



THE **African** NEWSWORLD

A Media That “WE” Control

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FALL 2018 EDITION

An Organ of the Universal African Peoples Organization (UAP)

Making Black Political History As Candidates In The Midterm Federal And State November 2018 General Elections



Stacey Abrams
Governor
Georgia



Ben Jealous
Governor
Maryland



Andrew Gillum
Governor
Florida



Mandela Barnes
Lt. Governor
Wisconsin



Anastasia Pittman
Lt. Governor
Oklahoma



Mike Espy
US Senator
Mississippi



John James
US Senator
Michigan



Deidre DeJear
Secretary of State
Iowa



Kwame Raoul
Attorney General
Illinois



Aaron Ford
Attorney General
Nevada



Keith Ellison
Attorney General
Minnesota



THE UAPO EXPOSES POLICE COVER-UP

See Page 5

Universal African Peoples Organization (UAP) Membership / Supporter Form

(Please Print)

_____ Yes, I will be a **\$25.00** annual dues paying **member**
of the Universal African Peoples Organization (UAP)

Date _____

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of the Universal African Peoples Organization (UAP)

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Make Checks Payable to: UAP, PO Box 179226, St. Louis, MO 63117 **SMALL OR LARGE DONATIONS ARE APPRECIATED**

For the 1st Time Ever In Modern American Political History, We Are Aware of 11 Black Candidates Who Have Won Statewide Primary Election Campaigns and Now Simultaneously Have An Opportunity To Be Elected In the Upcoming November 2018 Midterm Federal and State General Elections!!!



Stacey Abrams
Won the Georgia Democratic
Primary for Governor
May 22, 2018



John James
Won the Michigan Republican
Primary for United States Senator
August 7, 2018



Ben Jealous
Won the Maryland Democratic
Primary for Governor
June 26, 2018



Mike Espy
Won the Mississippi Democratic
Primary for United States Senator
June 26, 2018



Andrew Gillum
Won the Florida Democratic
Primary for Governor
August 30, 2018



Kwame Raoul
Won the Illinois Democratic
Primary for State Attorney General
March 20, 2018



Mandela Barnes
Won the Wisconsin Democratic
Primary for Lt. Governor
August 14, 2018



Aaron Ford
Won the Nevada Democratic
Primary for State Attorney General
June 12, 2018



Anastasia Pittman
Won the Oklahoma Democratic
Primary for Lt. Governor
June 26, 2018

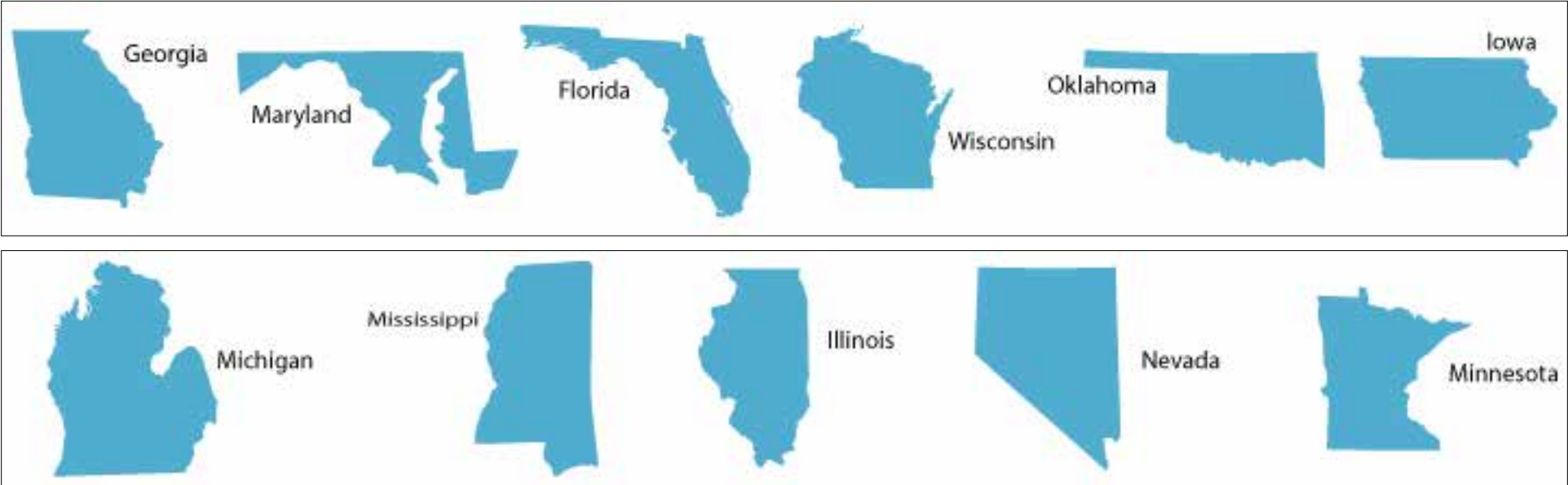


Keith Ellison
Won the Minnesota Democratic
Primary for State Attorney General
August 14, 2018




Deidre DeJear
Won the Iowa Democratic
Primary for Secretary of State
June 5, 2018

In the Spirit of “Proportionate Political Representation” and Upliftment of Our People, We Pray and Hope that the Above Candidates Are Victorious in the General Election on Tuesday, November 6, 2018, and Once Elected Serve as a Beacon of Strength and Fairness For Our People!!!



Remember in 2018 out of 50 State Governors, none are Black. We should have at least 7. Out of 100 U.S. Senators, only three are Black. We should have at least 13. LET’S SEIZE POWER!!!



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THE TASK AHEAD

REMEMBERING OUR POLITICAL HISTORY AS WE MOVE FORWARD TO ACHIEVE PROPORTIONATE POLITICAL REPRESENTATION

By Zaki Baruti - President/General Universal African Peoples Organization (UAPO)

As a vanguard organization, we have consistently pushed the idea that Black people should seek to be elected as US Senators, Governors and other statewide positions throughout this country. Therefore, we are thrilled to finally see that our vision is beginning to be realized in this 2018 Electoral Season. We say this, because for the first time in Modern American History, there are at least 11 viable and credible Black candidates who can possibly be elected in the upcoming Statewide General elections to be held November 6, 2018.

These candidates include three who are seeking to become the first Black Governors in their respective states. They are Stacey Abrams (Georgia), Ben Jealous (Maryland), and Andrew Gillum (Florida). Two are seeking to become United States Senators in their state. They are Mike Espy (Mississippi) and John James (Michigan). The remaining candidates are Mandela Barnes, Lt. Governor (Wisconsin), Anastasia Pittman, Lt. Governor (Oklahoma), Deidre DeFear, Secretary of State (Iowa), Aaron Ford, Attorney General (Nevada), Kwame Raoul, Attorney General (Illinois) and Keith Ellison, Attorney General (Minnesota). Nine of the candidates are Democrats, while John James is a Republican.

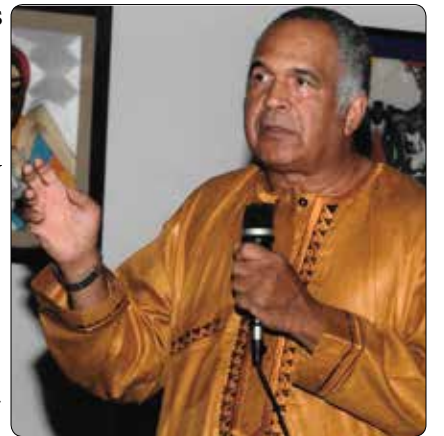
We find their candidacies encouraging, because we have historically called for the realization of our concept "Proportionate Political Representation". This concept simply means that whatever percentage that we are as a people on the National, State, and Local levels of this country's political institutions; then we should have that percentage of political power!!! We feel this concept is the most progressive thought/movement for the 21 Century. However, as we have pointed out many times before, we are far from achieving this concept.

