



ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF AFRICAN AMERICAN LIFE AND HISTORY®

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SEPTEMBER 28, 2023

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

THIS EVENING'S MEETING OF THE ASALH EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS BEEN CONVENED BY ME AND WILL BE CONDUCTED BY ME AS THE PRESIDENT OF ASALH.

I AM FULLY AWARE OF THE CURRENT LEADERSHIP CONTROVERSY AND THE VIEW OF SOME MEMBERS OF THIS BODY THAT DIFFER FROM MY VIEW THAT I AM AUTHORIZED AND OBLIGATED TO PRESIDE OVER THIS MEETING.

I AM ALSO AWARE OF THE DECISION OF THE ASALH MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING AND IN JACKSONVILLE THAT DIRECTED THIS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO PRESERVE THE STATUS QUO, TO GATHER INFORMATION, TO DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON THAT INFORMATION, AND TO BRING THAT INFORMATION AND ANY RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ASALH MEMBERSHIP BY OCTOBER 30, 2023.

THE ASALH MEMBERSHIP MADE THE DECISION THAT I REMAIN AS PRESIDENT AT LEAST UNTIL THE ASALH MEMBERSHIP ACTS ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 30, 2023. I INTEND TO FOLLOW THAT DIRECTION.

AS WE ALL KNOW, ASALH IS A MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATION. THIS COUNCIL TAKES DIRECTION FROM THE ASALH MEMBERSHIP NOT THE OTHER WAY AROUND.

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL DOES NOT HAVE THE PREROGATIVE TO IGNORE THE CLEAR DIRECTIONS FROM ASALH MEMBERSHIP ABOUT HOW TO PROCEED TO RESOLVE THE LEADERSHIP CONTROVERSY. WE DO NOT GET TO SUBSTITUTE OUR JUDGMENT ABOUT HOW TO PROCEED FOR THAT OF THE ASALH MEMBERSHIP.

I AM ABSOLUTELY COMMITTED TO FOLLOWING THE DIRECTION OF THE ASALH MEMBERSHIP IN THIS MATTER. I INTEND TO DISCHARGE THE DUTIES AS PRESIDENT OF ASALH SO THAT THE WILL OF ASALH MEMBERSHIP CAN BE REALIZED.

I URGE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO FOLLOW THE WILL OF THE ASALH MEMBERSHIP AS WELL.

TO DO OTHERWISE WOULD BE INCONSISTENT WITH THE FIDUCIARY DUTY THAT WE ALL OWE TO THE ASALH MEMBERSHIP. ADDITIONALLY, CREATING AN ALTERNATE LEADERSHIP FOR ASALH IN CLEAR OPPOSITION TO THE WILL OF ASALH MEMBERSHIP IS ORGANIZATIONALLY DESTRUCTIVE. WE SHOULD AVOID DOING THAT AT ALL COSTS.

I RESPECTFULLY SUBMIT THAT THE ASALH EXECUTIVE COUNCIL SHOULD CARRY OUT THE TASKS ASSIGNED BY THE ASALH MEMBERSHIP AND MAKE A PRESENTATION TO THE ASALH MEMBERSHIP BY OCTOBER 30, 2023.

FOR THAT REASON, I INTEND TO CONTINUE TO SERVE AS PRESIDENT OF ASALH UNTIL THE ASALH MEMBERSHIP MAKES A DIFFERENT DECISION.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

W. MARVIN DULANEY