

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACT

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Virginia Beach NAACP Denounces the use of racist hate speech in Virginia Beach

Virginia Beach, VA – The Virginia Branch of the NAACP (VB NAACP) was recently made aware of the racist hate speech and harassment of students on the Kempsville High School Varsity Baseball team in Virginia Beach, Virginia

VBNAACP President Dr. Eric Majette issued the following statement: “We call attention to the ongoing acts of hate and racism within the Virginia Beach Public School System at Kempsville High School and are extremely concerned about how this situation has existed for quite sometime. We applaud the brave young men who spoke up in an effort to advocate for equality within this system. It is unfortunate that racism still exist and that our youth have had to endure its ugly head. It must be stamped out everywhere. It is our goal to ensure that the residents do not live in fear or with undue anxiety, just because they are African American.

We will continue to monitor this situation and look forward to the findings of this ongoing investigation within the Virginia Beach Public School system.

The VB NAACP , in the tradition of Dr. Martin Luther King, will continue to fight against injustice and racism anywhere in recognition of its threat to justice everywhere. We call upon the administration to take direct action as well.”

In the 2022 Hate Crime Statistics for Virginia, as reported by the FBI, 63.5% of hate crimes were against individuals, and 64.8% were motivated by Race/Ethnicity/Ancestry.

The Virginia Beach NAACP stands firm in our commitment to a world without racism where blacks and people of color can enjoy equitable opportunities in thriving communities.

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ABOUT THE VIRGINIA NAACP

Founded in 1935, the Virginia State Conference of NAACP Branches (Virginia NAACP) is the oldest and largest nonpartisan civil rights organization in the Commonwealth, overseeing over 100 NAACP branches, youth councils, and college chapters. The Virginia NAACP is focused on being the preeminent voice of Black Virginians and advocating for policies and programs to benefit blacks and people of color. You can read more about the Virginia NAACP's work and our six "Game Changer" issue areas by visiting NAACPVA.org. The Virginia Beach Branch of the NAACP was founded as the Princess Anne Chapter in 1941.

Bernita Richardson
Secretary
Virginia Beach Chapter NAACP