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JUSTICE COALITION USA

"INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS A THREAT TO JUSTICE EVERYWHERE." MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

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PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release, October 24, 2022

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81303434148?pwd=RmtPUEx0V2xLUjVIRGR0NDJZcEOrdz09>

Livestream: NLMBC.com

Since Our NAACP National Board Ignored the National Outcry to Stop Discriminating Against Elderly Members By Forcing the Use of *On-Line Voting* for this Month's Elections, Rev. Dr. Cardes Brown (The Justice Coalition USA) Renews Our Call to End this Inimical Discriminatory Practice

First, we offer our prayers and support for the families of NAACP members and people who were killed, injured, and left homeless by hurricane IAN in Florida, Puerto Rico, and other places. With almighty God's help, the government and neighbors helping neighbors will overcome and the best is yet to come.

We hoped the NAACP National Board on October 15 would address this inimical practice against our elderly members, forcing them to use the internet to cast their votes in Branch elections. Earlier this year, Pew Research released data that showed "notable differences between age groups when measuring the frequency of *internet* use. As opposed to those in the 18-29 age group which reported 48% of them were "almost constantly" online, compared to 22% who used the internet in the 50-64 and 8% in the 65-older age groups. The study found that the two older groups were using the internet more, no doubt because they had 25 years or more since it was introduced, which as you can see from the data was the purpose of the study. Our point is that the general population differs from NAACP seniors who joined the Movement in the 1960s when voting was a family ritual and are now in their 70s and above.

<https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2022/01/13/share-of-those-65-and-older-who-are-tec-h-users-has-grown-in-the-past-decade/>

We believe forcing all NAACP members in Branch elections to vote online for their officers in November 2022 elections constitutes a breach of membership contracts, violates Article IX of the By-laws, and will cause irreparable harm to many of our most vulnerable members.

“You can buy an NAACP membership for \$30, but to exercise your NAACP Vote, you need to buy a computer and a wifi connection for \$300,” said Rev. Dr. Cardes Brown, a nationally recognized NC NAACP leader, life member, and spokesperson for hundreds of NAACP members whose votes were similarly suppressed in October 2021. The proposed online voting process is inimical to the purpose of the organization.

The Justice Coalition USA will use every method we can to defend the voting rights of our elderly members, many of whom have been life members of the NAACP life members since the 1960s. The historic NAACP of Dr. DuBois, Ella Baker, Medgar Evers, Septima Clark, Julian Bond, and thousands of others who paid their dues, is in crisis today. We need all hands on deck to push back against the National effort to suppress the vote of our elderly members. As Dr. King taught, “Injustice Anywhere Is A Threat To Justice Everywhere.”

[Derrick Johnson on Twitter: "We will not stand idly by as ...https://twitter.com > derricknaacp > status](https://twitter.com/derricknaacp/status)
Derrick Johnson is correct! The Justice Coalition USA will not stand idly by while NAACP members' votes are suppressed through another NAACP election cycle. We have asked for an electronic meeting with CEO Derrick Johnson about these issues. We did not receive an adequate response but instead were presented with a cease and desist.

The Justice Coalition USA is a coalition of NAACP members and supporters seeking redress of the issues that have disenfranchised many State & Branch NAACP organizations. For instance, the 2021 NC NAACP State election was conducted under the supervision of the National organization and violated the very Bylaws and rules established by the national organization. <https://justicecoalitionusa.org>

Press Conference:

Wednesday, October 26, 2022 @ 10:30 AM
New Light Missionary Baptist Church
1105 Willow Rd. Greensboro, NC 27401