

NAACP WEEKLY NEWS RECAP



UMW Voice: [UMW Welcomes NAACP President for MLK Keynote Address Jan. 22](#)

When Derrick Johnson takes the stage at the University of Mary Washington next week, his words are expected to resonate far beyond the event's walls – inspiring those who hear him to reflect on Martin Luther King Jr.'s enduring legacy.

Bloomberg Law: [NAACP, Professors Say Alabama's Anti-DEI Law Is Unconstitutional](#)

The Alabama State Conference of the NAACP and local university professors and students want a district court to declare the state's new law banning public funding of diversity, equity, and inclusion programs unconstitutional. [Alabama Senate Bill 129](#) violates the First and Fourteenth

Amendments of the US Constitution and must be enjoined from being enforced, according to a [complaint](#) Tuesday in the US District Court for the Northern District of Alabama.

Alabama Political Reporter: [NAACP president: anti-DEI law harming students, professors](#)

The Alabama State Conference of the NAACP believes an Alabama law that went into effect in October that eliminates diversity, equity and inclusion programs on college campuses and restricts what professors can teach on matters of race is purposefully harmful to minority students and that the law serves no benefit to white students. Benard Simelton, president of the Alabama State Conference of the NAACP, told the [Alabama Politics This Week podcast](#) that his organization filed a federal lawsuit against the new law because it has already proven harmful to students on college campuses in the state.

Office of Governor Grisham: [Governor issues statement on the death of NAACP leader Dr. Harold Bailey](#)

Under Dr. Bailey's leadership, the Albuquerque NAACP endorsed the Elizabeth Whitefield End of Life Option Act in 2020, championing expanded healthcare options and addressing disparities in education and access.

Howard University: [Howard University Legends Honored with NAACP Image Award Nominations](#)

The 2025 nominations for the 56th [NAACP Image Awards](#) have been revealed, highlighting celebrated Howard University alumni, including Taraji P. Henson and Lynn Whitfield, a third-generation Howard graduate.

Clemson News: [Show produced by Clemson faculty member earns 7 NAACP Image Award nominations](#)

The National Geographic/Disney+ series "Genius: MLK/X", executive produced by Clemson University World Cinema Professor of Practice Sam Sokolow, has earned seven nominations for the 2025 NAACP Image Awards.

WTKR: [Virginia NAACP calls for rejection of a bill that protects law enforcement as witnesses](#)

The Virginia NAACP is sounding the alarm on a bill that aims to protect the jobs of police officers serving as witnesses in court. [Senate Bill 1274](#) was introduced last week. The bill specifically states police officers with a witness impeachment evidence designation can't be disciplined or let go.

The Chronicle of Higher Education: [Anti-DEI Law Is Discriminatory, Violation of Free Speech, NAACP Alleges in Federal Court](#)

A group of Alabama students and educators on Tuesday filed a [federal lawsuit](#) that takes aim at a new state law banning public funding for diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts at schools and colleges.

Arlington Now: [New Arlington NAACP leader urges unity and continued advocacy](#)

In her remarks, Davis — pastor of Calloway United Methodist Church — said civil-rights advocates need to put aside personal ambitions and eschew internal strife, working instead toward common goals.

ABC 6 News: [Rochester NAACP to host annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. “We Have a Dream” celebration](#)

The NAACP Rochester Branch MN is once again hosting its annual community event to commemorate the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in partnership with the Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce. The event will be held on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Fox56 WOLF: [NAACP Luzerne County branch celebrates new leadership at Wilkes-Barre ceremony](#)

The NAACP is promoting the Wilkes-Barre branch and officially recognizing them as the organization’s representative for all of Luzerne County. This celebration marked the official induction of new officers and their commitment to advancing civil rights and equity across the county.

NAACP NEWS AND UPDATES


- [NAACP and Singleton Schreiber Partner to Seek Justice for Victims of the Eaton Fire](#)
 - [NAACP Commends Biden’s Commutations of 2K+ Non-Violent Drug Offenders](#)
 - [NAACP Condemns Indiana Governor’s Anti-DEI Executive Order](#)
 - [From Selma to the Mountaintop: Exploring the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.](#)
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EATON FIRE TOWN HALL

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URGENT VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING
EATON FIRE TOWN HALL


