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# **CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS**

**FIRST SESSION OF THE 115TH CONGRESS  
YEAR-END REPORT**



**Left:** Congressman Cedric L. Richmond (D-LA-02) is the 25th Chairman of the CBC. He represents the 2nd Congressional District of Louisiana, which includes parts of New Orleans and Baton Rouge.



# CBC LEADERSHIP



**Congressman Cedric L. Richmond**  
*Chairman (D-LA-02)*



**Congressman André Carson**  
*First Vice Chair (D-IN-07)*



**Congresswoman Karen Bass**  
*Second Vice Chair (D-CA-37)*



**Congresswoman Gwen Moore**  
*Whip (D-WI-04)*



**Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence**  
*Secretary (D-MI-14)*



**Congressman Anthony Brown**  
*Parliamentarian (D-MD-04)*



**Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke**  
*Member-At-Large (D-NY-09)*



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# MESSAGE

The year-end report summarizes the actions Chairman Richmond and the Executive Committee have taken to advance the mission of the bicameral, bipartisan 48-member CBC from the day they were sworn in through December 31, 2017. While the CBC's mission has remained the same since it was established 46 years ago by 13 founding members, the tools used to advance the mission have not. This Congress, the CBC is focused on using aggressive legislative strategies and old and new communications strategies to expand engagement, economic empowerment, and equity in the African-American community. The CBC is also focused on strengthening and streamlining the day-to-day administrative actions of the caucus.

THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS FOUNDATION, INCORPORATED  
PRESENTS

## *A Ceremonial Swearing-In*



## *The Congressional Black Caucus 115th Congress*



## **SWEARING-IN**

**Above:** On Tuesday, January 3, 2017, the CBC swore in 49 members – 47 Representatives and Delegates, including one Republican, and two Senators – making it the largest CBC in history. In fact, this Congress, the CBC makes up almost one-fourth of the House Democratic Caucus.

## BY THE NUMBERS

Below is a by-the-numbers summary of what the CBC did in 2017

**739** NUMBER OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED

**146** NUMBER OF MEETINGS WITH EXTERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

**94** NUMBER OF PRESS RELEASES ISSUED

**35** NUMBER OF EVENTS HOSTED FOR MEMBERS AND STAFF

**2** NUMBER OF AMICUS BRIEFS FILED

# LEGISLATIVE

## TESTIFIED AGAINST SENATOR JEFF SESSIONS

On Tuesday, January 11, 2017, [\*Chairman Richmond\*](#), [\*Senator Cory Booker\*](#) (D-NJ), and [\*Congressman John Lewis\*](#) (D-GA-05), a civil rights hero, testified at then U.S. Senator Jeff Sessions' (R-AL) nomination hearing for Attorney General to urge the Senate to oppose his nomination because of Sessions' record on civil rights. As a result of this testimony, Senator Booker became the first sitting senator to testify against another sitting senator's nomination. Chairman Richmond's full testimony is [\*here\*](#).



**Above:** Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ), Congressman John Lewis (D-GA-05), and Chairman Richmond testify during then U.S. Senator Jeff Sessions' (R-AL) nomination hearing for Attorney General.

“In the choice between standing with Senate norms or standing up for what my conscience tells me is best for our country, I will always choose conscience and country.”

– **Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ)**

“Senator Sessions has demonstrated a total disregard for the equal application of justice and protection of the law as it applies to African Americans and falls short on so many issues... Now you all must face a choice – be courageous or be complicit. If you vote to confirm Senator Sessions, you take ownership of everything he may do or not do.”

– **Chairman Richmond**



## OPPOSED TRUMP CABINET NOMINEES

In addition to opposing then U.S. Senator Jeff Sessions' (R-AL) nomination for attorney general, the CBC opposed the nomination of then education activist Betsy DeVos for Secretary of Education, then U.S. Representative Tom Price (R-GA-06) for Secretary of Health and Human Services, and Judge Neil Gorsuch for Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. In the case of the cabinet nominees, the CBC held two press conferences opposing their nominations before they were confirmed and sent letters to [Sessions](#) and [DeVos](#) after they were confirmed that criticized their positions and policies. In the case of Judge Gorsuch, the CBC submitted [testimony](#) and published an [op-ed](#) opposing his nomination and sent a [letter](#) to senators asking them to do the same.

## CHALLENGED PRESIDENT TRUMP AND HIS ADMINISTRATION

At the request of the White House, the CBC Executive Committee and Assistant Democratic Leader James E. Clyburn (D-SC-06) met with President Trump and Vice President Pence to dis-

cuss issues affecting both African-American and rural communities and why the Administration should follow the CBC's lead if it's serious about addressing these issues. During the meeting, members discussed criminal justice reform and re-entry, education and job training, infrastructure and economic investment, poverty and the Administration's proposed cuts to domestic programs. Members also discussed President Trump's comments about President Obama and inner cities and how those comments hurt the African-American community. On the morning of the meeting, the CBC hand-delivered a 130-page policy document to the White House titled, "[We Have A Lot To Lose: Solutions for Black Families in the 21st Century](#)." The title of the document was the CBC's answer to President Trump's campaign question to Black America. Members also carried this document with them to the meeting and told President Trump that many of the solutions in the document had been blocked by members of his party even though they would help a lot of the people who voted for him. Finally, the CBC told President Trump that the caucus needs to hear from members of his cabinet – specifically Attorney General Sessions, Secretary DeVos, and Secretary Carson. President Trump agreed and said the White House would help facilitate those meetings. However, Attorney General Sessions, Secretary DeVos, and Secretary Carson have still not met with the CBC.



**Above:** Chairman Richmond, Congressman André Carson (D-IN-07), First Vice Chair of the CBC, and Assistant Democratic Leader James E. Clyburn (D-SC-06) leave the podium outside of the West Wing after the CBC's meeting with President Trump. *Associated Press*

“President Trump has a law and order perspective and we have an education and opportunity perspective.”

– **Chairman Richmond**

“It’s his budget, it’s his policy, it’s his rhetoric; all of these factors demonstrate what we stand to lose.”

– **Congresswoman Karen Bass (D-CA-37)**

## HOSTED WHITE HOUSE, RUSSIA, AND NATIONAL SECURITY PANEL

On Thursday, March 2, 2017, the CBC hosted a [panel](#) examining the potential constitutional and ethical violations committed by the Trump Administration and their impact on both the safety and security of the nation and the American public’s trust in democratic institutions. Panelists included Malcolm Nance, a combat veteran, commentator, and former naval intelligence collector; Richard Painter, University of Minnesota law professor and former chief ethics counsel under President George W. Bush; and Susan Hennessey, a national security fellow at the Brookings Institute and former attorney at the National Security Agency. Information learned from the panel supported the need for an independent investigation into any and all connections and collusion between the White House and



**Above:** Panelists Richard Painter, Susan Hennessey, and Malcolm Nance testify during the CBC’s White House, Russia, and National Security panel.

