

JB Redding

peaceipray@cs.com

January 6, 2025

Joseph R. Biden
The President of the United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

PLEASE EXONERATE **MR. MARCUS MOSIAH GARVEY** and grant the posthumous pardon petition filed on his behalf. I join his descendants, voices from the State of Delaware and others worldwide who look to this nation to ensure rights and freedoms are accorded to all.

His exoneration would demonstrate seriousness about correcting the negative and disparate treatment of Blacks in the American “justice” system. It also would make clear that freedom to speak, assemble and do business is not limited to those with ideas popular in the corridors of power. Freedom is to be available across a spectrum of ideas and beliefs.

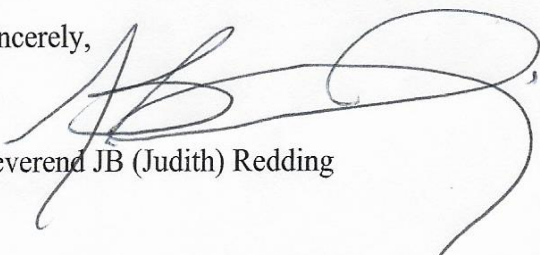
Marcus Garvey introduced new notions of human and civil rights for Blacks in America and everywhere. He was an early voice in Pan-Africanism and his work was foundational to the end of the colonial era in Africa. Many of his positions were abhorred by some in government, chief among them the Bureau of Investigation, especially J. Edgar Hoover. I do not agree with all his positions, but I HOLD THAT HE HAD A RIGHT TO EXPRESS HIS VIEWS WITHOUT BEING TARGETED. Before there was any inkling of wrongdoing, the Bureau decided to find something actionable against Garvey. The case brought against him had little evidence and the evidence presented was deeply flawed.

The course of events post-conviction argues there were significant problems with case:

1. He was extended bail and released 3 months after conviction. (Eventually, he was re-arrested.)
2. Nine members of the jury that convicted him asked for commutation of Garvey’s sentence.
3. President Calvin Coolidge commuted his sentence and Garvey was released from prison.

It is time to remove the nine-decades-long stain of conviction from his record. Pardon Mr. Marcus Garvey.

Sincerely,


Reverend JB (Judith) Redding