

## Press Statement - On Racist Text Messages sent to Individuals Across the Country

We are witnessing the concerning reality of a nation where certain leadership has, at times, emboldened messages of hate. This rhetoric has led to a troubling rise in disturbing and unacceptable communication from racist groups across the country, who feel empowered to incite fear and spread hostility in the wake of recent events.

The reemergence of references to slavery in 2024 is profoundly unsettling. Such rhetoric perpetuates a legacy of oppression and exclusion that reaches back to Jim Crow, targeting the fundamental rights of Black Americans to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

This behavior is far from normal, and we are steadfast in refusing to allow it to become normalized. We remain resolute in our commitment to freedom and will not be deterred from securing the future we deserve.

We are actively monitoring these developments and working closely with law enforcement agencies and local communities to ensure safety and security.

If you or anyone you know experiences acts of hate, please contact the National Constituent Services department at 410-580-5777. We are here to stand with you in solidarity and strength.

Daylon A. Davis President, NAACP Pittsburgh Branch