In 2018, at this very moment out of fifty state governors, none are Black, when we should have at least 6 or 7, based on our population. In the United States Senate, there are one hundred members, yet only three are Black; when we should have at least 13 Blacks.

It is the vision of the Universal African Peoples Organization (UAPO) that with the example of the candidates stated above, that more of our people should see the necessity of us challenging for powerful political positions. We also challenge our progressive and revolutionary allies to step up to the plate and enter the political arena. Also, mainstream elective officials should up their game and seek powerful statewide offices. Not only should we seek statewide offices, but we are also disenfranchised on the local levels of government throughout America. This is evident by the fact of the half million elective offices of this country (specifically 511,000) and we hold only 3% (15,330) of that number when we are 13% of the population. According to the total percentage of our population in this country we should have at least 66,000 elected officials.

This struggle our organization has engaged in for our fair share of political power dates back to 1984. In that year, as head of the Caucus for Community Progress, I/we convened Missouri's First Statewide Black Peoples Political Convention. (Please note): The Caucus for Community Progress eventually evolved into the Universal African Peoples Organization in 1989.

A major objective of the Convention was to encourage our people to challenge for the Missouri statewide offices up for election that year. Those positions included Governor, Lt Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer and Attorney General. In attendance to the Convention where over three hundred plus delegates from across Missouri. These delegates included a number of Black elected officials such as St. Louis Congressman William Clay Sr, Ohio Congressman Louis Stokes, State Senators J.B. Banks and John Bass along with Kansas City Freedom Inc. representatives. However, we could not get anyone to become a statewide candidate.



Therefore, as the convener of the Convention and "practicing what I preach", I- Zaki Baruti (Lavoy Reed) ran as a candidate that year in 1984 for Governor and did likewise in 1988 and 2000. In 1988, our grassroots campaign shocked political pundits by garnering 87,000 votes which was 19% of the total in the Democratic primary, although Missouri had only a 10% Black population.

It is in the above spirit that we have been able to influence others to seek statewide offices in Missouri including Allen Wheat, a former Kansas City Congressman, who I met in my first campaign for Governor and who was very encouraging. He ran for US Senate 1994 and made history by winning the Democratic nomination, but eventually he lost in the General Election to John Ashcroft. We also have influenced a number of other grassroots individuals to be statewide candidates.

Fast forwarding to this year electoral season, the UAPO once again extend a sincere thank you to Carla "Coffee" Wright for her 2018 courageous campaign as a candidate for United States Senator for Missouri. She was the only person of color who stepped up to the plate, because no other person of political or economic persuasion would do so. In our eyes, she is the victor, because she spoke "Truth to Power" on behalf of our people and she is **Bold, Black and Beautiful**.

In the pursuit for "Proportionate Political Representation", we hope and pray that the candidates who may make history on November 6, 2018 will have the spiritual and mental fortitude to represent our people's aspirations for justice, peace and equality.

Finally, "A people without vision shall perish". To that end, as the 2020 National and State elections loom in the near future, who will be our candidates for US President, and the many US Senators, Governors and other statewide offices. That is why we will be hosting our 5th National Black Political Leadership Conference on Saturday, May 18, 2019 in the spirit of Malcolm X.

P.S. In 2016, Robin Smith who we endorsed made political history in Missouri by being the first Black female to win a statewide primary election as a candidate for Secretary of State.



Also on Channel 24.2

**Tune In To The Internet TV Program
"Conversations With Zaki Baruti"
Every Sunday Evening at 6:00pm and
Every Saturday Night at 11:00pm**

Watch the **NLEC TV Live Stream**
On your smart phone anytime and anywhere

Get the App





The Universal African Peoples Organization (UAPO) Salutes The Grass Roots Candidacy of Carla “Coffee” Wright

She amassed 40,971 votes in the Democratic Party Primary on August 7, 2018

- Despite:
- (1.) Spending Less Than \$5000.00
 - (2.) Five Month Campaign
 - (3.) First Time Political Candidate

(No one else of political or economical status stepped up to the plate.)

In our eyes, and we believe in the eyes of the creator, Coffee was victorious, because she spoke “Truth to Power” and supported our concept of “Proportionate Political Representation”.

It is still a damn shame that although we are at least 13% of the United States population, yet there are only 3 Blacks in the United States Senate

when there should be at least 13 based on our population in this country. As taxpayers, Black America Wake Up! As a candidate For U.S Senator, Coffee has now followed the footsteps of the following (that we know of) who have sought to become the first Black United Senator from Missouri.

- Richard Tolbert (Democrat Party)/Kansas City - 1992
- Carol Coe (Democrat Party)/Kansas City - 1992
- Alan Wheat (Democrat)/Kansas City-1994
- Evaline Taylor (Green Party)/Kansas City-2000
- Cori Bush (Democrat)/St. Louis-2016
- Johnathan McFarland (Green Party)/St. Louis-2016

Also, in the state of Kansas, our grassroots candidate for United States Senator in 2016 Monique Singh Bey amassed 34,736 votes!

Therefore, Conscious Allies and Supporters-Let’s Make It Happen 144,000 Truly Conscious Voters in Missouri and Let’s Spread The Concept To Other States!!!

Historic Quick Facts About Black Missouri Statewide Candidates- Year of Their Candidacy and City They Resided In

Governor

- Robert Curtis- Democratic Party-St. Louis 1968
- Zaki Baruti (Lavoy Reed) Democratic Party-St. Louis 1984
- Zaki Baruti (Lavoy Reed) Democratic Party-St. Louis 1988
- Cedric Hawkins-Democrat-Kansas City-1992
- Zaki Baruti (Lavoy Reed) Green Party-St. Louis 2000
- Eric Morrison-Democrat-Kansas City-2016

Lt. Governor

- Phil Dennis- Democratic Party- St. Louis 1968
- Prentiss C.E. Clifton, Sr.- Democratic Party 1988
- Gordon W, Neilson-Republican Party 1988
- Mary Ross- Democratic Party- St. Louis 1992
- Tommie Pierson-Democratic Party-St. Louis 2016
- Bev Randles- Republican Party-St. Louis-2016

Secretary of State

- Anthony Cox-Democratic Party-St. Louis 1988
- Robin Smith-Democratic Party-St. Louis 2016

Treasurer

There have been at least 2 Black candidates for Treasurer, but we do not have their names.

Challenge: When Will We Seize Statewide Power?

Final Note- For the 2016 and 2018 United States Senate Grassroots Campaigns of Cori Bush and Carla “Coffee” Wright, we called for 144,000 Supporters to Vote for our Candidates in Missouri primary elections. In each year, we averaged 42,000 votes which was close to one third of our objective. The take away:

- (1) We have more work to do!
- (2) UAPO have 42,000 conscious political supporters.

Let’s Continue To Build!

Also, in the state of Kansas, our grassroots candidate for United States Senator in 2016 Monique Singh Bey amassed 34,736 votes!

Therefore, Conscious Allies and Supporters-Let’s Make It Happen 144,000 Truly Conscious Voters in Missouri and Let’s Spread The Concept To Other States!!!

Jeff Francis: Putting People Before Politics

By Felix Mitchell
Email: fmbillionaire@gmail.com

Jeff Francis is not your usual candidate for public office. In fact, he doesn’t fit the description of what popular opinion assumes a government official looks like, socially. Although his story may read like a tapestry spread across a hostile socio-economic landscape, Jeff Francis says his checkered past doesn’t affect his promising future moving forward. To the contrary, he says it allows him to stay rooted in issues relevant to the community, with a genuine connection with the people those same issues affect. As a local “rap’tivist” and “edu-tainer,” Jeff plans to use the voice of the hip-hop community to rally young voters to the poles for a favorable turnout, lending him the edge over his opponents.

African News World was recently in attendance at the 21st Annual United African Peoples Organization Celebration, hosted by the Black Hat Society, where Jeff was receiving the Marcus Garvey Award for “Political Awareness.” As one of our featured “Rock Star” Candidates for the 2018 Election Jeff shared with us a few of his most frequently asked questions...

