May 27th

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

Dr. Alvin Ponder-Vice President, NYC chapter, NAN

Tisha Hunter, soloist, NAN change choir

Rev. Dr. Malcolm Byrd- Director of Ny Operations, NAN

Chaplain Sandra Mitchell- the Housing committee, NYC chapter

Minister Tyrone Richardson-Musical Director, NAN Change choir

Guests

Rev. Brandon Cobb-Executive Pastor, Renaissance Church, Harlem, NY

Keynote: Rev. Al Sharpton

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

The following was included in the weekly message:

1. Three Years Since George Floyd's Death

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On the third anniversary of the police killing of **George Floyd**, **Rev. Sharpton** and **National Action Network** ask: has corporate America lived up to its promise?

NAN, the **National Urban League**, the **National Association of Investment Companies** and the **National Association of Securities Professionals** announce a new initiative on the state of investments in diversity, equity and inclusion. They will produce a report to track which corporations have followed through on their pledges and what specific actions they have taken.

Rev. Sharpton also met with Chris Kempczinski, the CEO of **McDonalds** to raise our public concerns over Black franchisees, Blacks on their board, the recent removal of John Rogers and advertising with Black-owned media. It is not enough for corporations to declare their support for the Black community; they must match their words with concrete action.

Three years ago, the world watched a man lose his life on video as an officer placed his knee on his neck. Institutional and structural racism has had its knee on our necks for far too long and those who stated their support for us must live up to their words.

2. The Debt Ceiling Cannot Collapse on the Already Marginalized

Rev. Sharpton participated in a zoom meeting this week with the **White House** and other civil rights leaders as they discussed the current state of debt ceiling talks and the impact on our communities. Black and impoverished areas cannot be compromised by negotiations with Speaker McCarthy.

National Action Network firmly believes that assistance for low-income Americans and minority communities cannot be slashed while protecting tax cuts for the wealthy. As McCarthy holds the economy hostage, it is important that we protect the already vulnerable among us, and do not place the burden on them as a deal is negotiated. These points were reiterated on the zoom call with the **White House**.

An actual breach of the debt ceiling would cause catastrophic harm to the nation, hurting the already marginalized the most. But so too would any deal which places the burden on those least able to carry it.

3. Mourning the Loss of Tina Turner and Bill Lee

- **National Action Network** mourns the loss this week of legendary artist/icon **Tina Turner** and jazz bassist **Bill Lee**, father of filmmaker Spike Lee.

The **Queen of Rock & Roll** was more than an international superstar - she was also a survivor and impeccable role model for women everywhere. **Tina Turner** was a trailblazer in every sense of that word; inspiring others to believe in themselves, and proving that one can overcome a horrific situation and turn their scars into stars.

Bill Lee was an incredibly talented bassist whose work could be heard on recordings by artists like **Bob Dylan, Harry Belafonte, Aretha Franklin, Duke Ellington** and so many more. He later worked as a composer, creating the scores for several films by his son, Spike Lee.

National Action Network honors **Tina Turner** and **Bill Lee's** incomparable legacies, their artistry and their lasting imprint on the world.

June 3rd

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

Sister Jae Hilliard Spencer- Member, NYC chapter, NAN

Tisha Hunter, soloist, NAN change choir

Rev. Dr. Malcolm Byrd- Director of Ny Operations, NAN

Dawn Jones- the Political Action committee, NYC chapter

Minister Tyrone Richardson-Musical Director, NAN Change choir

Guests

Shawanna Vaughn- Founder of Silent cry and Founder of the Shawanna Vaughn Bill

Senator Jabari Brisport

Rev. Shawn Mason II-Senior Pastor, The Freedom Church, Brooklyn, NY

Keynote: Rev. Al Sharpton

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

The following was included in the weekly message:

Debt Crisis Averted

As the threat of default loomed over everything, **Rev. Sharpton** and **National Action Network** spent a significant amount of time advocating for vulnerable communities and for the debt ceiling to be raised. Through conference calls and zoom calls – including one with **President Biden** and other civil rights leaders

– **Rev. Sharpton** pushed for protections to the social safety net, and for the continuation of funding for programs to assist low-income Americans.

