Summary of the Letter

Context

• Date: September 22, 2025

• Recipient: Ms. Dankins

Author: John Hardy, Executive Director of 100 Black Men of Jackson, Inc.

• **Subject:** Response to an article written by Mississippi State Auditor Shad White, which allegedly contained false claims about the organization's use of grant funds.

Key Points Raised

1. Prior Audit (April 2023)

- Shad White's office had already audited 100 Black Men of Jackson, Inc. on a previous MDHS grant.
- Five auditors spent ten days on-site at The Village reviewing files.
- The audit found no wrongdoing. Although the lead auditor couldn't formally share the results, he indicated everything looked good.
- LeRoy Walker (Founding Member) requested a public apology from White after that audit, and White sent a letter confirming no nefarious spending.

2. Current Grant (Jan-May 2024)

- MSDH awarded a grant for the Health Disparities Awareness Among Youth program.
- The program was led by Dr. Audwin Fletcher, Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies in Nursing at UMC.
- It was described as one of the best grant programs facilitated by the organization, with weekly Saturday sessions addressing medical disparities.

3. Refutation of Claims

- T-Shirt Spending Claim:
 - o Allegation: \$2,000 spent on t-shirts.
 - Clarification: The organization purchased 90 embroidered polo shirts for \$1,981.10 — for mentees' school and travel use. (Invoice attached.)

• Incentives for Participation:

- o 100 BMOJ spent \$2,400 on gift cards, speakers, and headphones.
- Because this was a five-month program, motivating teenagers to give up their Saturdays was challenging.
- The organization decided to incentivize participation by awarding door prizes to mentees who achieved the highest scores on post-presentation tests — an approach that worked very well.

Program Engagement:

 Meeting notices and PowerPoint slides were attached to demonstrate that educational meetings took place regularly and that mentees wore the polo shirts. These meetings included speakers like Dentists, Doctors, Nutritionists, Nurses, and other professionals in the industry.

4. Defense of Reputation

- The organization asserts full compliance with state and federal regulations, noting they were under close monitoring by MDHS and the State Auditor's office.
- They vehemently deny any misuse of federal funds.
- The letter emphasizes that such allegations harm fundraising efforts and damage their reputation.
- The organization urges Shad White to reverse the "negligent charge."

Tone & Purpose

The letter is firm, professional, and defensive, aiming to:

- Clear the organization's name.
- Present documentation as evidence.
- Call out the Auditor's office for repeated public allegations despite prior clean audits.
- Protect the organization's reputation and its ability to raise funds.



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR SHAD WHITE STATE AUDITOR

May 8, 2023

Mr. Leroy Walker 5956 Holbrook Drive Jackson, MS 39206

Dear Mr. Walker,

This is in response to our call the other day. I understand you're getting questions about an article from a few years ago about 100 Black Men and the Office of the State Auditor. This article suggested that the Office of the State Auditor was investigating 100 Black Men. The truth was that, at the time, someone made an allegation of wrongdoing at 100 Black Men to the Mississippi Department of Human Services (DHS). DHS then, according to a DHS spokesman, launched an investigation. DHS had a duty to tell my office about that investigation but failed to do so. Their failure to do so resulted in an audit finding for DHS. However, when we looked at the allegation against 100 Black Men at the time, we found no evidence to substantiate the allegation against 100 Black Men. It has been two years since this happened, and since then, we have never been told by DHS or any other investigative body that they found wrongdoing at 100 Black Men.

I hope that clarifies the situation. Please let me know if you have additional questions.

Sincerely

Shad White, CFE State Auditor



Date: January 27, 2024

Time: 10:00am – 2:00pm Venue: The Village NOTE: January is National Mentoring Month. We encourage all members to attend wearing 100 BMOJ paraphernalia.



