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October 22, 2024

VIA E-MAIL

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

**Dear President Biden:**

I write to express the support of the Delaware Barristers Association for HR 133 and the Garvey family's effort to secure a posthumous pardon for the Honorable Marcus Mosiah Garvey, who was convicted of mail fraud in 1923 and sentenced to five years in prison. Many informed observers regard Garvey's prosecution as politically motivated and his sentence as drastically more severe than comparably situated defendants. His subsequent deportation represents President Calvin Coolidge's futile attempt to mute a powerful voice in favor of Black advancement at a key time of racial and economic upheaval.

Garvey's ferocious advocacy in opposition to colonialism and in favor of self-respect and economic self-reliance among descendants of the African diaspora has inspired people world-wide for a century. His contributions to Black nationalist ideology, which motivated many subsequent thought leaders, were more cogent and nuanced than his detractors would allow. Garvey's legacy as a popular, charismatic founder of an international humanitarian organization is not in doubt. Nevertheless, another hundred years should not go by without the U.S. government recognizing the injustice of its long campaign to suppress the activism of Black leaders at home and around the world.

Your presidential action to address this miscarriage of justice will further demonstrate the Biden/Harris administration's commitment to social justice and allows us to continue this important work for the benefit of our membership. If you would like more information about our events or organization, we urge you to visit our website at [www.debarristerassociation.org](http://www.debarristerassociation.org). To reach us directly, please email us at [debarristers@gmail.com](mailto:debarristers@gmail.com). Thank you again for your timely and generous support.

Yours Truly,

Darryl Parson, Esq.  
President, The Delaware Barristers Association

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