Russia. After the panel, the CBC called for Attorney General Sessions to resign for lying under oath during his nomination hearing about conversations with Russian officials and for the removal of Chairman Devin Nunes from the House Intelligence Committee for mishandling Russian intelligence.

“The American people deserve to know the truth about the potential connections and collusion between this Administration and Russia. That is why the Congressional Black Caucus held this panel, and why we think an independent investigation is needed and Attorney General Sessions needs to resign.”

– **The CBC**

“The President’s failure to abide by norms of basic transparency make it impossible for Congress or the American people to assess whether and how those financial interests may be influencing his decision making.”

– **Susan Hennessey, Brookings Institute**

## DECLINED A REQUEST FOR A FOLLOW-UP MEETING WITH TRUMP

On Wednesday, June 21, 2017, the CBC voted to decline a request for a follow-up meeting with President Trump. After the vote, the CBC sent a [letter](#) to President Trump explaining why the CBC was declining the meeting.

## CO-HOSTED FORUM ON BUILDING TRUST BETWEEN COMMUNITIES AND POLICE

On Monday, March 27, 2017, the CBC co-hosted a [forum](#) with Ranking Members on the House Judiciary Committee and the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee on building trust between communities of color and police. Panelists included NFL Player Malcolm Jenkins

with the Philadelphia Eagles; former NFL Player Anquan Boldin; and Dr. Phillip Atiba Goff, the Co-Founder and President of the Center for Policing Equity. During the forum, panelists discussed their own experiences with the police, including the experiences of their family members, and how they hope to improve relationships between communities of color and the police while supporting programs to help inmates successfully re-enter their communities. Boldin's cousin Corey Jones was shot by a police officer while waiting for roadside assistance.

**“Corey was a good kid. He played drums in church. But his faith couldn't keep him alive.”**

**– Anquan Boldin, Former NFL Player**

## MET WITH FOP AND NOBLE

On Wednesday, October 11, 2017, the CBC met with the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) and the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) to discuss how the three organizations (i.e. CBC, FOP, NOBLE) could come together around basic principles related to police accountability.

## MET WITH THE FBI ABOUT “BLACK IDENTITY EXTREMISTS”

In October, an internal FBI report titled “[Black Identity Extremists Likely Motivated to Target Law Enforcement](#)” was leaked to the public. The report creates a new class of terrorist threats called “Black Identity Extremists” and describes a surveillance program reminiscent of another FBI surveillance program, COINTELPRO.

COINTELPRO was a civil rights era surveillance program that targeted African-American activists and leaders, including Martin Luther King, Jr. and Coretta Scott King, using measures that were often illegal. Several CBC members were also targeted by COINTELPRO, including Congressman John Lewis (D-GA-05) who was known to the FBI as file number [44-845](#).

The report's methodology and conclusions are problematic, as well as the report's definition of “Black Identity Extremists,” which is unclear and could include those in non-extremist groups such as Black Lives Matter. On Wednesday, November 29, 2017, the CBC met with the FBI about the report and asked Director Wray to rescind it. Director Wray said he would take a second look at the report and follow-up with the CBC about this request.

**“The term ‘Black Identity Extremist’ inaccurately describes the movement that is going on. We don't want anyone to view Black Lives Matter or other organizations that protest as an extremist group or a domestic terrorist group because we think that's very dangerous.”**

**– Chairman Richmond**

## INTRODUCED AN ALTERNATIVE FY 2018 BUDGET

The CBC developed an alternative FY 2018 [budget](#) that invests in programs and policies that will help African Americans and the rest of the nation achieve the American Dream. In addition to protecting social safety net programs and providing other pathways out of poverty, the CBC budget proposes to make the tax code fairer by closing loopholes for the wealthy, provide universal health care by adding a public option to the Affordable Care Act (ACA), and make college more affordable by reducing interest rates on student loans and investing in HBCUs. The CBC budget also reduces the deficit by approximately \$2.5 trillion over 10 years compared to CBO's January 2017 baseline. The CBC budget was developed by Congressman Bobby Scott (D-VA-03), Ranking Member of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce and former member of the House Budget Committee. Congressman Scott has been developing the CBC budget for the last decade and works with the Democratic staff of the House Budget Committee to finalize it. On Thursday, March 16, 2017, then NewsOne anchor Roland Martin [interviewed](#) Congressman Scott about the budget shortly after it was released.

On Thursday, October 5, 2017, the House of Representatives [voted](#) on the CBC Budget, which received 130 votes — the third highest vote count since the CBC Budget was first introduced in the mid-1990s.

For more information about the CBC Budget, download the [one-pager](#), [outline](#), and [comprehensive document](#) about it.

**“If the President is serious about moving the African-American community and the rest of the nation forward, he need only to look to the alternative budget developed by the CBC. The CBC budget makes targeted investments in programs that support working families, students, seniors, and the most vulnerable in our communities. At the same time, the CBC budget actually improves the fiscal situation of our nation by reducing the deficit by nearly \$2.5 trillion over the next decade.”**

**– Congressman Bobby Scott (D-VA-03)**

## RETURNED TO SILICON VALLEY

Congresswoman Barbara Lee (D-CA-13) and Congressman G. K. Butterfield (D-NC-01), Co-Chairs of the CBC Diversity Task Force returned to Silicon Valley on October 16-17, 2017, to meet with leaders at the country’s foremost tech companies as part of the CBC TECH 2020 initiative. They met with Airbnb, Facebook, Uber, Intel, Lyft, Salesforce, TaskRabbit and Twitter. They also met with Black founders and employees at tech companies, as well as investors at venture capital firms.

The CBC TECH 2020 initiative was launched in 2015 and aims to increase African-American inclusion at all levels of the tech industry. As part of the CBC TECH 2020 initiative, the CBC has outlined diversity principles, best practices, resources for African-American students and entrepreneurs, and introduced legislation focused on increasing STEAM education.

The tech industry has made incremental gains since the CBC first traveled to Silicon Valley. For example, nearly every tech company in Silicon Valley now releases annual diversity reports. When lawmakers returned to Silicon Valley on October 16-17, 2017, their message was simple: Saying diversity is important is not enough.



**Above:** Congressman Bobby Scott (D-VA-03) talks to panelists during the CBC Budget roundtable.

## MET WITH FACEBOOK ABOUT RUSSIAN ADS

On Thursday, October 12, 2017, the CBC met with Facebook about ads Russia purchased on the platform that were used to target Black Lives Matter. In some cases, these ads characterized the group as violent and were intended to sow racial divisions. During the meeting, Chairman Richmond told Facebook COO Sheryl Sandberg in no uncertain terms that he thought these ads cost the Democratic Party the election, especially when he looked at third-party votes in key swing states. He also told Sandberg that to whom much is given much is required: The messages and images posted on Facebook impact not only the country but the world and Facebook has a responsibility to ensure that our enemies aren't using their platform to incite racial violence and choose the leader of the free world.