NAN did not want to see Medicaid or Social Security chipped away, nor see additional stipulations for assistance. While the deal reached isn't perfect, **NAN** is pleased that veterans and homeless adults will be shielded from work requirements, that the safety net is still intact and that the bill itself doesn't decrease spending.

The agreement suspends the debt limit until January 2025, averts default and will stabilize global markets. **NAN** is glad to see that a deal was reached, and that vital programs like Medicaid, SNAP and Social Security benefits are still protected.

1. **The Continuation March**

In preparation for its critical **March on Washington** in August, **National Action Network** has been diligently organizing and meeting with various groups to ensure that the march is inclusive of all voices. This week, **NAN** dealt with representatives from women's rights organizations, as well as student leaders.

Sixty years since the **Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s** historic **March on Washington**, **NAN** and the **Drum Major Institute** will continue his calls for equality and justice. **NAN** has already met with members of the Latino, Asian, Jewish, LGBTQ and other communities as we strategize for the march. When reproductive rights are under attack across the country and young people face a slew of challenges, meeting with various organizations representing women's rights and student groups was vital.

The Continuation March on Washington will take place on August 26th in the nation's capital. We will convene at 11 am in front of the Lincoln Memorial. For more information and to sign up for a free bus, please visit nationalactionnetwork.net.

It's not a commemoration, it's a continuation!

1. **Honoring Medgar Evers**

Next Friday, June 9th, **Rev. Sharpton** will keynote an event in Jackson, Mississippi honoring the life, legacy and activism of civil rights leader **Medgar Evers**. The family asked **Rev. Sharpton** to address the ceremony which coincides with the 60th anniversary of his brutal assassination so that the nation never forgets his work and sacrifice.

Medgar Evers was the NAACP's first field secretary in Mississippi and was extremely active in the civil rights movement. He was a pivotal voice in the fight to end segregation in educational facilities and other spaces, and he fought against draconian Jim Crow laws. He launched an investigation into the murder of Emmett Till, and he organized protests and voter registration drives. **Medgar Evers** was assassinated on June 12, 1963 by a known white supremacist and segregationist.

Rev. Sharpton will keynote next Friday's tribute event, paying homage to **Medgar Evers'** impact and reminding the country that the fight for civil rights and equality is far from over. He will then return to New York City for **National Action Network's** weekly Saturday rally at the **House of Justice** in Harlem.

June 10th

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

Dr. Alvin Ponder- Vice President, NYC chapter, NAN

Tisha Hunter, soloist, NAN change choir

Rev. Dr. Malcolm Byrd- Director of Ny Operations, NAN

Arnold Pinnix- Arts & Culture committee, NYC chapter

Minister Tyrone Richardson-Musical Director, NAN Change choir

Guests

Attorney Eric Kleiner and the family of Bernard Placide

Pastor TJ Modock, Revival Culture Church

Ann Arbor, Michigan

Keynote: Rev. Al Sharpton

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

The following was included in the weekly message:

Medgar Evers' Legacy

Rev. Sharpton was in Jackson, Mississippi this past Friday keynoting the Voices of Courage and Justice Gala and Awards, in memory of civil rights icon **Medgar Evers**. It was the kickoff event for a week marking the 60th anniversary of his horrific assassination, while honoring his life and legacy in the fight for justice and equality.

Medgar Evers' wife, **Myrlie Evers-Williams**, and their children asked **Rev. Sharpton** to speak at the gala which recognized Evers' immense contributions advancing civil rights, as well as the lifetime work of his widow. **Medgar Evers** was a pivotal voice in the fight to end segregation in educational facilities and other spaces, and he fought against draconian Jim Crow laws. He launched an investigation into the murder of Emmett Till, and was the NAACP's first field

secretary in Mississippi. **Myrlie Evers-Williams** continued his work, and also served as the former NAACP chair.

