



IMAC

THE INTERDENOMINATIONAL MINISTERS ACTION COUNCIL OF DELAWARE, INC.

*Ecumenical Coalition of Clergy promoting moral, ethical, biblical and
Spiritual formation regarding social and economic justice*

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

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

Dear President Biden,

The above seminal claim by the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., illuminates the purpose of our correspondence to you. Specifically, as members and leaders of the Interdenominational Ministers Action Council (IMAC) of Delaware, we strongly believe that injustice was done nearly 100 years ago, when the Honorable Marcus Mosiah Garvey was convicted of mail fraud in a case that was marred by prosecutorial and governmental misconduct. We stand in solidarity and in support of H.R. 148 and H.R. 133 and request that you exonerate Marcus Mosiah Garvey and clear his name.

As Faith Leaders, we understand that the "authentic Gospel," is not relegated to Sunday morning sermons, but moreover, it is illuminated in what we do for the "least of these." Thus, we know that Garvey's philosophy and organization had a rich spiritual component that he blended with the political and economic aspects. Garvey himself claimed that his "Declaration of Rights of the Negro Peoples of the World," along with the Bible, served as "the Holy Writ for our Negro Race." He stated very clearly that "as we pray to Almighty God to save us through his Holy Words so shall we with confidence in ourselves follow the sentiment of the Declaration of Rights and carve our way to liberty." Unity, Pride, and Autonomy, which was his brand of Black nationalism, are foundational tenets that we facilitate at IMAC, and tenets that we strongly believe will lead to community uplift!

During your inaugural address you stated that the dream for justice should not be delayed any longer. A grave injustice was committed by a U.S. federal agency and the U.S. legal system. The FBI has acknowledged their probing of Garvey was to eventually deport him as an undesirable alien. The Garvey Movement promoted economic empowerment, economic self-reliance and cultural pride for Africans who were kidnapped and enslaved. To that end, it is our expectation that you would honor your promise to facilitate racial justice and equity and grant the Honorable Marcus Garvey a posthumous pardon. This will serve as one of your greatest examples for how we operationalize notions of justice, respect, and democracy in the future!

In closing, we are aware that the Biden-Harris administration has proclaimed it is committed to ensuring that all African American families and communities can live with dignity, safety, respect, and achieve greater economic opportunity. Restorative Justice is what we are seeking from your administration to clear the pathway and honor his legacy. We look forward to a response from your office concerning this critically important matter!

Sincerely,
Bishop George E. Gibson
Bishop Jeffery Broughton
Rev. Dr. Ronald W. Whitaker, II