

*Serving the business needs of growing enterprises
for over forty years*



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First Lady Michelle Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mrs. Obama:

In prior communication, we engaged around the work of the National Minority Business Council, Inc., (NMBC), a forty five year old membership business organization, serving a diverse group of Americans around entrepreneurial development to achieve jobs, wealth and social and economic stability in our communities.

Today we are making a special appeal to you for support of justice for the Hon. Marcus Garvey. A recent petition failed to get the 100,000 signatures required to seek a Presidential pardon, so we now switch to our African tradition, go to the family. So here we are at your door.

Today we see the urgent need for the values advocated by Marcus Garvey, such as self confidence, self reliance and self worth as qualities to attain the progress that Garvey considered as the "attraction that moves humanity." We recognize and applaud your commitment to humanity and your efforts to improve conditions and instill the right values for young people, especially girls, across the globe in critical areas such as health and education.

Whether it is the work we do here at the NMBC or the acknowledgement of our leaders such as Martin Luther King, and Malcolm X, the influence and relevance of this great civil rights leader remains clear. We are reminded of Martin Luther King's comments in 1965 when he laid a wreath at Marcus Garvey's shrine in Kingston, he said "Marcus Garvey was the first man of color in the history of the United States to lead and develop a mass movement. He was the first man, on a mass scale and level to give millions of Negroes a sense of dignity and destiny and make the Negro feel that he was somebody". Today we can proudly respond to Garvey's query "Where are our men of big affairs" with a resounding "yes we know them" as we continue to build and support our future leaders.

It is time to right the wrong, and grant a Presidential pardon to clear his name and affirm his innocence of crimes for which he was unjustly prosecuted and convicted. Evidence of this injustice prompted President Calvin Coolidge to commute Garvey's sentence in 1927. We continue the campaign for Justice4Garvey and continuation of his vision for Africans at home and abroad.

In the hope that we have not violated protocols, and if so we express our sincere apologies, we ask for your support in having Pres. Obama do the right thing and exonerate the Hon. Marcus Garvey.

It is our sincere desire that we will have an opportunity to collaborate with you and or the organizations you will be engaged with as you move forward and we at NMBC continue building entrepreneurs of the future. Good luck to you and the President in the future.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Benjamin Jones".

Benjamin Jones
Chair, NMBC Board of Dir.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fritz-Earle Mc Lymont".

Fritz-Earle Mc Lymont
Co-founder, NMBC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John F. Robinson".

John F. Robinson
Pres/CEO NMBC, Inc.