“The same issues he gave his life for, from voting rights and school integration to hate crimes and scare tactics, are once again commonplace in this nation,” said **Rev. Sharpton** in a statement earlier this week. “This event will pass the torch from Medgar and Myrlie’s generation to today’s youth, who will be at the vanguard of this fight to advance the issues they fought for.”

NAN remains committed to pushing for civil rights, voting rights, criminal justice reform, social justice and so much more. It is why it was important for **Rev. Sharpton** to participate in the remembrance of **Medgar Evers** at the request of the family so that we never forget the sacrifices of the past as we continue the good fight.

Justice for Ajike Owens

National Action Network calls for justice for **Ajike Owens**, a 35-year-old mother of four, who was shot and killed by a white neighbor. on June 2nd. **Rev. Sharpton** will travel to Florida on Monday to speak at the eulogy for **Ajike Owens**, at the request of her mother.

Lorincz was arrested and finally taken into custody on Tuesday and charged with manslaughter with a firearm. Both **Rev. Sharpton** and attorney **Benjamin Crump**, who is representing Owens’ family, have issued a national call for justice as they demand immediate reforms.

Supreme Court’s Surprise Decision

Rev. Sharpton and **National Action Network** praised the Supreme Court’s ruling this week which struck down Republican-drawn congressional districts in Alabama that disenfranchised Black voters. It was a surprise decision that dismissed the state’s efforts to dilute the Black vote, and hopefully it signals to other states that they should not attempt similar schemes.

“Alabama’s gerrymandering policies were quintessential, modern-day Jim Crow tactics to suppress Black voters in the state,” said **Rev. Sharpton**. “This is a major step forward in the fight to protect voting rights.”

NAN has been at the forefront in the fight for voting rights and voter protections, and it will be a major theme of this year’s **March on Washington on August**

26th. The Supreme Court ruling underscores why Congress has a moral imperative to pass the **John Lewis Voting Rights Act** without delay.

1. **The Continuation March**

In preparation for its critical **March on Washington on August 26, National Action Network** has been diligently organizing and meeting with various groups to ensure that the march is inclusive of all voices. This week, **NAN** dealt with representatives from women's rights organizations, as well as student leaders.

Sixty years since the **Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s** historic **March on Washington**, **NAN** and the **Drum Major Institute** will continue his calls for equality and justice. **NAN** has already met with members of the Latino, Asian, Jewish, LGBTQ and other communities as we strategize for the march. When reproductive rights are under attack across the country and young people face a slew of challenges, meeting with various organizations representing women's rights and student groups was vital.

For more information and to sign up for a bus, please visit nationalactionnetwork.net.

It's not a commemoration, it's a continuation!

June 17th

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, **NAN**.

Dr. Alvin Ponder- Vice President, NYC chapter, **NAN**

Tisha Hunter, soloist, **NAN** change choir

Rev. Dr. Malcolm Byrd- Director of Ny Operations, **NAN**

Victor Pate- Chairperson of the Second chance committee, NYC chapter

Minister Tyrone Richardson-Musical Director, **NAN** Change choir

Guests

The cast of Selma the Musical!

Attorney Eric Kleiner and the family of Bernard Placide

Rev. Lawrence Aker, Senior Pastor, The Historic cornerstone Baptist Church, Brooklyn NY

Mocha Ochoa, CEO of Mocha Media

Viola Ford Fletcher- **109 yr old** survivor of Tulsa Massacre and her brother **Hughes Van Ellis**- **102 year old**

Keynote: Rev. Al Sharpton

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, **NAN**.