Date: February 24, 2024

Time: 10:00am – 1:00pm Lunch: 1:00pm – 2:00pm

Venue: The Village

NOTE: LUNCH and ORIENTATION for New Orleans trip!! Parents must attend in order for your child to travel



<u>Date:</u> March 15, 2024

<u>Time:</u> 6:30am check-in/breakfast

7:45am bus departs for New Orleans

Venue: The Village

Itinerary for New Orleans

Friday, March 15th

- Depart Village @ 8:00am
- Arrive in New Orleans @ 11:30am
- Lunch at fast food restaurant 11:30am 1:30pm
- Arrive at Xavier University @ 1:45pm
- Tour of Xavier begins at 2:00pm
- Depart Xavier at 3:30pm
- Arrive at Hotel [Double Tree by Hilton 300 Canal Street] at 4:00pm
- Depart for NBNA game [Smoothie King Center] at 6:00pm
- Depart from Smoothie King Center at 10:00pm
- Arrive at Hotel [Double Tree by Hilton 300 Canal Street] at 10:30pm

Saturday, March 16th

- Breakfast provided by Hotel at 8:00am
- Depart for Vue Orleans [2 Canal Street, entrance is left of Four Seasons Hotel] at 9:30am
- Tour of Vue Orleans 10:00am 12:00noon
- Tour of Audubon Aquarium 1:00pm 3:00pm
 - NOTE: Bus is already parked [Vue Orleans and Aquarium are next to each other]
- Depart for Jackson at 3:00pm
- Arrive in Jackson at 6:30pm



<u>Date:</u> April 27, 2024

Time: 6:00am check-in/breakfast

7:00am bus departs for Greenwood/Cleveland

Venue: The Village

Itinerary for Greenwood/Cleveland

Saturday, April 27th

- Depart Village @ 7:00am
- Arrive in Greenwood @ 8:45am
- Arrive at Greenwood Leflore Hospital [1401 River Rd] @ 9:00am
- Tour of Greenwood Leflore 9:15am 10:45am
- Lunch at fast food restaurant 11:00am 12:15pm
- Depart for Grammy Museum Mississippi [800 W Sunflower Rd] @ 12:30pm
- Arrive at Grammy Museum Mississippi @ 1:30pm
- Tour Grammy Museum 1:30pm 3:30pm
- Depart for Jackson at 3:45pm
- Arrive in Jackson at 6:45pm



Date: May 25, 2024

Time: 10:00am – 12:00pm Venue: The Village AWARDS LUNCHEON, 12-2:00PM
PARENTS ARE INVITED



5360 Highland Drive Post Office Box 9514 Jackson, Mississippi 39286 (601) 366-8301 Fax: (601) 366-8393 Website: 100bmoj.org

Health Disparities Awareness Among Youth Program May 25, 2024 10:00am - 2:00pm

10:00am-10:15am

Registration/Ice Breakers

10:15am-11:30am

Dental Hygiene

11:30am-12:00pm

Recap of Seminar / Program [Seminars #1 - #5]

12:0opm-2:00pm

Awards Luncheon



IMAX Sports Central 405 BRIARWOOD DR. STE 107A JACKSON, MS 39206 OFFICE: 601-335-8300 EMAIL: service@imaxsportscentral.com

NUMBER

ESTIMATE

E1415

DATE

2/5/2024

BILL TO

JOHN HARDY 100 BLACK MEN OF JACKSON, INC. 5360 HIGHLAND DRIVE JACKSON, MS, 39206 SHIP TO

JOHN HARDY 100 BLACK MEN OF JACKSON, INC. 5360 HIGHLAND DRIVE JACKSON, MS, 39206

PO NUMBER	TERMS	CUSTOMER#		SALES REP	DELIVERY	PROJECT , MENTEES
MENTEES		100BMJ		CHIQUITA		
MQK00075 C PERFORMAN BLACK WITH 3/XS, 7/S, 20	CE PIQUE MI EMBROIDER	FNS POLO	80	\$20.99	\$1,6	79.20
MQK00075 EXTENDED SIZE CLIQUE SPIN ECO PERFORMANCE PIQUE MENS POLO, BLACK WITH EMBROIDERY			10	\$23.99	\$239	9.90
5/3XL, 5/4XL						

Amount Paid

\$0.00

Amount Due

\$1,961.10

 SubTotal
 \$1,961.10

 Sales Tax 0.00% on \$0.00
 \$0.00

 Shipping Cost
 \$42.00

 TOTAL
 \$1,961.10



MSOX