Q: What is a “Rap’tivist” and “Edu-tainer...?”
A: A “rap’tivist” is a rapper who uses his (or her) voice to become a messenger in the community drawing awareness to issues; but is also an active advocate. An “edu-tainer” is someone who simulta-

neously entertains while they educate.
Q: Why are you running for elected office?
A: I’m the voice of a dying generation, speaking to an aging population, with urgency to save a whole nation. I’m the only candidate in the race that actually inspires these young people. This is critically important, because the young people are our future; but they’re being savagely victimized by a post-traumatic slave society that expects them to submit to a governing system that has been found to launch the most sinister and treacherous attacks on both their culture and their personal well-being. Not to mention the constant corruption that continually goes unchecked and un-punished. It’s just grave manifest distrust. Both of the major political parties have failed society miserably in reference to the tall order of delivering truth, justice and equality to the American people. So, I’m running on an Independent platform. Because, although the parties themselves may be twisted, tangled and perverted by capital interests, I still believe in the innate goodness of some of the individuals of those parties. So, I more or less represent the salvation and restoration of that trust in our government system and confidence in its political processes.

Q: What makes you the “best choice” candidate?
A: As mentioned before, the trust factor is a key. After serving over 10 years of my young adult life in the Missouri Dept. of Corrections for a wrongful conviction, I also lost faith and confidence in my country, my state, my city, my community leaders and elected officials, the school system, the judicial system... I lost faith and confidence in it all! Even though I was a Kauffman Scholar I felt betrayed and

set-up by my own government. By GOD’s Grace I still had some true friends and family to comfort and carry me through those dark years. A wise Chinese proverb says, “WHEN I HEAR, I FORGET. WHEN I SEE, I REMEMBER. WHEN I EXPERIENCE, I UNDERSTAND.” Unfortunately, this happens to be the case for me. It’s not that I wanted to, or even needed to experience all those hardships and endure all that long-suffering, but I did. So, now I understand. I thoroughly understand! Wherefore, I can offer genuine empathy, aid and assistance without reservation and without judgment to my people. Beyond all the political jargon, the studies and statistics..., the Associates, Bachelors, Doctorates, PH.D’s, and law degrees... none of that stuff is necessary when you’re simply trying to connect with local residents to identify their needs, or help a neighbor or fellow citizen with even the simplest of issues like literacy and education; health care, public safety, mental illness, employment and contract opportunities... you have to care enough in the first place. You have to be willing to sacrifice the things you may want for yourself for the things your people urgently need both immediately and overall.

Money talks! Your voice has power. But closed mouths don’t get fed. Make your voice heard November 6th, 2018 at the election poles. We must break the chains of the political power structure. Time is Money! It’s our time, now! If not now, when? Your dollar is your vote, and your vote is your dollar! And I want all the Seniors and Veterans to know that the Hip-hop community definitely has your back!

THE UNIVERSAL AFRICAN PEOPLES ORGANIZATION (UAPO) EXPOSES POLICE COVER UP!!!

African NewsWorld Wire Service

On Thursday, August 16, 2018 the Universal African Peoples Organization (UAPO) held a press conference at the corner of Tyndall and Airport Road, Berkeley, MO. This conference was held at the scene of a tragic car accident on Friday, August 10th close to 9:00p.m. where two Black men, forty-nine year old Mikel Neal and fifty nine year old Townsal Woolfork were killed. One of the victims, Mikel Neal was the son of a key UAPO member, Ms. Clara Cheeks.

The Missouri Highway Department which was investigating the accident notified Darryl Neal, a brother of Mikel of the fatal crash about 4:00 a.m. that morning. In his conversation, the officer stated to Darryl that he may hear various versions of what caused the crash, “but rest assured their version was the correct one.” Upon hearing this statement, it raised red flags to the brother and other family members. Also, in the morning addition of the daily newspaper, the St. Louis Post Dispatch reported the incident as a one car accident.

However, given the weird statement by the patrol officer, the family decided they would go to the crash site and do their own investigation. Sure enough, upon talking to many people who were near the scene of the crash, the witnesses shared with the family that a St. Louis County Police squad car was chasing a vehicle and actually caused the crash. Also, after causing the crash, the squad car immediately turned its lights off and kept going showing no regard for helping the victims of the crash.

It was in response to the people coming forth with this information that the UAPO held the Press Conference to expose the cover up of this car chase by the St. Louis County Police. This exposure was important, because according to their policy, “There are to be no pursuit, unless a serious crime has been committed.” Accordingly, after our conference, a spokesman for the St. Louis County Police did acknowledge that there was a red light violation that occurred and the officers reported it, but didn’t pursue the car.



UAPO President General Zaki Baruti exposes St. Louis ounty Police cover-up

However, the following day after the conference and official statement by the County Police, the UAPO and family members canvassed a number of businesses along the route taken by the crash victims to see if there were any videos to verify what the witnesses was saying about the chase.

Once again and sure enough, we did find a business that had a video clearly showing that the Police was chasing a vehicle at a high rate of speed.

We shared this video with several local television stations and they in turn allowed the public to see the chase and how the Police officials had lied.

Therefore, it is the position of the UAPO and family members that the officers involved in the chase be fired as well as those involved in the cover up. Also, the officers involved in the chase be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law and for us that would either be murder or at least vehicular manslaughter.

A Story of Heartbreak and Fighting a Slumlord

African NewsWorld Wire Service

Fifty six year old David Bond moved to St. Louis with his wife Paula and children from Decatur Illinois in November, 1997. In an effort to provide a decent life for their family, the couple purchased a home in South St. Louis on Tennessee Avenue. As the family went about their business of raising their children and living the so-call “American Dream” in June 2015 their dream began to turn into the “American Nightmare”. This nightmare began when the family unfortunately lost their lovely home, because of the Nationwide Mortgage Scandal/Bubble that ravished many homeowners, especially Black homeowners between 1998-2016.

Unable to save their home, David rented a house in North St. Louis County, in Spanish Lake, MO. Thinking that the house being rented was up to code for comfortable living, David and his wife were in for a rude awakening. Their problems with the house almost began immediately. To their shock, they started having draining problems, whereby every three months excessive water in their bathroom would spill over and cause buckling in their floors.

Secondly, three months after moving into the house, the roof begin to leak when it rained. The landlord management agency, Kingdom Reality response was to drape a blue tarp over the roof which is still there, today.

Finally, in 2017 they began receiving water bills that normally would be \$78.00 dollars a month but their bill began to escalate as high as \$548.00 per month.

The couple eventually found the cause of the excessive water bills which was an underground water main break. Although, that fact was discovered by the American Water Company, they were not reimbursed for their payments for the excessive bill. One major impediment to being reimbursed were the current procedures given to Mr. Bond from the water company and St. Louis County that required the property owner signature to address the



issue and Mr. Bond was only the tenant.

Alone with the above issues, a spigot inside the wall of the add-on part of the house burst. These various water related issues have also caused mold in the house.

In his efforts to response to what was happening to the housing structure, David was stricken with several tragic events impacting his life.

The first tragic event was the murder of his daughter Tammy who was stabbed over thirty-two times by her jealous boyfriend. Secondly, his wife was diagnosed with an aggressive form of leukemia the same year and she succumbed to the disease in 2017.

Along with these personal tragedies David was laid off of his job of twenty years. Given all that had occurred, grief did engulf David Bond. Grief of losing his first home. Grief from the death of his daughter and wife. Grief of moving into a substandard house and grief of losing his job. However, being of strong and determined will, he has created his own business.

Having to deal with his many challenges, David was fortunate to meet Housing/Tenant Activist, Rani Abston who is the President/Founder of the Rolla Renters Association. With her help, he is now in full swing in putting forth his

just demands to the slumlord.

These demands include:

- (1) All rent paid in past is remitted to him,
- (2) Damages to his personal property by the water leaks be paid
- (3) The excessive water charges be reimbursed.