The following was included in the weekly message:

Funeral for AJ Owens

On Monday, **Rev. Sharpton** was in Ocala, Florida delivering the eulogy for **Ajike “AJ” Owens**, the 35-year-old mother of four who was shot to death by a white neighbor in front of two of her children. The alleged killer has a long history of yelling at the children, using racial slurs and on the day of the shooting she reportedly threw a roller skate at one of the kids and swung an umbrella at them. Owens knocked on this neighbor’s door, and was shot through the closed door and killed.

Rev. Sharpton reminded everyone that if the situation had been reversed, she would have been arrested that night, not days later as the white shooter was. He called out the systemic flaws of our judicial system and consoled Owens’ loved ones. **National Action Network** covered the funeral expenses for the family during this very difficult moment.

At the funeral, **Rev. Sharpton** also emphatically called out the silence and hypocrisy of Gov. Ron DeSantis in the wake of this tragic and horrific incident.

NAN will continue to stand with the family to ensure that they receive justice.

Expanding the Supreme Court

Rev. Sharpton traveled to Chapel Hill, NC this week to join **MLK III** and his wife, **Arndrea Waters King**, as they collectively called for an expansion of the Supreme Court. As the nation’s highest court has already rolled back abortion rights and is set to rule on an affirmative action case that will likely end the use of race as a factor in college admissions, expanding the court is a high priority for protecting our civil rights.

Rev. Sharpton and **MLK III** spoke in front of the **Chapel Hill Nine** marker which honors the nine high school students who held a sit-in at the “whites only” Colonial Drug Store in 1960. Just as their actions sparked civil rights activism then, we must take action now to prevent a court (that does not represent the will of the majority) from stripping away those very rights. Their press conference was part of the Just Majority campaign which pushes for a fair, ethical court achieved by adding Justices.

during today’s action rally we will welcome elected officials and advocates including **Rep. Adriano Espaillat** and New York City Public Advocate **Jumaane Williams** for a press conference calling for reforms to the Supreme Court. They will be joined by former Planned Parenthood President **Cecile Richards**, New York State

Senate Judiciary Committee Chair **Brad Hoylman-Segal**, **Sen. Jessica Ramos** and **Rep. Latrice Walker**.

The Continuation March

As August fast approaches, **National Action Network** has been busy strategizing and preparing for the 60th anniversary of **Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s historic March on Washington**. This year's momentous march won't be a commemoration, but rather a continuation of his fight for voting rights, equality, social justice and so much more.

National Action Network and the **Drum Major Institute** will sponsor the continuation March on Washington in the nation's capital **on August 26, 2023**.

The **March on Washington** will focus on protecting and preserving voting rights which are under threat across the nation, criminal justice reform (including police reform/mass incarceration) and calling for federal hate crime legislation to protect communities amid a rise in domestic terrorism and hate crimes.

We will convene **at 11 am on August 26th** in front of the Lincoln Memorial. For more information and to sign up for a free bus, please visit **nationalactionnetwork.net**.

June 24th

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

Dr. Alvin Ponder- Vice President, NYC chapter, NAN

Tisha Hunter, soloist, NAN change choir

Rev. Dr. Malcolm Byrd- Director of Ny Operations, NAN

Roe v. Wade anniversary-**Nancy Darlene Crawford**- Secretary, the Women's Auxiliary- NYC chapter, NAN

Thomas Carswell-, The Men's Aux., NYC Chapter

Minister Tyrone Richardson-Musical Director, NAN Change choir

Guests

Rev. Jeffery Crenshaw, Associate Pastor New Mount Zion Baptist Church, Harlem NY

Keynote: Rev. Al Sharpton

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

The following was included in the weekly message:

Tulsa Race Massacre Survivor & Juneteenth Weekend

Last week At the weekly Saturday rally, **National Action Network** welcomed Viola Ford Fletcher – aka **Mother Fletcher** – to the **House of Justice** here in Harlem. At 109-years-old, she is the oldest Tulsa race massacre survivor. Her younger brother, Hughes Van Ellis, joined **NAN** as well, along with her grandson. Together we marked the beginning of **Juneteenth** weekend.