**“This is a very fragile moment in time for African-Americans across this country. We need Facebook to understand that they play a role in the perception of African-Americans and their platform influences the country.”**

**– Chairman Richmond**

## DEMANDED JUSTICE

From the federal government to flags to the football field, the CBC demanded justice on a number of different issues.

### Urged Administration to Increase Resources for Hate Crime Investigations

On Tuesday, June 7, 2017, the CBC sent a [letter](#) to the Department of Justice, Department of Homeland Security, and the FBI urging them to dedicate more resources to investigating hate crimes and prosecuting these crimes to the “fullest extent of the law.” In the letter, the CBC cited data from the Southern Poverty Law Center showing that nearly 1,100 hate-related incidents occurred across the nation during the 34 days after the 2016 election, as well as

several recent hate crimes, including the murder of an African-American service member and college student, 2nd Lieutenant Richard Collins, III, threats of lynching directed at Congressman Al Green (D-TX-09), and nooses hanging at two federally funded museums, the National Museum of African American History and Culture and the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden.

**“Your leadership is required to not only bring justice to the victims of hate crimes, but also to send a clear message that these acts of domestic terrorism will never be tolerated in this country.”**

**– Chairman Richmond**

### Demanded Justice for Bakari Henderson

On Monday, November 6, 2017, the CBC sent a [letter](#) to Secretary of State Rex Tillerson requesting “special attention to” and “periodic updates” on the ongoing investigation by Greek authorities into the death of Bakari Henderson, an American citizen from Texas who was tragically murdered in July while in Greece. Henderson was a recent graduate of the University of Arizona, and had traveled to Greece to take photos for a clothing line he had started.

**“The loss of young life is always a tragedy, especially when it is a young man with so much potential. I grieve alongside the parents of Bakari Henderson as they seek justice for their son in Greece. An American citizen was murdered abroad and it is the duty of the United States government to ensure that justice is served no matter where the crime was committed.”**

**– Chairman Richmond**

Of the nine men who were charged with Henderson's murder, at least two have fled back to their home countries. An investigating judge in Greece continues to review the facts and forensics of the

case and will refer it to a public prosecutor once the investigation is complete. No trial date has been set.

### Urged DOD IG to Investigate Racial Disparities in the Military Disciplinary System

On Thursday, July 13, 2017, the CBC sent a [letter](#) to the Department of Defense Inspector General urging the agency to look into the racial disparities faced by Black service members under the military's disciplinary system. According to reports, Black service members are more likely than White service members to face military justice or disciplinary action.

### Criticized White House Treatment of Johnson Family, Congresswoman Wilson

On Tuesday, October 17, 2017, Congresswoman Frederica S. Wilson (D-FL-24) publicly criticized President Trump for his insensitive remarks during a phone call with Myeshia Johnson, an African-American military widow whose husband, Army Sgt. La David T. Johnson, was killed during

an ambush in Niger. Congresswoman Wilson said that President Trump told the widow that "he knew what he signed up for." Although Congresswoman Wilson's account of the call was disputed by President Trump, the White House and the Johnsons later confirmed that Congresswoman Wilson's account was true.

As a result of Congresswoman Wilson's criticism, President Trump called her "whacky" and his Chief of Staff John Kelly called her an "empty barrel." General Kelly went a step further and lied during a press conference about a speech she gave at a dedication for a new FBI building in Florida. General Kelly said that Congresswoman Wilson bragged during the speech about getting the money for the building and that everyone in the audience was offended. However, video evidence released shortly after General Kelly's criticism proved that wasn't true.

In response, [Chairman Richmond](#) and the [women of the CBC](#) released statements in Congresswoman Wilson's defense. The CBC women urged General Kelly to apologize to Congresswoman Wilson. General Kelly still hasn't apologized.



**Above:** Myeshia Johnson at the funeral for her husband Army Sgt. La David T. Johnson. *ABC News*

## Met with American Airlines about #FlyingWhileBlack

On Wednesday, December 6, 2017, the CBC met with American Airlines about the disparate treatment of African-American customers, which is also known as #FlyingWhileBlack. The CBC told American Airlines that the company should continue to work with the caucus and the NAACP to ensure that all passengers, including African Americans, are treated with dignity and respect. A few months prior, the NAACP issued a travel advisory for American Airlines, warning African Americans of the airline's growing list of racial bias incidents.

## Filed Mississippi Flag Amicus Brief

On Wednesday, July 26, 2017, the CBC [filed](#) an amicus brief with the U.S. Supreme Court in support of the forthcoming petition for certiorari in *Moore v. Bryant*. In *Moore v. Bryant* Mississippi resident and attorney Carlos Moore alleged that Mississippi violated his constitutional right to equal protection under the law by incorporating the Confederate battle emblem into its official flag. Specifically, Moore alleged that the incorporation of the Confederate battle emblem into Mississippi's flag symbolized the State's endorsement of the oppressive regime that enslaved and brutalized his ancestors, endorsed the notion that its white citizens are superior to its black citizens, and represented a declaration that he and other African Americans live and work as second-class citizens in the State of Mississippi because of their race. The Supreme Court rejected the case on November 27, 2017.



**Above:** The flag for the State of Mississippi.

**"I support the members of the Mississippi Black Legislative Caucus who have decided to boycott the upcoming Southern Legislative Conference due to a lack of action by their colleagues to address the discriminatory state flag. These legislators should be commended for their steadfast commitment to removing a symbol of hate from our state flag."**

**– Congressman Bennie Thompson (D-MS-02)**

## Filed Ohio Voter Purge Amicus Brief

On Friday, September 22, 2017, the CBC [filed](#) an amicus brief with the U.S. Supreme Court in *APRI v. Husted*, a case challenging the way the State of Ohio purges voters from its rolls. The State of Ohio purges voters from its rolls based on inactivity. The Obama Administration supported a challenge to the law as a violation of the 1993 National Voter Registration Act and the 2002 Help America Vote Act. However, the Trump Administration reversed this position without the support of career attorneys at the Department of Justice, a rare politicization of legal interpretation by the Department. The CBC's amicus brief argues that the state law violates federal law because federal laws have sought to end the practice of targeting non-voters for registration purges.

## Urged the NFL to Support Players Who Kneel

In response to police brutality and other forms of injustice and inequality affecting African Americans, former San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick began kneeling during the singing of the National Anthem before football games in August 2016. Other NFL players began doing the same despite criticism from the NFL commissioner, owners, and fans.

When Kaepernick became a free agent and wasn't picked up by a team for the 2017 season, many believed, including Kaepernick, that it was because of his decision to protest. Kaepernick supporters began criticizing the NFL for this decision and demanding that he be signed to a team. Meanwhile,

Kaepernick detractors began criticizing players' decision to kneel, saying it was disrespectful to the flag, military, and country. On Friday, September 22, 2017, President Trump called Kaepernick and other NFL players who kneeled "a son of a bitch."