He and the Rolla Renters Association are calling for these demands based on the fact that the family was duped by false advertisement that the house had met the housing code for occupancy, when it didn’t. Additionally, the house did not meet the law requirements for standard housing, therefore his contract with the landlord was illegal.

Accordingly, by law he is due 100% compensation.

In conclusion David has stated that he would stay strong for his family and will continue to fight against the slumlord as an example of what people must do when they are being exploited.

Anyone interested in addressing tenants rights can call Rani Abston (573) 201-6310.

Missouri Political History-2018

Wesley Bell became the first Black elected St. Louis County Prosecutor when he defeated the racist Bob McCulloch in the Democratic Primary, August 7, 2018. His victory comes on the heels of Kim Gardner who became the first Black elected St. Louis Circuit Attorney in 2016. These two positions hold great and enormous power as to whether justice will prevail for our people caught up in the judicial system. We pray and hope that Wesley and Kim will be beacons of strength and fairness for our people!!!

We are proud as an organization (UAPO) to have previously supported the campaigns of Elbert Walton, Donnell Smith and Jerryl Christmas as they were early pioneers in seeking to be elected as St. Louis Circuit Attorney.

We also salute former State Representative Michael Butler, who became the First Black elected Recorder of Deeds for the City of St. Louis on August 7, 2018. Best wishes to him and we pray and hope that he too will be a beacon of strength for our people.



President/General Zaki Baruti congratulates Wesley Bell on his tremendous victory



UAPO Member Gwen Cogshell campaigning for Wesley Bell

The Face of St. Louis’ Citywide Elected Officials Continues to Change With The Election of Michael Butler



Mayor
Lyda Krewson



President,
Board of Alderman
Lewis Reed



Comptroller
Darlene Green



Treasurer
Tishaura Jones



License Collector
Mavis Thompson



Circuit Attorney
Kim Gardner



Recorder of Deed
Michael Butler



Collector of Revenue
Greg F.X. Daly



Sheriff
Vernon Betts

In a city that is supposed to be 50% Black, we hold seven of the nine citywide positions, great for “Proportionate Political Representation” however, there are 28 Aldermen and only 11 are Black; not so good for “Proportionate Political Representation”.

The UAPO Salutes Kansas City, Missouri Political Stars (Individuals Who Stand Up For Justice And Equality For Our People!)



Arimeta DuPree
Democratic Party
2nd Dist/
Jackson County
County Legislature
Candidate



Ed Bell
Democratic Party
State Rep
Candidate



Jeffrey Francis
Independent
State Rep
Candidate



Maurice Copeland
Green Party
5th Congressional
Dist Candidate



Shaheer Akhtab
Kansas City Council
3rd In District

McDonald's Workers in 10 Cities Strike Against Sexual Harassment

Liberation News

The Duct Tape covering their mouths read “#MeToo,” and “OnStrike.” The workers and their supporters chanted: “Hold the burgers, hold the fries, keep your hands off my thighs,” “We’re here, we’re loud, sexual harassment is not allowed,” and “Respect us, accept us, don’t try to touch us.”

On Sept. 18, workers in 10 cities staged a walkout to draw attention to their struggle with McDonald's to stop rampant sexual harassment on the job. From St. Louis to Chicago to Durham, North Carolina, to Los Angeles and New Orleans, the workers protested, with three core demands:

McDonald's form a national committee with worker, corporate and anti-sexual harassment organizers represented to address sexual harassment, McDonald's strengthen and enforce its zero-tolerance policy, McDonald's hold mandatory trainings for managers and employees and create a safe and effective system for receiving and responding to complaints. The walkout was organized by women's committees of McDonald's workers, with the support of the Fight for 15. The committees include women who filed complaints with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in May that document pervasive harassment, a refusal to address that harassment, and retaliation against victims who report harassment. They are frustrated that McDonald's has done nothing to improve conditions since the complaints.

The McDonald's workers are not alone. According to a Hart Research Associates survey in 2016, 40 percent of women working in fast-food experienced sexual harassment at work. Forty-two percent of those workers said they felt they had to accept the harassment because of fear of losing their jobs.

Workers across the country report high rates of sexual harassment and the vast majority of them are women. Workers who report sexual harassment are often



mistreated and ignored, and sometimes suffer retaliation. An EEOC report noted that one 2003 study found that 75 percent of employees who spoke out against workplace mistreatment faced some form of retaliation.

The #MeToo movement that spread like wildfire last year has created a much more favorable environment for women who speak up. New institutions, like The Time's Up Legal Defense Fund created this year to support women who report sexual harassment, are supporting women's struggles across the country. The fund paid for the McDonald's workers' legal representation. But, while the movement has broken open new spaces for women to fight for respect and dignity, sexual harassment and violence against women are still utterly pervasive, and systemic.

It is clear that we need to continue this struggle and broaden it, like the McDonald's workers who are taking action against a mammoth corporation. They are not taking “no” for an answer.

Is the Catholic Church a Haven for Pedophile Priests?

By Deacon JB Bond | Koinonia Baptist Temple | jbbond@hotmail.com



When we look at the thousands of headlines concerning this matter, the title certainly gives cause for one to think so, especially when so many go unpunished. The late Catholic priest, Richard Sipe, spent a great deal of his priesthood fighting for true reform of the Catholic Church because he knew the coverups went all the way to the Vatican. When abusive priests are transferred to a different parish, the same behavior continues; many other young children are abused.

Whatever the cause of the sexual abuse in the church, pedophile priests should be arrested and punished just as any other pedophile would be. This certainly would put a dent in the many abuses that occur. The problem runs deep into the Catholic Church to the point that it could be described as being a subculture within the church. Pedophilia is a demonic stronghold that found a so-called resting place in the Catholic Church. Like any other demonic stronghold such as alcoholism, drug addiction, etc., it is driven by an urge to satisfy the demon within. Its existence is rooted in the hierarchy of the Catholic Church and this demonic spirit will do anything to keep existing in the haven it has created for itself.

In my opinion, pedophiles have chosen the Catholic Church and not the other way around. The Catholic church for the pedophile is low hanging fruit. They come in with automatic credibility – having already been appointed by a Bishop – with a meek and mild demeanor, and of course, they are white males. How much more credibility does one need to be put in charge of a parish. Matthew 7:15 puts it this way, “Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.” With all the millions of dollars spent by the Catholic Church to pay victims of the pedophiles, we cannot expect the same amount of dollars to be spent by the Catholic church to root out the offenders. However, shouldn't the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) put together a budget and task force to bring all pedophile priests to justice? The FBI should know a good place to start is in the Catholic Church and after all, it's for the children's sake that these pedophiles be brought to justice. With all the good work that the Catholic Church does throughout the world with good priests, let us continue to support it and pray for it to be a light set upon a hill. This is accomplished by: 1) not giving anyone a pass because they are wearing a collar, 2) thorough vetting of all those who would oversee our children, 3) teaching our children to be very open with their parents, and 4) parents must report all suspicious incidents to law enforcement first and then to church authorities. The last place pedophiles should consider to be low hanging fruit is the church. The church must continue to be a safe place for our children to develop a strong spiritual life. We must root out pedophiles where ever we find them. #I'm just saying!



Rhea Willis (L.) with student DaShaun Jones

Congratulations to Universal African Peoples Organization Member (UAPO), Rhea Willis for receiving the Saint Louis American Foundation Award for “Excellence in Education” and the “Dorothy R. Moog Special Education Educator Award of the Year.” Rhea is a Special Education Teacher and Chair of the Science Department at Sumner High School, St. Louis, Missouri

“The cornerstones of this country's operation are economic and political strength and power. The Black man doesn't have the economic strength and it will take time for him to build it. But right now, the American Black man has the political strength and power to change his destiny over night.”