Rev. Sharpton led the rally in solemn commemoration of the **1921 Tulsa race massacre** where white mobs killed hundreds of Black residents, injured countless others, eviscerated homes and businesses, and virtually destroyed the flourishing area known as **Black Wall Street**. In the same spirit as **Mother Fletcher's** will to survive and thrive, **NAN** and the attendees on Saturday paid homage to the sacrifices of the past, while celebrating **Juneteenth** weekend and the progress that we have achieved.

Father's Day Call to Action

- On Father's Day, **Rev. Sharpton** delivered a powerful sermon at the Metropolitan Baptist Church in Newark, NJ. where he issued a call to action for Black fathers to combat rising gun violence. The Pastor of the church, Rev. David Jefferson, is a **National Action Network** board member, and joined **Rev. Sharpton** in this urgent message for action.

Rev. Sharpton and Rev. David Jefferson issued the call to action under the umbrella of **NAN**, which has long called out violence across the country. Black Americans are disproportionately impacted by gun violence.

Rev. Sharpton reminded attendees of the vital role fathers can play in protecting our communities and our youth. Sunday's sermon was especially poignant as it fell on both Father's Day and **Juneteenth** weekend.

Holding Daniel Penny Accountable

National Action Network is closely monitoring the case against Daniel Penny, who has been indicted in the chokehold death of **Jordan Neely**. His arraignment for manslaughter charges is scheduled for Wednesday, June 28th. **NAN** will continue to push for justice for **Neely** and his loved ones.

Rev. Sharpton delivered a moving eulogy for Neely last month, where he reminded everyone that vigilantism cannot be tolerated.

March On Washington

August is right around the corner, and **National Action Network** and the **Drum Major Institute** are busy organizing for the 60th anniversary of **Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s** historic **March on Washington**. **Rev. Sharpton, Martin Luther King III** and **Arndrea Waters King** will lead the continuation march as we evaluate progress achieved and highlight the work that remains.

This year's **March on Washington** will focus on protecting and preserving voting rights which are under threat across the nation, criminal justice reform (including police reform/mass incarceration) and calling for federal hate crime legislation amid a rise in such crimes and domestic terrorism. **NAN** has already met with members of the Latino, Asian, Jewish, LGBTQ+ and other communities as we collectively denounce hate fueled violence and attacks on democracy, and call for greater protections for us all.

We will convene at 11 am in front of the Lincoln Memorial in the nation's capital on August 26th. The **March on Washington** will be a cross-cultural and intergenerational demonstration to show that an attack on one is an attack on all of us. For more information on the march and to sign up for a free bus, please visit nationalactionnetwork.net.

It's not a commemoration, it's a continuation!

July 1st

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

Jaе Hilliard Spencer- Member, NYC chapter, NAN

Tisha Hunter, soloist, NAN change choir

Rev. Dr. Malcolm Byrd- Director of Ny Operations, NAN

Nadirah el Amin-Member, The Membership committee, NYC chapter

Minister Tyrone Richardson-Musical Director, NAN Change choir

Guests

Pastor Anthony K Hawthorne, Senior Pastor, NO STONE LEFT UNTURNED RECOVERY CHURCH- Newark, NJ

Keynote: Rev. Dr. Malcolm Byrd- Director of Ny Operations, NAN

Rev. Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson- Chairman of the Board, NAN

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

The following was included in the weekly message:

Holding Daniel Penny Accountable

National Action Network is closely monitoring the case against Daniel Penny, who has been indicted in the chokehold death of **Jordan Neely**. His arraignment for manslaughter charges were held this past week in which he plead not guilty. National Action Network, Dominique and Ashley Sharpton, Derek Perkinson, and many others packed the courtroom to stand with Jordan Neely's father and attorneys at the hearing. **NAN** will continue to push for justice for **Neely** and his loved ones.