Q&A WITH EXPERIENCED ATTORNEYS
Questions & Answers | Community Support

NAACP  **SINGLETON SCHREIBER**
INJURY ATTORNEYS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21ST
6:00PM PST

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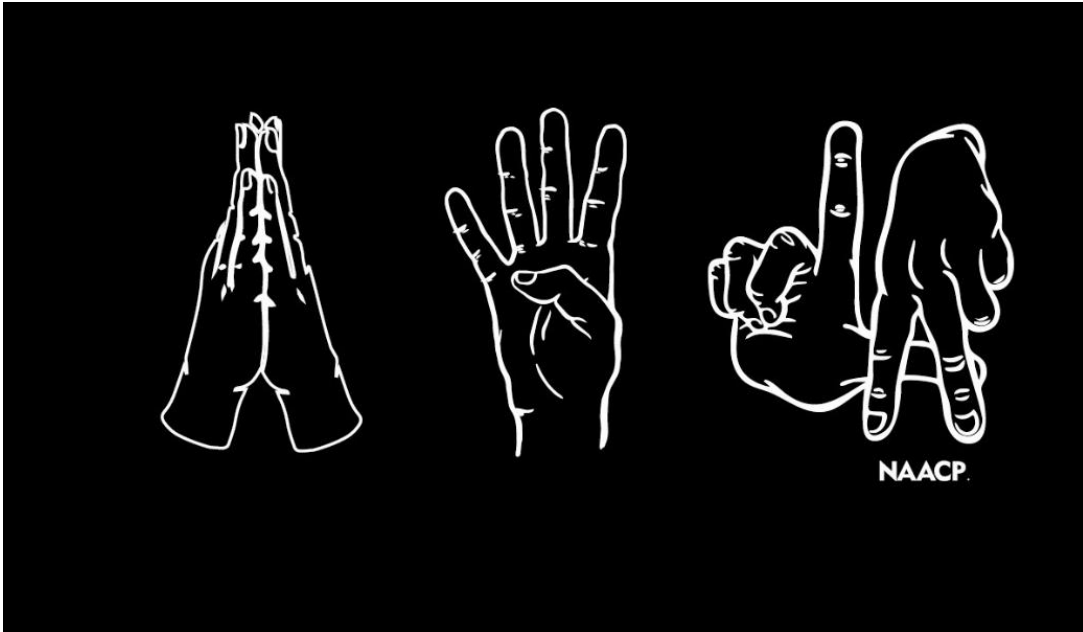
NAACP, in partnership with Singleton Schreiber, is hosting a virtual town hall to address the aftermath of the Eaton Fire. This event offers community members a platform to ask questions, express concerns, and learn about available resources.

When: Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. PT

Where: Online via Zoom

[Register Here](#)

PRAY FOR LA



With so much devastation and uncertainty across Los Angeles and the surrounding areas for those impacted by the wildfires, blame can never be the first response. We do as we have done time and time again in the face of adversity.

We pray for those essential workers risking their lives and for those families who lost loved ones.

We plan for those who have been misplaced and have lost their homes and belongings.

And we prepare for the future where we help rebuild our communities together.

Above all, we keep advancing together.

Your safety and recovery matter. If you or someone you know is affected by the wildfires, explore the resources in our [LA Wildfire Relief Resources](#) and share them with those in need.

HONORING DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s messages of hope, love, and resilience reverberate far beyond the confines of historic moments, reminding us that our collective progress is a shared responsibility.

His legacy continues to inspire, educate, and guide generations of advocates dedicated to the pursuit of justice and equity through coordinated resistance. His groundbreaking efforts coupled with those of other civil rights leaders and activists fueled the Civil Rights Movement and changed the course of history.

Ahead of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, [visit our website to explore a curated list of resources highlighting his life, work, and the movement he championed so fiercely.](#)

[Read More](#)

56TH NAACP IMAGE AWARDS



The nominees for the [56th NAACP Image Awards](#) were announced last week, celebrating outstanding achievements in film, television, music, literature, and beyond.

Voting is NOW OPEN at www.naacpimageawards.net until **February 7, 2025, at midnight (ET)**. Explore the categories and cast your vote today.

Don't miss the **LIVE TV Special** airing **Saturday, February 22, 2025, at 8 p.m. ET/PT** on BET and CBS, as we honor Black excellence and transformative storytelling.

Stay connected with us on Instagram [@NAACPImageAwards](https://www.instagram.com/NAACPImageAwards) for updates and join us in celebrating the brilliance of our community.

[Vote Now](#)

KEEP ADVANCING



Change is on the agenda for 2025. New leaders will take office this month across the country. Climate change continues and no one knows what the economy will look like from one month to the next.

We know the only constant is change. The Black Panthers showed us the power of community and taking care of our own. And our legacy has equipped us with what we need to make it through what feels like unprecedented times.

The path to our ultimate goal - an equitable future for all - isn't a straight line. There will be peaks of great progress and pits of setbacks. **But we keep advancing.**

The fight wasn't done when we secured the Civil Rights Act in 1964 or the

Voting Rights Act in 1965. We kept fighting and advancing. Though we've helped elect candidates who look like us, the fight isn't done. We have more work to do...

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NAACP

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