- Malcolm X



In the Spirit of Malcolm X, the Universal African Peoples Organization (UAPO) 4th National Black Leadership Conference, May 19, 2018



US Senate Candidates Coffee Wright (Missouri) and Jennifer Ferguson (Washington) with UAPO Members and other Delegates



UAPO Members and Supporters



Junior Black Chamber of Commerce with Founder, Amari Sneferu



Audience Enjoying Program



Spirit of Angela West African Dance Troupe Cultural Presentation



Spirit of Angela West African Dance Troupe Founder Mama Fatu



Donnie Bradford One Million Conscious Black Voters, Jackson, TN



Akbar Muhammad, International Representative for the Nation of Islam



Minister Ralph Muhammad, Mosque 28B, East St. Louis, Illinois



Kamm Howard, National Reparations Movement Representative

Universal African Peoples Organization (UAPO) Annual Celebration of Marcus “Mosiah” Garvey in St. Louis, MO on August 18, 2018 and in Kansas City, MO on August 25, 2018



UAPO Manger/General Amari Sneferu



UAPO Vice President Safiyah Chauvin



UAPO Moderator Marble Davis



UAPO Community Outreach Coordinator Gwendolyn Cogshell



Singer/Entertainer Shelley Miller
Singer/Entertainer Fall Harris (Not Pictured)



UAPO Member Ren E. Ankh



Snapshot of Audience Enjoying the program



Kansas City UAPO Coordinator GG Owens



President General Zaki Baruti with Kansas City Supporters



Some of the Attendees at Kansas City Program

U.S. Blockade of Cuba Must Be Lifted!

By Patricia Gorky | Liberation News

The U.S. blockade deeply affects every aspect of life in Cuba: Infrastructure projects are delayed, housing can't be built, hospitals cancel elective surgeries, agricultural cooperatives struggle to rebuild after hurricane damage, factories can't acquire supplies, and school materials are hard to come by for students.

For more than 59 years, the United States has imposed a criminal blockade around the socialist island, denying Cuba access to banking institutions and preventing them from working and trading with other countries.

The author took part in a political delegation to Cuba earlier this year, where they met with a multitude of representatives of Cuban society: the provincial government of Villa Clara, an agricultural cooperative, a medical polyclinic, and the federation of students at a local university. Every facet of life is negatively affected by the blockade, and this is by design. The U.S. wants to weaken and crush the Cuban Revolution through economic war on the people, and the blockade has cost Cuba's economy and its people over US \$933 billion.

It is abundantly clear that the blockade needs to be lifted immediately. The United States has no business determining the destiny of the Cuban people.

The blockade is a war on the People! End the U.S. blockade of Cuba!

The Cuban people have struggled to build socialism despite tremendous odds. From the moment of the triumph of the revolution, Cuba has been under attack and sabotage by the United States. The CIA attempted to assassinate Fidel Castro on more than 600 occasions; the U.S. unleashed terrorist forces into the island that bombed hotels and tourist facilities, who transmitted biological weapons -- infectious diseases -- to attack the Cuban people and the agriculture.

In 1991, Cuba lost 85 percent of its trade with the demise of the socialist Eastern European bloc and the Soviet Union. National production fell by 34.5 percent. This ushered in a time of severe hardship, as well as resistance by the whole population, known as the Special Period. Our translator recounted her own memories during the Special Period where she had to carry buckets of water up 23 flights of stairs, when the water pumps of her apartment building failed and no spare parts were available.

Contrary to public perception, Obama's 2015 rapprochement with Cuba did not end the blockade in any form but rather loosened travel restrictions while maintaining the goal of imperialist counter-revolution.

The blockade distorts every facet of life, yet through all of this, socialism in Cuba continues to advance.

People in the United States may be unaware that a blockade even exists, or they may think that it is an embargo. An embargo would mean that trade between Cuba and the U.S. is prohibited, but a blockade means that the U.S. prevents Cuba from trading with any other country.

Cuba nunca renuncia sus sueños: Cuba never gives up on her dreams

Our delegation met with leaders of the provincial government, Poder Popular, in Villa Clara, and they explained to us the difficulties they have had to navigate in growing their economy to provide for their population.

With virtually every other economic avenue closed to them, tourism is the most important component of the Cuban economy. To drive the growth of tourism, the Cuban provincial government undertook an ambitious project: connecting the Cuban mainland with the keys in the north, a prime vacation spot renowned the world over.

The first stone was thrown into the ocean on Dec. 15, 1989, and today El Pedraplen is one of the world's longest ocean causeways at 30 miles and 46 bridges. Despite the difficulties of the Special Period, the Cuban government kept building the



Cuban Worker

road until its completion in 2003: "Cuba nunca renunca a ses sueños; Cuba never gives up on her dreams." Construction trucks made more than 900,000 trips to carry 6 million cubic meters of stone.

All construction was conducted with sound environmental oversight and specific care to not disturb the flora and fauna. International collaboration played a major part, with 4,511 specialists from 14 organizations helping on the project. Ecological exchange of seawater is guaranteed by the many bridges dotting El Pedraplen, and in fact fish biodiversity has increased from the project.

As the government officials noted, environmental regulations are strictly enforced. New laws mandate that any new factory must clean the waste that is generated. Permanent oversight boards monitor each province, and any enterprise caught polluting or breaking the law is immediately prosecuted and dissolved.

U.S. blockade hinders rebuilding after storm damage

When Hurricane Irma made landfall on Cuba last year, "the damage was huge," recounted a leader of Poder Popular. "We never had such bad weather. None of the meteorologists saw anything this bad. Winds were more than 150kmph (93mph), and the hurricane passed very slowly through Cuba. More than 150,000 houses were affected."

Recovery in the town of Remedios has only reached 44 percent because of the U.S. blockade against construction materials. "Some houses still don't have roofs," the director of the Museum of the Parrandas de Remedios recounted. "We have suffered from the blockade for years. [The May 2018] tropical storm Alberto also affected us, as our groundwater stores are now saturated. We lost many hectares of planted food. The blockade is affecting the recovery of Remedios."

Last year, Remedios turned 521 years old, one of the oldest cities in the country, and the intensity of hurricanes is increasing as an effect of climate change.

Food cooperative: 'We lost everything on the ground'

At the nearby agricultural cooperative of small farmers (Asociación Nacional de Agricultores Pequeños, or ANAP), coop workers explained the disaster that the hurricane wreaked on the crops. Nebis, the young woman president of the coop's Young Communist Union, said: "We were very affected by the weather. We tried to save the harvest but we lost everything on the ground."

The cooperative also serves as a collection point for the area's 125 dairy farmers to bring and store their milk, which is then distributed to families in the area. Priority is given to the schools and families with small children. Three days' worth

of milk was affected because the roads were blocked. A project from the UN helped to rebuild the cooperative, but what is needed is a lifting of the blockade.

"We suffer directly and indirectly," Nebis said. "When a campesina is sick, she goes to the hospital. Health care is free for us, but the State is impacted by the blockade." The impacts resound everywhere, she said. "Every day, every Cuban suffers because of the U.S. blockade. Even feed for the pigs is hard to come by."

Despite the tremendous setbacks, the coop continues their work of providing for the needs of Villa Clareaños. Cuba's planned economy means that food is produced and distributed according to need, not profit.

Cuban hospital director: 'The blockade hinders us in every way'

At the Martha Abreu Polyclinic en Villa Clara, the directors gave our delegation an overview of the famed Cuban health system. Before the Revolution, Cuba had a high child mortality rate, a life expectancy of 60 years, and only one medical school in the country. With a privatized education system, pre-revolutionary Cuba had doctors only in major cities, and many common diseases were rampant throughout the poorer areas.

Today, life expectancy under socialism is 78.45 years and increasing. Cuba boasts one of the lowest child mortality rates in the world, 4.2 deaths per 1,000 births. In the United States, on the other hand, the average is 5.8. Most communicable diseases have been eradicated from the island and free, public universities exist in every region.