Rev. Sharpton delivered a moving eulogy for Neely last month, where he reminded everyone that vigilantism cannot be tolerated.

March On Washington

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We will convene at 11 am in front of the Lincoln Memorial in the nation's capital on August 26th. The **March on Washington** will be a cross-cultural and intergenerational demonstration to show that an attack on one is an attack on all of us. For more information on the march and to sign up for a free bus, please visit nationalactionnetwork.net.

It's not a commemoration, it's a continuation!

July 8th

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

Jae Hilliard Spencer- Member, NYC chapter, NAN

Tisha Hunter, soloist, NAN change choir

Rev. Dr. Malcolm Byrd- Director of Ny Operations, NAN

Victor Pate- Chairperson of the Second chance committee, NYC chapter

Minister Tyrone Richardson-Musical Director, NAN Change choir

Guests

Bishop Orlando Findlaytor, Senior Pastor, New Hope Christian Fellowship, Brooklyn NY

Keynote: Rev. Al Sharpton

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

The following was included in the weekly message:

Essence Fest 2023

Rev. Sharpton traveled to New Orleans, Louisiana for the annual **Essence Festival** - aka the party with a purpose. Over the course of several days, he co-moderated a panel, spoke at several events, met with the **Vice President** and many celebrities in attendance.

On Saturday night, **Rev. Sharpton** was featured on the MAINSTAGE at the Superdome where over 60,000 people were in attendance. He announced **National Action Network's** upcoming **March on Washington** next month, talked about the ongoing fight to make the private sector accountable to their commitments following the death of **George Floyd** and racial justice protests. In light of the Supreme Court's recent ruling dismantling affirmative action in higher education, **Rev. Sharpton** reminded the packed arena why holding the private sector honest when it comes to things like business contracts is more important than ever.

Rev. Sharpton attended the Color Purple Luncheon where he was greeted by **Oprah Winfrey** herself. He also co-moderated a panel with five mayors from around the country: **NYC Mayor Eric Adams**, **LA Mayor Karen Bass**, **Cleveland Mayor Justin Bibb**, **New Orleans Mayor Latoya Cantrell** and **Atlanta Mayor Andre Dickens**. They discussed problems in urban America from crime to a lack of funding for a host of programs and initiatives.

Rev. Sharpton also met a few times with **Vice President Kamala Harris**, where he discussed voting rights and the threat of ongoing efforts to diminish those fundamental rights. The leader of **National Action Network** also spoke with singers, actors, rappers, and members of the hip-hop community in attendance about the upcoming **March on Washington**, and why their voices are important at this 60th anniversary march.

All Roads Continue to Lead to Washington

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In less than two months, civil rights leaders, activists, clergy, members of the Black, Asian, Jewish, Latino, Native, LGBTQ+ and other communities will all gather in the nation's capital for the **March on Washington. National Action Network** and the **Drum Major Institute** have been busy organizing for this 60th anniversary of **Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s** historic march, which won't be a commemoration, but rather a continuation of his fight for freedom, justice and equality.

This year's **March on Washington** will focus on protecting and preserving voting rights which are under threat across the nation, criminal justice reform (including police reform/mass incarceration) and calling for federal hate crime legislation amid a rise in such crimes and domestic terrorism. On the heels of recent Supreme Court rulings stripping away affirmative action, as well as protections for the LGBTQ+ community, we must raise our voices in unison at the march.

Rev. Sharpton, Martin Luther King III and **Arndrea Waters King** will lead the continuation march as we evaluate progress achieved and highlight the work that remains. We will convene at 11 am in front of the Lincoln Memorial in the nation's capital on August 26th. The **March on Washington** will be a cross-cultural and intergenerational demonstration to show that an attack on one is an attack on all of us.

For more information on the march and to sign up for a free bus, please visit nationalactionnetwork.net.