His words were a bridge too far for many Kaepernick supporters, including members of the CBC. On Monday, September 25, 2017, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX-18) [kneeled](#) on the House floor in support of Kaepernick.

**"We simply ask for the dignity and respect to not call our mothers a son-of-a-B. I heard a young man who is an NFL player say that he will kneel from now on! The only reason he is doing this is that someone had the lack of judgment to provoke the situation and call their mothers a name. I refuse to accept that as a standard of leadership for the highest office in the world."**

**– Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX-18)**

On Monday, October 16, 2017, Chairman Richmond sent an open [letter](#) to the NFL Commissioner and NFL owners urging them to see the "justice" of Kaepernick's cause. The letter was inspired by Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" and was covered by *SB Nation*, *The Undeclared*, and the *Today* show.

**"For African Americans, it is not about standing, sitting, or kneeling for the National Anthem—it is about unarmed African Americans lying in a grave who were shot and killed by police officers. It is also about a justice system that says that encountering a Black person is enough reason for a police officer to fear for his or her life."**

**– Chairman Richmond**



**Above:** On Wednesday, December 20, 2017, CBC members gathered outside the U.S. Capitol wearing collegiate gear to honor HBCUs, including nine HBCUs that celebrated their sesquicentennial in 2017.

## ADVOCATED FOR HBCUS

On February 27-28, 2017, the White House and Congressional Republicans met with more than 70 HBCU presidents in Washington, DC. In the days leading up to the meeting, the CBC sent a letter to President Trump, [Senator Tim Scott](#) (R-SC), and [Congressman Mark Walker](#) (R-NC-06) urging them to follow the CBC's lead when it comes to strengthening and supporting HBCUs by increasing funding for Pell Grants, Title III of the Higher Education Act, and other policies and programs that help these institutions. A few weeks later, the President proposed in his budget outline to give HBCUs the same amount of money the schools received the year before. Finally, on Friday, May 5, 2017, while signing a \$1.1 trillion funding bill, President Trump questioned the constitutionality of certain types of HBCU funding. Chairman Richmond and then House Judiciary Committee Ranking Member John Conyers, Jr. (D-MI-13) [released](#) a joint statement criticizing his comments.

## LAUNCHED #CBCONTHEYARD TOUR OF HBCUS

At the beginning of 2017, the CBC launched a tour of HBCUs called #CBCOnTheYard. The goal of the tour is to listen, involve, and mobilize students to effect change in their communities





**Above:** Congresswoman Barbara Lee (D-CA-13) speaks to Howard University students during the #CBCOnTheYard launch event.

and to get their thoughts on the direction of the country and issues that affect their lives. So far, the CBC has hosted four events at Morehouse College, Xavier University, Bowie State University, Howard University, Johnson C. Smith University, and Cheyney University. The CBC hopes to tour as many of the 105 HBCUs as possible before the end of the 115th Congress.

Among African Americans, 13 percent of CEOs, 40 percent of engineers, 40 percent of health professionals, 50 percent of teachers, 50 percent of non-HBCU professors, 50 percent of lawyers, 80 percent of judges, and 90 percent of individuals with bachelor's degrees in STEM subjects graduated from an HBCU. Additionally, a countless number of African-American political leaders, including past and present CBC members, graduated from an HBCU.

## URGED ADMINISTRATION TO EXTEND TEMPORARY PROTECTIVE STATUS FOR HAITI

The CBC is a strong advocate for the continued Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Haiti and other countries recovering from natural disasters and other humanitarian crises. That is why, on Tuesday, May 2, 2017, the entire House Delegation of the Caucus sent a [letter](#) to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) urging an extension of Haiti's TPS. DHS extended the status of Haitian nationals by six months. The CBC followed up with another [letter](#) on Friday,

November 3, 2017, from the entire Caucus calling for an 18-month extension of Haiti's TPS. DHS ultimately decided to end TPS for Haiti, but, unlike other countries, the termination has been delayed by 18 months. The CBC will keep up the fight to preserve TPS for Haiti and other vulnerable countries.

**"Haiti is in no condition to absorb the cost of reintegrating thousands of Haitian TPS beneficiaries all at once and reintegrating them will mean that Haiti will lose remittances that these beneficiaries currently send back to the country."**

**– Congressman Yvette D. Clarke (D-NY-09)**

## OPPOSED REPUBLICAN TAX BILL

The CBC was very [critical](#) of the "morally bankrupt" Republican tax bill. "This bill was drafted to help the richest of the rich and hurt underserved communities," Chairman Richmond said when the House version of the bill was released. On Thursday, October 16, 2017, the CBC kicked off a Democratic Caucus-led tweetstorm with tweets about how the bill would negatively impact African Americans. Chairman Richmond and New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu also published an op-ed on this [issue](#).



**Above:** Delegate Stacey Plaskett (D-VI) talks to a resident of St. John Island who was affected by Hurricanes Irma and Maria.

“Massive spending cuts coupled with a repeal of economic development incentive programs...will devastate African-American communities for generations to come.”

– **Chairman Richmond**

## URGED CONGRESS TO MODERNIZE DISASTER POLICIES

On Wednesday, November 15, 2017, Chairman Richmond sent a [letter](#) to congressional leaders urging them to modernize federal policies and procedures so that the people most affected by natural disasters get the help they need to get back on their feet and communities are stronger and better protected than before. The letter was sent in the wake of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria and included [long-term](#) disaster principles that the CBC would like the federal government to adopt. President Trump was copied on both the letter and the principles.

On the same day that the letter was sent, the CBC met with the Governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands to discuss what more is needed to help the territory rebuild and recover. The U.S. Virgin Islands was struck by Hurricanes Irma and Maria in the span of three weeks.

“It is crucial that we not only react to extreme weather conditions, but also recognize that they are a product of climate change. Protecting our territories from super storms and other natural disasters will require us to not only create stronger infrastructure but also work to mitigate the causes of climate change by decreasing our dependence on fossil fuels and promoting environmental safeguards.”

– **Delegate Stacey Plaskett (D-VI)**

“Bad recovery policies can also destroy a community by turning a natural disaster into a manmade one. The key to a successful recovery is making sure that it includes everyone, allows people to participate in their own recovery, and invests in mitigation to ensure that communities are rebuilt stronger than before. When these conditions are not met, recovery is uneven and communities remain vulnerable to future disasters. This is particularly true for poor and minority communities.”