"This would be a perfect health system," Director Victoria Lisid explained, "but the blockade hinders us in every way. We are limited to older technologies because the new ones are too costly for us to acquire."

One of the main treatments for various cancers, Cisplatin, costs Cuba \$186 for a small vial. "Patients need 10 of these per treatment," the doctor said. "The U.S. produces this medicine for \$25, yet we cannot buy it because of the blockade. For the antibiotic Amoxicillin, we pay three times more for the value of materials."

In fact, in the Martha Abreu clinic, elective surgeries have been temporarily suspended for lack of hypodermics.

Yet Cuban doctors continue to travel all over the world, bringing health care to the places in a country where their own national doctors don't even go. "We stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the people of the community," said one Cuban doctor. The province of Villa Clara alone has sent its doctors to 64 countries. "We give what we have, not what we have left over."

The whole world opposes U.S. blockade of Cuba: Resist the blockade!

The resistance of the Cuban people continues as they build a society based on meeting the needs of the many, and not the few.

Opposition to Washington's aggression is universal, as most people in the U.S. oppose the blockade. Last year, virtually the whole world -- 191 countries -- voted to lift the U.S. blockade of Cuba. Only the United States and Israel voted against the resolution. This coming October 31 at the UN General Assembly, the resolution on ending the U.S. blockade will once again be voted on.

The U.S. blockade is 59 years of genocidal oppression against socialist Cuba. We must oppose the blockade and fight for its overturn. Let Cuba live!



Denver Colorado Chapter of the Universal African Peoples Organization (UAPO), headed by Queen Freedom Expresses its SOLIDARITY with the Revolutionary People of Cuba

"It is impossible for capitalism to survive, primarily because the system of capitalism needs some blood to suck. Capitalism used to be like an eagle, but now it's more like a vulture. It used to be strong enough to go and suck anybody's blood whether they were strong or not. But now it has become more cowardly, like the vulture, and it can only suck the blood of the helpless. As the nations of the world free themselves, the capitalism has less victims, less to suck, and it becomes weaker and weaker. It's only a matter of time in my opinion before it will collapse completely." – Malcolm X



Don Fitz: Green Party Candidate for State Auditor Platform of Missouri Green Party



1. Monsanto and other agribusinesses.

In July 2018 a San Francisco jury awarded \$289 million to black groundskeeper Dewayne Johnson due to cancer resulting from his exposure to Monsanto's herbicide Roundup. Governmental practices could be poisoning workers, students and community members. As State Auditor I will audit costs of purchasing Roundup and other pesticides/herbicides for use on MO roadways, parks, schools, government building grounds and all other state green spaces (along with an audit of such costs by MO political subdivisions) and potential costs for litigation from lawsuits by workers, students and residents for health damage from pesticide/herbicide usage. The audit will gather information to determine if Missouri has a pattern of differentially exposing people of color to poisonous chemicals.

I will audit financial relations between agricultural businesses (such as Monsanto) and Missouri Departments of Agriculture, Conservation, and Natural Resources as well as all campuses of the University of Missouri and all school districts, including gifts such as computers which may promote interests of the corporation. I will explore whether the Missouri Department of Health has studied costs to governmental bodies in Missouri which could result from the use of agricultural products such as pesticides and herbicides including, but not limited to Roundup and Dicamba.

2. Energy Companies.

As State Auditor I will examine relations between energy corporations (including but not limited to Peabody Coal and the Callaway Nuclear Generating Station) for financial malfeasance and gifts which may promote interests of the corporation. I will explore whether the Missouri Department of Health has studied costs to governmental bodies in Missouri which

would result from a catastrophic nuclear accident that resulted in the loss of numerous lives and billions of dollars which exceeded the nuclear generating station's total liability limit established by the 1954 Price-Anderson Act.

3. Public Spending for Privatized Medicaid.

The purpose of Missouri Medicaid is to help the indigent and underserved get the health care they need. I will audit how much of our taxpayers' health care dollars for Missouri Medicaid (MOHealthNet) go directly towards care by providers to patients, and compare what percent of those tax dollars go to administrative costs and profit for the insurance companies and their agents.

4. Militarization of Police.

As State Auditor I will audit all costs associated with militarizing police in Missouri, including but not limited to purchase of armored vehicles, military grade assault rifles, grenade launchers, sniper rifles, clothing that looks like military uniforms, SWAT teams, and heavy duty riot control gear. The audit will examine crime rates before and after the militarization.

5. Public Spending for Prisons and Jails.

5a. Health Care. Missouri law (RSMo 217.230) requires that it provide health care for prisoners "equivalent to community standard." As State Auditor, I will examine the contract with Corizon Health LLC, to determine whether allocated funds are sufficient to ensure the "community standard" of care which will reduce expensive chronic care needs and hospitalizations. I will also examine how much of our taxpayers' health care dollars go directly towards care of the incarcerated patients, and compare the percent of those tax dollars which go to staffing, administrative costs and profit for the private health care provider Corizon Health LLC.

5b. I will audit extra costs associated with mandatory sentences and "three strikes" sentencing requirements and examine data to determine if these are associated with a lower or higher rate of crime.

5c. I will audit costs of solitary con-

finement, including costs resulting from lawsuits regarding its inappropriate use and estimate savings or costs resulting from its discontinuation.

5d. I will audit all costs of the sex offender registration program and how much could be saved by eliminating the program and examine data to determine if the program has any effect on the rate of sex crimes.

5e. Prisoners have to pay taxes on all purchased items despite the fact that the Missouri Department of Corrections (MDOC) acquires those items tax free. I will audit how much revenue is being generated on the backs of Missourians who financially support their incarcerated loved ones.

5f. Revenue from prisoners' canteen purchases was meant to support activities and programming that benefits prisoners. I will audit how much of the funds are being misappropriated for other purposes, such as for staff benefits.

6. Death Penalty.

Oklahoma, New Mexico, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, and Indiana are just a few of the states which have found that the death penalty is much more expensive than life without parole. I will audit total costs, including costs to the trial jurisdiction of having the death penalty even when a grand jury decides no death sentence is warranted, or a prosecutor asks for death but no death sentence is reached; costs involving an exoneration at any point in the process, or the sentence is thrown out along the way without reaching execution. The audit will cover costs to local jurisdictions for the initial trial and costs to Missouri for appeals, public defender and other state-funded defense such as costs of the execution itself and of last-minute stays after the procedure has been put in place.

7. Marijuana

As State Auditor I will examine how much money Missouri and all of its political subdivisions have spent during the last five years on law enforcement training, arrests, trials, appeals, incarceration, and all other costs associated with criminalization of marijuana and how much could be saved for Missouri taxpayers by complete decriminalization. I will also specifically examine health costs

related to denial of medical marijuana to recipients of Medicare, Medicaid and all other state-funded treatment entities and project how much could be saved by making medical marijuana available.

8. Testing in schools.

Missouri's current system of standardized testing may not accurately gauge student learning.

As State Auditor, I will examine whether the cost of Missouri's current system of standardized testing in public education shows a strong enough benefit in student learning to justify its continued usage, or whether other measures would be more beneficial, accurate and cost effective for Missouri.

9. Missouri Lottery

When Missouri voters approved the lottery that began in 1988, they were promised that proceeds would go toward education. I will audit what proportion of lottery proceeds have actually gone to education every year since it was begun, if funds for education have decreased from other state sources after the lottery was initiated and how much total funding for education has changed as a result of the lottery.

10. Gender discrimination in retirement benefits for Missouri State Employees.

Retirement benefits from the State of Missouri could be structured against female employees. Monthly benefits are based on a formula that multiplies the years of service by the average wage of recent years. Since couples who move for employment advancement are far more likely to do so for the husband's than the wife's career, this could result in female employees' maintaining continuous employment for a shorter time period for a lower salary. The resulting reduced retirement benefits could be particularly devastating for a woman who gets divorced a few years prior to her husband's retirement and loses his benefits. As State Auditor I will examine the difference in retirement benefits to women and men who have worked for the State of Missouri and propose corrective adjustments.



