



RESOLUTION 3013

On affirming justice work and the convention's relationship with the NAACP

Amos 5:24 *“But let judgment run down as waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream.”*

WHEREAS, the General Missionary Baptist State Convention (hereafter referred to as GMBSC) has established as its purpose “to provide a state-wide organization through which Missionary Baptist churches can collectively participate and promote: evangelism, discipleship, Christian Education, missions, ministries, social services and any other objective that the Convention may consider to be appropriate and desirable;” and

WHEREAS, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (hereafter referred to the *NAACP*), was founded by a distinguished group of leaders in the struggle for civil and political liberty, including Ida Wells-Barnett, W.E.B. DuBois, Henry Moscowitz, Mary White Ovington, Oswald Garrison Villard, and William English Walling who met in New York City on February 12, 1909 to discuss the civil and political rights of African-Americans; and

WHEREAS, the NAACP is the oldest and largest civil rights organization in the United States with a mission to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all people and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination; and

WHEREAS, throughout the history of the NAACP, religious institutions have provided both the inspiration and the manpower critical to the success of the civil rights struggle; and

WHEREAS, in Mississippi, the black church and the NAACP have been allies in the struggle for equality, democracy, freedom and especially the procurement of voting rights; and

WHEREAS, the NAACP continues to be committed to achieving these goals through nonviolence and to advance its mission through reliance on the press, the petition, the ballot, and the courts; and

WHEREAS, General Missionary Baptists in the state of Mississippi comprise the largest religious association of African-Americans in the state; and

WHEREAS, GMBSC recognizes that all of humanity is created in the image of God, values the work of organizations that seek to uplift the human condition and understands justice and righteousness as biblical precepts that help to create a beloved community of God's children; and

WHEREAS, the NAACP has presented itself as a good faith partner in justice work by offering assistance and resources to members of our congregations to ensure that people are not denied their civil and human rights, communities are educated about policies and practices that impact them, and our interests are represented through efforts of advocacy, legal representation and public discourse;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that GMBSC affirms its support of the NAACP and will continue to empower and equip its pastors, preachers, and local congregations to maximize their individual and collective potentials for engaging in effective ministry and the advancement of social issues by advocating for the NAACP's efforts to:

1) Make sure Black voters in Mississippi are registered, engaged and encouraged to vote in every election

2) Ensure that Mississippi's communities of color are protected from environmental and economic injustices

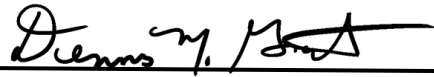
3) Actively work against structural discrimination and unjust policing, prosecution and incarceration practices that unfairly impact Black communities in Mississippi.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that GMBSC supports the justice and advocacy

work of the NAACP on behalf of under-represented, under-resourced, and under-employed populations and people in order to eradicate social disparities and inequities perpetrated by unjust systems, unfair policies and unrighteous personalities.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the GMBSC will pray for the work of the NAACP and will be a good faith partner in helping to uplift the human condition of people in Mississippi and around the world by encouraging its officers, pastors and members of the Convention to do the same.

Humbly submitted on this 14th day of March in the year of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ 2022,



**Dennis Grant, General Secretary
General Missionary Baptist
State Convention of Mississippi**



**Reginald M. Buckley, President
General Missionary Baptist
State Convention of Mississippi**