– **Chairman Richmond**

## DEFEATED REPUBLICAN HEALTH CARE BILL

The CBC continues to be a strong opponent of efforts to dismantle the Affordable Care Act (“Obamacare”) and strip millions of Americans of their health care coverage. Obamacare has helped almost 8 million African Americans gain access to free preventative services, which helps people live a healthier life. On Thursday, May 4, 2017, Chairman Richmond sent a [letter](#) to President Trump urging him to stop sabotaging the law of the land for political gain. In part, the letter warned, “If you do not undo these harmful actions, the responsibility for any failure of our nation’s healthcare markets will be yours and yours alone.” Additionally, on Friday, July 14, 2017, Chairman Richmond, along with the Co-Chairs of the CBC Healthcare Task Force, Congressmembers Bobby Rush (D-IL-01) and Robin Kelly (D-IL-02), sent a [letter](#) to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell in opposition to the Senate Trumpcare bill, particularly given its potential disastrous impact on Black communities. Ultimately, these efforts helped defeat Trumpcare during the first session of the 115th Congress.

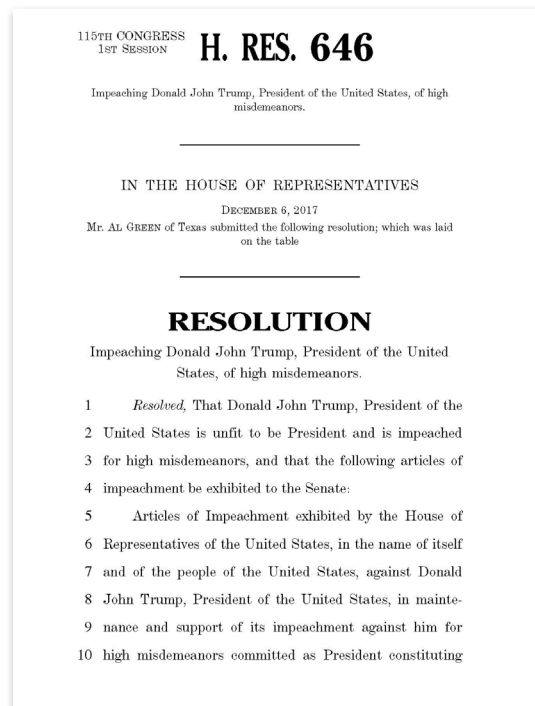
## IMPEACHMENT

After the white supremacist violence in Charlottesville and President Trump’s reprehensible response to it, the CBC decided to discuss impeachment.

On Wednesday, September 27, 2017, the CBC discussed impeaching President Trump at its weekly lunch meeting. The CBC did not take a vote on the issue, but the caucus did discuss issues around emoluments, high crimes and misdemeanors, and fitness to serve. The CBC also talked about why the caucus decided to call for Nixon’s impeachment in 1973.

While the CBC has not called for President Trump to be impeached, five CBC members have: Congressmembers Maxine Waters (D-CA-43), Al Green (D-TX-09), Gwen Moore (D-WI-04), Marcia L. Fudge (D-OH-11), and Federica S. Wilson (D-FL-24).

On Wednesday, December 6, 2017, Congressman Green became the first member to file an impeachment resolution and force a vote on the issue. 58 members voted to debate the resolution, including Chairman Richmond and 23 other CBC members.



**Above:** Congressman Al Green’s (D-TX-09) impeachment resolution.

## FOREIGN POLICY

The CBC urged the international community to #BringBackOurGirls and end slave auctions in Libya.

### Urged International Community to #BringBackOurGirls

Every Wednesday for the past three years, CBC members – led by Congresswoman Frederica S. Wilson (D-FL-24) – have worn red in honor of the Chibok girls, the 276 schoolgirls who were kidnapped from Chibok, Nigeria, by the terrorist group Boko Haram on April 14, 2014. Since the kidnapping, approximately 100 of the schoolgirls have been released or rescued.

**“I was elated to learn this evening that dozens of Chibok girls have been released three years and three weeks after being abducted by the Nigerian terrorist group**

**Boko Haram. My joy is bittersweet, however, because once the names of those freed have been announced, many families will experience a crushing disappointment that will be compounded by the uncertainty of whether their girls are even still alive.”**

**– Congresswoman Frederica S. Wilson (D-FL-24) on the Release of Dozens of Chibok Girls in May 2017**

### Met with Libyan Ambassador about Recent Slave Auction

On Friday, December 8, 2017, the CBC met with Libyan Ambassador Wafa Bughaighis about a recent slave auction that was held in the North African country, which caused outrage all over the world. The meeting was led by Congresswoman Karen Bass (D-CA-37), Second Vice Chair of the CBC and Co-Chair of the CBC Task Force on Foreign Affairs and National Security.



**Above:** Congresswoman Frederica S. Wilson (D-FL-24) speaks at a #BringBackOur girls press conference in April 2016. NNPA



**Above:** The CBC – led by Congresswoman Karen Bass (D-CA-37) – meet with Libyan Ambassador Wafa Bughaighis about a recent slave auction that was held in the North African country. Congressman G. K. Butterfield (D-NC-01) and Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-NJ-12) are also pictured.

“We met with the Ambassador out of the profound concern that in this day and age, people are being sold as property. The international community must operate on the assumption that we don’t need further proof, what we need is to stop it. The Ambassador has agreed to provide us a detailed update on the specifics of the Libyan investigation and will continue to work with us transparently to respond to the migrant and refugee situation. I look forward to the much-needed progress on this issue.”

– **Congresswoman Karen Bass (D-CA-37)**

# IMPORTANT MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- ▶ CBC Swearing-In
- ▶ Tri-Caucus Press Conference on Sessions, DeVos etc.
- ▶ Sessions Nomination Testimony
- ▶ CBC Chairman's Efforts after Removal of Congressional Painting of Police in Hallway
- ▶ Meeting with African-American Clergy
- ▶ Meeting with National Black Prosecutors Association
- ▶ CBC Strategic Planning Retreat
- ▶ #CBCOnTheYard Morehouse
- ▶ White House, Russia and National Security Panel
- ▶ Meeting with Delta Sigma Theta
- ▶ Meeting with The Links
- ▶ Association of Black Foundation Executives Event
- ▶ Meeting with National Newspaper Publishers Association (Black Press)
- ▶ White House Meeting – We Have A Lot To Lose
- ▶ Meeting with Executive Leadership Council Executives
- ▶ CBC NFL Players Association Forum on Police Accountability
- ▶ Meeting with National Bankers Association (Black Bankers)
- ▶ Meeting with National Bar Association (Black Lawyers)
- ▶ HBCU Presidents Meeting in Capitol
- ▶ #CBCOnTheYard – Howard University
- ▶ CBC Forum on Civil Rights in the First 100 Days of the Trump Administration
- ▶ Meeting with National Minority Supplier Diversity Council
- ▶ Meeting with African American Mayors Association
- ▶ Meeting with HBCU Collective (Group of Young HBCU Alumni)
- ▶ #CBCOnTheYard – Morgan State University
- ▶ Meeting with Kappa Alpha Psi
- ▶ Meeting at National Urban League – Salute to the CBC
- ▶ Meeting with Director of NMAAHC
- ▶ CBC Chairman's Efforts on Member Security after Whip Scalise Shooting
- ▶ Congressional Baseball Game