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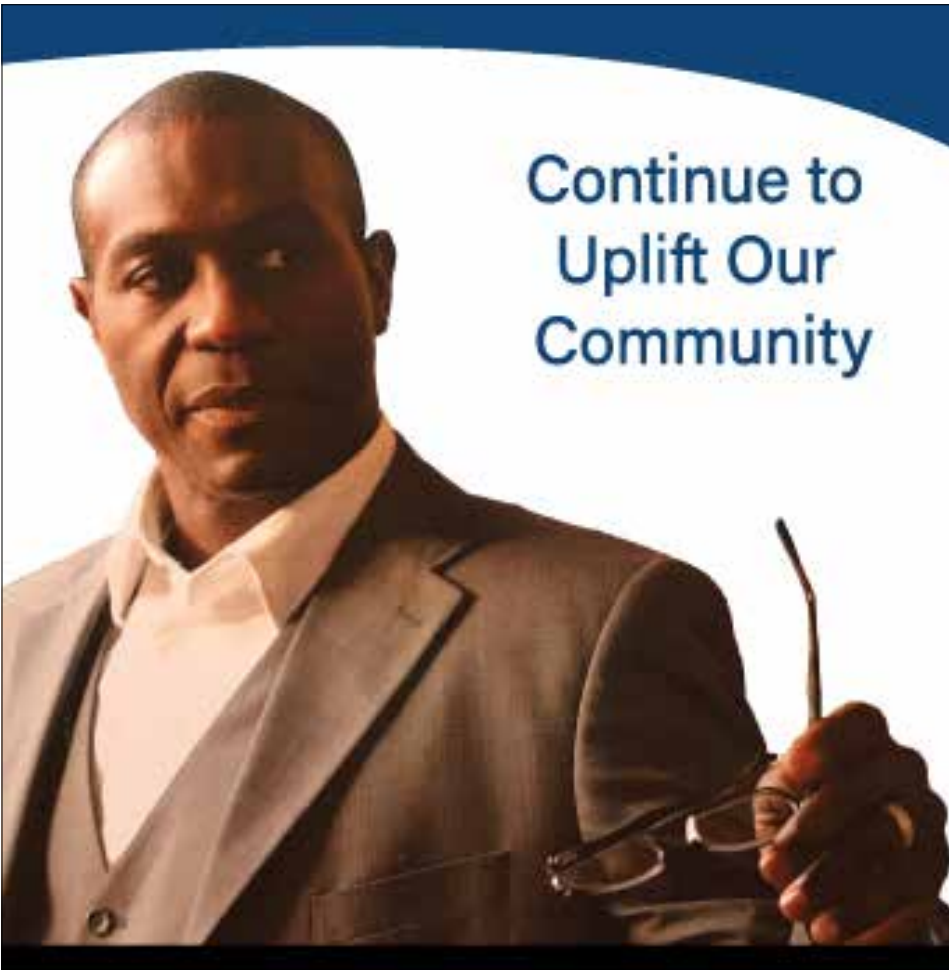
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From July 1, 2017 – MSD's most recently completed fiscal year – through March 31, 2018, minority-owned firms performed \$29,362,005 million in capital work, representing 19.86 percent of our capital program for that period. Women-owned firms performed \$4,630,762 million in capital work, representing 3.13 percent of our capital program spending.* During that same timeframe, minority workforce participation was 574,676 hours or 29.54 percent of total hours worked on capital projects. Women participation was 115,258 hours or 5.93 percent of total hours worked on capital projects.*

To learn more about MSD's multi-billion dollar capital program and opportunities for minority- and women-owned businesses, visit www.stlmsd.com/diversity.

- MSD PROJECTS:**
 To learn about bidding on MSD projects visit www.stlmsd.com/msd-work/bidding-projects.
- MSD SMALL CONTRACTOR PROGRAM:**
 MSD is seeking small contractors to participate in its Small Contractor Program, offering bid opportunities under \$25,000 with minimum requirements. For more details visit: <http://www.stlmsd.com/small-contractor-program>.
- EMPLOYMENT WITH MSD:**
 For information on current job opening at MSD or to submit a job interest notification for future openings, visit www.stlmsd.com/careers.
- MSD MINORITY SCHOLARSHIPS:**
 Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville (SIUE) and MSD have teamed up to create scholarships for the Water Quality Control Operations Program at the Environmental Resource Training Center (ERTC) of SIUE. For more details, visit www.stlmsd.com/msd-offers-minority-scholarships.
- SUPPLIER DIVERSITY:**
 If you are seeking information on Certified Minority and Women Business Enterprises (MWBE) contractors, suppliers, or consultants, visit www.stlmsd.com/msd-work/supplier-diversity.

*Numbers are as of June 29, 2018. Please note, as project documentation is finalized, precise numbers may fluctuate.







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The Urban League's Save Our Sons program seeks to help unemployed and underemployed African American men and others in the Saint Louis region and inner communities find gainful employment and have the opportunity to earn livable wages. This program completes these objectives by assisting the participants in obtaining post-secondary, education job training and teaching the imperative career skills and work ethic necessary to become successful employees in today's workforce.



OUR MISSION

The mission of the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, Inc. is to empower African Americans and others throughout the region in securing economic self-reliance, social equality and civil rights.

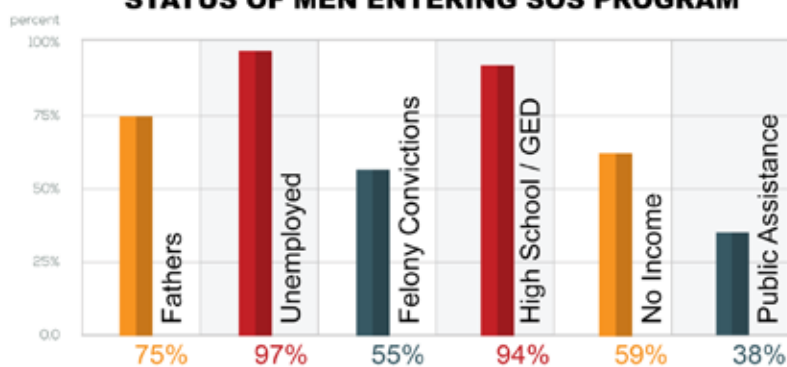
OUR VISION

As the leading champion of empowerment and opportunity for African Americans, the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis envisions a region where all people:

- Are valued members of the community;
- Can adequately support themselves and their families;
- Can live in neighborhoods that are vibrant and thriving;
- and, Share in the region's prosperity and well-being.

Currently 54% of African American men graduate from high school, compared to more than 75% of their peers. Lacking a high school education often leads to elevated poverty and unemployment rates in the African American community.

STATUS OF MEN ENTERING SOS PROGRAM



AGE OF PARTICIPANTS

36 and over	24%
Ages 22-35	38%
Ages 17 -21	38%

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US Secret Wars in Africa Rage on Despite Talk of Downsizing

Nick Turse / Black Agenda Report

“There is no evidence yet of massive cuts, gradual reductions, or any downsizing whatsoever.”

Last October, four U.S. soldiers -- including two commandos -- were killed in an ambush in Niger. Since then, talk of U.S. special operations in Africa has centered on missions being curtailed and troop levels cut.

Press accounts have suggested that the number of special operators on the front lines has been reduced, with the head of U.S. Special Operations forces in Africa directing his troops to take fewer risks. At the same time, a “sweeping Pentagon review” of special ops missions on the continent may result in drastic cuts in the number of commandos operating there. U.S. Africa Command has apparently been asked to consider the impact on counterterrorism operations of cutting the number of Green Berets, Navy SEALs, and other commandos by 25 percent over 18 months and 50 percent over three years.

Analysts have already stepped forward to question or criticize the proposed cuts. “Anybody that knows me knows that I would disagree with any downsizing in Africa,” Donald Bolduc, a former chief of U.S. commandos on the continent, told Voice of America.