# IMPORTANT MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- ▶ CBC Meeting with Cuban Ambassador
- ▶ Tri-Caucus Meeting with Ethnic Legal Defense Funds
- ▶ Briefing on Technology Privacy and Security
- ▶ Presentation at National Association for Black Journalists Conference
- ▶ #RootOutRacism Campaign
- ▶ Meeting with Haitian Ambassador
- ▶ Meeting with U.S Black Chambers
- ▶ Meeting with Chairman of Business Roundtable
- ▶ CBCF Annual Legislative Conference
- ▶ Visit to National Institutes of Health
- ▶ CBC Chairman Meeting with Speaker Ryan on DREAMERS and TPS
- ▶ Meeting with National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) and Fraternal Order of Police (FOP)
- ▶ Meeting with Governor Mapp of the U.S. Virgin Islands
- ▶ Meeting with Facebook Chief Operating Officer
- ▶ Meeting with March of Dimes
- ▶ Meeting with CEO of EdTrust
- ▶ Presentation at National Action Network Conference
- ▶ Meeting with American Federation of State, Federal and Municipal Employees
- ▶ Meeting with NAACP President
- ▶ Meeting on Public Housing
- ▶ Meeting on Community Reinvestment Act
- ▶ Meeting on the Future of Work
- ▶ Meeting with FBI Director Wray
- ▶ Meeting on Black Entrepreneurs and the Green Economy
- ▶ Frequent Meetings with Big 7 Civil Rights Organizations

# COMMUNICATIONS

## USED OLD MEDIA STRATEGIES

The CBC has used old media strategies to increase the caucus's visibility to both African-American and non-African American audiences. Strategies include: giving exclusives, issuing strong statements, and rapidly responding to breaking news.

### Gave Exclusives

The story of more than a dozen missing Black and Latina teenage girls in DC had been getting local DC coverage for weeks, but hardly any national coverage. In response to the story and in an effort to bring national attention to the issue, the CBC sent a letter to DOJ and the FBI asking whether 1. the missing girls were representative of a national trend and 2. what, if any, federal resources could be used to help find the missing girls. The CBC gave the letter exclusively to an Associated Press reporter whose story led to other stories that caught the attention of the public, including celebrities such as Tina Knowles-Lawson and Lala Anthony. This attention led to a public outcry and the viral social media campaign #MissingDCGirls. In response, the Mayor of DC responded with six local initiatives related to missing children and teens, and Congressmembers Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) and Bobby Scott (D-VA-03) introduced related legislation (H.R. 2096 and H.R. 1808).

## Issued Strong Statements

When Senator Warren (D-MA) was prevented from reading Coretta Scott King's 1986 testimony about then U.S. Attorney Sessions on the Senate floor, the CBC issued a strong [statement](#) criticizing Republican leadership's decision to silence King "from the grave" and criticized Sessions' record on civil rights. The statement went viral on Twitter. "Wow. This is scorching," [tweeted](#) MSNBC anchor Joy Reid in response.



**Above:** Joy Reid's re-tweet of the CBC's response to Senator Warren. <https://twitter.com/joyannreid/status/829182213191303169>



“Mrs. King’s characterization of then U.S. Attorney Senator Sessions was accurate in 1986 and it is accurate now. He is as much of a friend to the Black community and civil rights as Bull Connor and the other Good Old Boys were during the Civil Rights Movement.”

– **Chairman Richmond**

### Rapidly Responded to Breaking News

The one good thing about President Trump is that he keeps everyone on their toes. Rapid response messaging has been more important this Congress than it has in recent memory. The CBC has worked to ensure statements – especially those in response to actions taken by the White House and executive branch agencies – are released as quickly as possible.

## USED NEW MEDIA STRATEGIES

The CBC has used new media strategies to increase the caucus’s visibility to both African-American and non-African American audiences. Strategies include: hosting Twitter town halls, hosting tweetstorms, and designing strong graphics.

### Social Media By-The-Numbers

As a result of using the CBC’s social media platforms to break news, improving the look and feel of these platforms by updating profile and background images, and ensuring that photos, graphics and other content posted on these platforms are strong, the CBC has significantly increased its followers on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

## Launched #RootOutRacism Social Media Campaign

After the white supremacist violence in Charlottesville, Va., which left anti-racist protestor Heather Heyer dead, President Trump publicly suggested more than once that white supremacists and anti-racist protestors were morally equivalent.

In response to this morally reprehensible suggestion, Chairman Richmond called the caucus together for an emergency phone meeting on Thursday, August 17, 2017, so the caucus could discuss how it wanted to respond.

After the phone meeting, the CBC launched a legislative and messaging campaign called [#RootOutRacism](#) with the goal of rooting out racism in federal policy, most importantly, as well as the White House, and on federal property.

### Hosted #StayWoke Twitter Town Hall

On President Trump’s 100th day in office, the CBC released a [#StayWoke list](#) of 100 actions taken by President Trump and his Administration that hurt the African-American community and other marginalized communities. The CBC also hosted a [#StayWoke](#) Twitter town hall.

The phrase #StayWoke is often used by African Americans to remind themselves and those around them to stay focused on what’s really being said and done to their community. Now, all types of Americans are using it to remind themselves and those around them to stay focused on what the Trump Administration is doing to the country.

While some of the actions on the #StayWoke list have received a lot of media attention, many of them have not. After meeting with the CBC, Grey’s Anatomy actor Jesse Williams [tweeted](#) the list on Wednesday, May 3, 2017.

Social Media Platform	Beginning of Congress	End of 2017
TWITTER	20K	68K
FACEBOOK	212K	225K
INSTAGRAM	7K	20K



**Above:** Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-NJ-12) answers a question from the NAACP Legal Defense Fund during the CBC's #StayWoke Twitter town hall.

### Hosted #CBCOnHealthcare Twitter Town Hall

There are a number of reasons why the Republican Party's health care proposal is bad for the health of the country, especially the health of African Americans and other marginalized communities (e.g. the sick, the elderly, low-income, rural). Although Republicans brought several different versions of the bill to the House and Senate floors, all of them amounted to one thing: paying more for less coverage. As a result of this reality, many Americans across the country called on Congress to "Kill the Bill."

On Wednesday, July 26, 2017, the CBC joined these Americans in a very visible way by hosting a #CBCOnHealthcare Twitter town hall on Trumpcare. During the town hall, eight CBC members answered questions from constituents and Very Important Tweeters about how Trumpcare would negatively affect all Americans, including African Americans and other marginalized communities.

Member participants included Chairman Richmond and Congressmembers Bobby Scott (D-VA-03), Robin Kelly (D-IL-02), Marcia L. Fudge (D-OH-11), James E. Clyburn (D-SC-06), Joyce Beatty (D-OH-03), Gwen Moore (D-WI-04) and Bennie G. Thompson (D-MS-02). Very Important

Tweeter participants included more than 30 advocacy organizations, health care professionals, and elected officials.