“The number of commandos operating on the continent has barely budged since 2017.”

While the review was reportedly ordered this spring and troop reductions may be coming, there is no evidence yet of massive cuts, gradual reductions, or any downsizing whatsoever. In fact, the number of commandos operating on the continent has barely budged since 2017. Nearly 10 months after the debacle in Niger, the tally of special operators in Africa remains essentially unchanged.

According to figures provided to The Intercept by U.S. Special Operations Command, 16.5 percent of commandos overseas are deployed in Africa. This is about the same percentage of special operators sent to the continent in 2017 and represents a major increase over deployments during the first decade of the post-9/11 war on terror. In 2006, for example, just 1 percent of all U.S. commandos deployed overseas were in Africa -- fewer than in the Middle East, the Pacific, Europe, or Latin America. By 2010, the number had risen only slightly, to 3 percent.



Today, more U.S. commandos are deployed to Africa than to any other region of the world except the Middle East. Back in 2006, there were only 70 special operators deployed across Africa. Just four years ago, there were still just 700 elite troops on the continent. Given that an average of 8,300 commandos are deployed overseas in any given week, according to SOCOM spokesperson Ken McGraw, we can surmise that roughly 1,370 Green Berets, Navy SEALs, or other elite forces are currently operating in Africa.

“More U.S. commandos are deployed to Africa than to any other region of the world except the Middle East.”

The Pentagon won’t say how many commandos are still deployed in Niger, but the total number of troops operating there is roughly the same as in October 2017 when two Green Berets and two fellow soldiers were killed by Islamic State militants. There are 800 Defense Department personnel currently deployed to the West African nation, according to Maj. Sheryll Klinkel, a Pentagon spokesperson. “I can’t give a breakdown of SOF there, but it’s a fraction of the overall force,” she told The Intercept. There are now also 500 American military personnel – including Special Operations forces – in Somalia. At the beginning of last year, AFRICOM told Stars and Stripes, there were only 100.

“None of these special operations forces are intended to be engaged in direct combat operations,” said Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs Robert S. Karem, while speaking about current troop levels in Niger during a May Pentagon press briefing on the investigation into the deadly October ambush. Despite this official policy, despite the deaths in Niger, and despite the supposed curbs on special operations in Africa, U.S. commandos there keep finding themselves in situations that are indistinguishable from combat.

In December, for example, Green Berets fighting alongside local forces in Niger reportedly killed 11 ISIS militants in a firefight. And last month in Somalia, a member of the Special Operations forces,

Staff Sgt. Alexander Conrad, was killed and four other Americans were wounded in an attack by members of the Islamist militant group Shabaab. Conrad’s was the second death of a U.S. special operator in Somalia in 13 months. Last May, a Navy SEAL, Senior Chief Petty Officer Kyle Milliken, was killed, and two other American troops were wounded while carrying out a mission there with local forces.

“U.S. commandos in Africa keep finding themselves in situations that are indistinguishable from combat.”

Between 2015 and 2017, there were also at least 10 previously unreported attacks on American troops in West Africa, the New York Times revealed in March. Meanwhile, Politico recently reported that, for at least five years, Green Berets, Navy SEALs, and other commandos — operating under a little-understood budgetary authority known as Section 127e that funds classified programs — have been involved in reconnaissance and “direct action” combat raids with local forces in Cameroon, Kenya, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Somalia, and Tunisia. Indeed, in a 2015 briefing obtained by The Intercept, Bolduc, then the special ops chief in Africa, noted that America’s commandos were not only conducting “surrogate” and “combined” “counter violent extremist operations,” but also “unilateral” missions.

While media reports have focused on the possibility of imminent reductions, the number of commandos deployed in Africa is nonetheless up 96 percent since 2014 and remains fundamentally unchanged since the deadly 2017 ambush in Niger. And as the June death of Conrad in Somalia indicates, commandos are still operating in hazardous areas. Indeed, at the May Pentagon briefing, Gen. Thomas Waldhauser, the chief of U.S. Africa Command, drew attention to special operators’ “high-risk missions” under “extreme conditions” in Africa. America’s commandos, he said, “are doing a fantastic job across the continent.”

YOU MUST LEARN

Close your eyes and name as many countries on the continent of Africa. Ideally, you should know at least 35 of the 54 countries. Learn their names, spelling and their location.

- A**
 - Algeria
 - Angola

B
 - Benin
 - Botswana
 - Burkina Faso
 - Burundi

C
 - Cape Verde
 - Cameroon
 - Central African Republic (CAR)
 - Chad
 - Comoros
 - Democratic Republic of the Congo
 - Republic of the Congo
 - Cote d'Ivoire

D
 - Djibouti

E
 - Egypt
 - Equatorial Guinea

G
 - Gabon
 - Gambia
 - Ghana
 - Guinea
 - Guinea-Bissau

K
 - Kenya

L
 - Lesotho
 - Liberia
 - Libya

M
 - Madagascar
 - Malawi
 - Mali
 - Mauritania
 - Mauritius
 - Morocco
 - Mozambique

N
 - Namibia
 - Niger

R
 - Rwanda

S
 - Sao Tome and Principe
 - Senegal
 - Seychelles
 - Sierra Leone
 - Somalia
 - South Africa
 - South Sudan
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T
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PLATFORM

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A. MOTTO B. PREAMBLE C. PLATFORM

One GOD – as opposed to being divided along religious beliefs and ideology; we believe that there is a creator that is greater than us and there will be a day of judgment. We also say that we must unite based on our commonality, which is (1) we are of African descent and (2) we are oppressed within America and throughout the world.

One Goal – Our goal is the liberation of our people spiritually, economically, politically and culturally, whereby we will control our own destiny.

One Destiny – the fulfillment of God's will for us as a people to have Freedom, Justice and Equality, no matter where we reside and where we as a collective group will fulfill our capacity to grow, develop and expand to our greatest height of self development.

PREAMBLE

The Universal African Peoples Organization is a progressive business, political, humanitarian, educational, and expansive society, and founded by persons desiring to work for the general uplifting of people of African descent throughout the world. Members pledge themselves to do all in their power to advance the rights of their noble race and to respect the rights of all others, adhering always to the power of the unity and belief in the Creator. The motto of the organization is "One God!

One Goal! One Destiny!" Therefore, let justice become reality for all people, realizing that if the strong oppress the weak, confusion and discontent will obstruct progress and development. With respect, equality and justice towards those of goodwill, a new era of peace and plenty will be forthcoming into the world and out future generations will be liberated.

UAPO PLATFORM

We will improve the lives of our people when we do the following:

1. Develop, support and expand the growth of African American businesses. Increase the number of African American skilled professionals. Gain our fair share of the tax dollars and services generated by national, state and local businesses. End redlining of the African American community. Develop international trade ventures.
2. We seek to increase the quantitative/qualitative number of African Americans to elected public offices in proportion to our population at the national, state and local levels. We seek the passage of legislation that would directly enhance the quality of life for African Americans.
3. Support the development and expansion of independent African American schools. Support African centered curriculum in the local public school boards with Afrocentric thinking people. Increase the literacy rate and level in our community.
4. Institute community control of the police departments and end racism within the judicial system. Support and expand educational job training and community

oriented programs within the penal institutions. Use community service programs as alternatives to incarceration for non-violent offenders.

5. Develop greater emphasis on health care, knowledge and accessibility. Support a universal assistance program responsible for providing a minimum standard of living to rebuild two parent and/or extended families. End homelessness.

6. Develop programs to assist youth in preparing for the 21st century. We believe in the total equality and advancement of women within the private, public and domestic sectors of our society. We also believe that all women should be respected and protected.

7. End all types of pollution, especially industrial, of Mother Earth.

8. Support and work diligently for the complete liberation of Africa, the Caribbean Islands, and other regions/countries in the world. Actively support the principles of non-interference in the affairs of other nations.

TO SUPPORT OUR CAUSE
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