"Republicans rushed to vote on a health care bill without a score from the Congressional Budget Office. ...the CBO reasserts what we already knew to be true – under Trumpcare, millions of Americans would lose coverage, millions more would see their health care costs rise, and others will see their insurance policies cover less. With an age tax, cuts to subsidies, and tax breaks for millionaires, Trumpcare prioritizes the wealthiest Americans at the expense of working families and older Americans. The CBO has again separated press releases and sound bites from reality and confirmed that Trumpcare hurts American families."

– **Congressman Bobby Scott (D-VA-03)**



**Above:** Congressman Bobby Scott (D-VA-03) answers a question from the American Public Health Association during the CBC's #CBCOnHealthcare Twitter town hall.

## Designed Strong Graphics

Be it a CBC member's birthday or a policy issue, the CBC has worked hard to improve the look and feel of all of the caucus' social media graphics.



"President Trump has shown us who he is and we believe him."

– CBC [#RootOutRacism](#)



"The problem isn't patriotism, it's police brutality."

– CBC [#TakeAKnee](#)

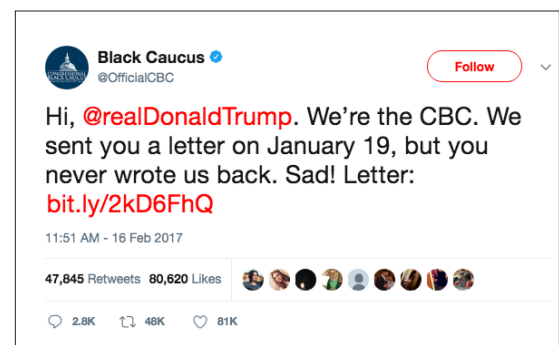
## Strengthened Relationships with the African-American Press

The National Newspaper Publishers Association, which has over 200 newspapers and an audience of 20 million, offered the CBC the opportunity to publish a weekly op-ed. Chairman Richmond and at least dozen other CBC members have published op-eds on [national security](#), [health care](#), [economic investment](#), [voting rights](#), [Judge Gorsuch](#), the [budget](#), and [police accountability](#).

The CBC also started holding press calls for NNPA editors and reporters. The first one was held on Wednesday, November 29, 2017 after the FBI meeting. In addition, CBC members have made regular appearances on Joe Madison's *The Black Eagle/Urban View* radio show on Sirius XM as part of CBC's commitment to the host of the show to be more accessible.

## Tweeted the Most Viral Tweet in Caucus History

On Thursday, February 16, 2017, when *American Urban Radio Network* reporter April Ryan asked President Trump if he would meet with "the CBC," President Trump replied, "Who?" When Ryan clarified her question by saying the "Congressional Black Caucus" instead of "CBC," President Trump said, "Tell you what, do you want to set up the meeting? Do you want to set up the meeting? Are they friends of yours? Set up a meeting." The CBC responded to the exchange with a [tweet](#) that went viral. The tweet was liked by 83K, retweeted by 49K, and replied to by 3K. National news outlets also aired the tweet. CBC's Twitter followers more than doubled, from 20K to 55K. This was the most viral tweet the CBC had tweeted since joining Twitter in 2011.

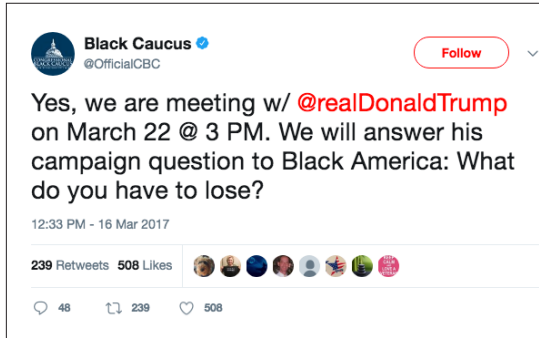


**Above:** Tweet Link: <https://twitter.com/officialcbc/status/832316384260526081?refsrc=email&s=11>

## Controlled the Trump Meeting Narrative

After the White House confirmed the day and time of President Trump's meeting with the CBC, the CBC strategically used the words of President Trump against him on Twitter to control the message. The CBC tweeted that the caucus would answer President Trump's campaign question to Black America, "What do you have to lose?" As a continuation of this message, the CBC named the 130-page [policy document](#) it delivered to President Trump on the day of the meeting, "We Have A Lot To Lose." The title of the document answered President Trump's question. The CBC's call-and-response messaging was used by a majority of the news outlets who reported on the meeting. The CBC also live tweeted the meeting using the hashtag [#ALotToLose](#) and held a press conference at the White House immediately after the meeting to ensure that the public received an

accurate readout of what was discussed. Finally, Chairman Richmond and members of his executive committee participated in one-on-one interviews with several national outlets: [NPR](#), [Mother Jones](#), [USA Today](#), [Associated Press](#), [McClatchy](#), [Washington Post](#), [Ebony](#), and many others.



**Above:** Tweet Link: <https://twitter.com/officialcbc/status/842458927400914944?refsrc=email&s=11>

“The answer to the question he posed during his campaign is this: we have a lot to lose. In fact, we’re beginning to lose a lot already under his Administration; the Republican repeal and replace bill, the proposed budget cuts, and the actions Attorney General Sessions is taking at DOJ are just a few of the many examples of that.”

– **Chairman Richmond**

# ADMINISTRATIVE

## REDESIGNED AND RELAUNCHED THE WEBSITE

The CBC completed the most comprehensive and conceptual relaunch and redesign of the caucus' [website](#) since the CBC first launched its website in the early 2000s. The purpose of relaunch and redesign was to develop a website that reflected the power and purpose of the CBC.

In addition to the new website's sleek design, it can now be viewed on desktops, laptops, cell phones, and tablets. Also, almost everything that

can be seen or read on the website is shareable on Facebook, Twitter, and more than a dozen other social media platforms.

Finally, the website is responsive which means the design changes based on the size of screen and/or type of device being used. This is the latest trend in website design and was done to make the website as user friendly as possible.

Visit the CBC's website at [cbc.house.gov](http://cbc.house.gov).



**Above:** Homepage of the CBC's new website, which includes the caucus' new logo. The website includes [history](#), [member](#), [media](#), [engagement](#), and [policy](#) pages.

## IMPROVED BRAND CONSISTENCY

One of the goals of the CBC this Congress is to ensure the caucus is well branded across all platforms. Consequently, the CBC redesigned the caucus logo and started using it on nameplates, letterhead, and folders. The CBC also redesigned the caucus' profile and background photo on Facebook and Twitter so the caucus' social media pages would look similar to its redesigned website. Finally, the CBC started using a boiler at the bottom of every press release so reporters would know how many members are in the caucus and that the caucus is bicameral (two members in the Senate) and bipartisan (one Republican in the House). There have been a few instances when reporters have incorrectly described the CBC as a caucus for Black Democrats in the House of Representatives.

## RELAUNCHED A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

In July, the CBC started sending a monthly newsletter to external stakeholders, including advocacy organizations, state elected officials, and activists.

## TEXT MESSAGING SERVICE

The CBC has improved communications with members by using a text messaging service.

## WEEKLY AND BI-WEEKLY CBC STAFF MEETINGS

The CBC holds weekly meetings for CBC chiefs of staff and CBC legislative directors, and bi-weekly meetings for CBC communications directors to help ensure that staff for the CBC Chairman and staff for the other CBC members are up-to-speed about the legislative and communications actions of the caucus. In addition, the CBC communicates with chiefs of staff, legislative directors, and communications directors via email almost daily.

## BIENNIAL RETREAT

On Wednesday, February 8, 2017, the CBC held its biennial two-day retreat to discuss the CBC's legislative strategy for the 115th Congress. During the retreat, the CBC heard from former CBC member Mel Watt, who heads the Federal Housing Finance Agency, and leaders from SEIU, National Coalition of Black Civil Participation, and the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. The CBC also heard from young leaders who are helping to lead grassroots movements, including Tamika D. Mallory, one of the organizers of the Women's March.

## MEMBER SAFETY

A few weeks before Majority Whip Steve Scalise (R-LA-01) was shot at a Republican practice for the Congressional Baseball Game, Chairman Richmond met with House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI-01) about giving members more flexibility when it comes to using their office funds for security. The request came after Congressman Al Green (D-TX-09) and other CBC members received racist threats. A few weeks after Majority Whip Scalise was shot, Chairman Richmond's proposal received bipartisan support and approval. In addition, Chairman Richmond's request to get Capitol Police to guard the CBC lunch meeting room was also approved.

**"I think the security for members of Congress is embarrassingly inadequate. It's a concern I've had for a number of years.**

**We signed up for this, but our families didn't. I've had threats and most members I know have had threats."**

**– Chairman Richmond**

## REORGANIZED TASK FORCE STRUCTURE

In August, the CBC *announced* a revamped task force and working group structure to help streamline and strengthen the Caucus' legislative and communications efforts. This structure also allows more members of the CBC to launch and lead caucus-wide efforts that harness their interests and expertise and help the African-American community.

# NOTABLE PRESS CLIPS



CBC Opposes Nomination of Judge Gorsuch and the Senate Should Too



Trump And Black Caucus Leaders Have Frank First Conversation



Congressional Black Caucus: Trump and His Administration Don't Care About Black People



Black lawmakers say Confederate statues should come out of Capitol



Black Caucus Vows to 'Root Out Racism' in Federal Policy, White House



## BLACK LAWMAKERS CALL ON FBI TO HELP ON MISSING BLACK GIRLS

WASHINGTON (AP) — Black members of Congress are calling for the Justice Department to help police investigate a large number of missing children in Washington, D.C. The District of Columbia logged 501 cases of missing juveniles, many of them black or Latino, in the first three months of this year, according to the Metropolitan Police Department, the city's police force. Twenty-two were unsolved as of March 22, police said.

# NOTABLE PRESS CLIPS



CEDRIC RICHMOND'S DAY OUT AT THE CONGRESSIONAL BASEBALL GAME



Congressional Black Caucus to Highlight Trump Admin's Racial Problems With #StayWoke Campaign



Diverse Congressional Black Caucus not buying Trump's 'unwavering support' of HBCUs



CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS ASKS PRESIDENT TRUMP FOR HIS PLANS TO HELP FLINT

In a letter to Trump Tuesday, April 25, U.S. Reps. John Conyers and Brenda Lawrence, and Cedric Richmond, chairman of the CBC, asked for the interagency briefing "to provide an update on your long-term plans to assist the residents of Flint and ensure this tragedy is not repeated in other cities around the country."



# NOTABLE PRESS CLIPS



## A POWERFUL GROUP OF BLACK LAWMAKERS IS PRESSURING UBER TO HIRE MORE DIVERSE EXECUTIVES

"Uber has a unique opportunity to elevate their stated commitment to diversity by hiring a person of color for a C-suite level position, and appointing a board member of color," said Rep. Barbara Lee (D-Calif.), one of the leaders of the CBC's team focused on diversity in the tech industry, in a statement this weekend.

Lee's co-chair in that effort, North Carolina Rep. G. K. Butterfield, even suggested to Recode that greater scrutiny – and, potentially, more political

pressure – could follow if Uber and others in the tech industry don't address their well-known diversity woes.

"If tech does not make true diversity and inclusion a priority at all levels of their companies then diminished competitiveness, employee lawsuits and increased scrutiny from the government will continue to be the result," the Democratic lawmaker said.



Black lawmakers pushing for more aid, attention to Virgin Islands



Congressional Black Caucus turns down follow-up meeting with Trump



Black Lawmakers meet with FBI Director over 'Black Identity Extremists' report



Women Of The Congressional Black Caucus Are Demanding John Kelly Apologize To Rep. Frederica Wilson

# NOTABLE PRESS CLIPS

## RAWSTORY

### CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS CHAIR PENS LETTER EXPRESSING 'UTTER DISGUST' IN TRUMP'S HANDLING OF RACE RELATIONS

In an acerbic letter to Trump, Richmond—who chairs the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC)—slammed the president's attack on NFL players, his "use of profane, sexually derogatory language in addressing American citizens" and his employment of "racist dog whistles" in everyday speech.

"I write today to express my utter disgust with your handling of race relations in America in general and, more specifically, your calculated, divisive response to nationwide demonstrations against police brutality and racial injustice by professional football players, owners, coaches, and countless other patriots," Richmond wrote.

## The New York Times

### BLACK LAWMAKERS HOLD A PARTICULAR GRIEVANCE WITH FACEBOOK: RACIAL EXPLOITATION

For more than an hour, Sheryl Sandberg, Facebook's high-profile chief operating officer, sheepishly pledged to "do better" — over and over — as stern-faced members of the Congressional Black Caucus grilled her on Thursday about Russian ads aimed at exploiting racial divisions during last year's election.

## The Gazette

### BLACK CAUCUS HAS HAD IT WITH TRUMP, PLANS TO DISCUSS IMPEACHMENT

Rep. Cedric Richmond, D-La., the caucus chairman, said the president's remarks after the deadly August 12 protest in Charlottesville show he has no commitment to the schools or the African American community.

Richmond said the caucus was outraged by Trump's assertion of "blame on both sides" for the violent rally dominated by neo-Nazis and white supremacists.

"You can make an argument based on pure competency and fitness to serve, and that's the conversation the caucus will have," Richmond told reporters in a conference call Monday. The caucus includes 46 House Democrats, Democratic Sens. Kamala Harris of California and Sen. Cory Booker of New Jersey, and Republican Rep. Mia Love of Utah.



# LEGACY

## 46 Years of Service

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