

Metropolitan Washington Association of Independent Insurance Agents Unequivocally Denounces Racism

In view of the current situation both nationally and in the District of Columbia and the solidarity our Independent Agents feel toward our African American brothers and sisters, the Metropolitan Washington Association of Independent Insurance Agents, unequivocally and without reservation, extends their support and encouragement for the *Black Lives Matter* movement and the African American community both locally and nationally.

We understand and are daily witnesses to the obstacles and prejudices suffered by African Americans in our community and our society. We stand in support and proudly collaborate in the unity of all diverse entrepreneurs and workers in our community and call for equal opportunity, police reform, equitable access to affordable housing, educational and economic opportunities as well as addressing healthcare disparities that have become critical during this Pandemic.

We demand open community discussions with our elected officials so that District of Columbia residents and businesses can address the underlying issues that have resulted in allowing systemic racism to permeate our educational, healthcare, financial and judicial systems. Further we request a sustainable commitment by the District of Columbia Government to ongoing and periodic evaluations to ensure that the needs of all District of Columbia residents & businesses are met in an equitable and fair manner.

We look forward to City Council actions and commitment to these principles and complete and thorough discussion of these matters with our Mayor and city officials.

We encourage you to stand with us in denouncing racism. Lean in now by reading *Independent Agent* magazine's June article online: <u>Navigating Inclusive Leadership</u> <u>During Times of Crisis</u>. Also visit the National Museum of African American History and Culture's <u>Talk About Race website</u> to learn how you can be an agent of change within your networks of influence.

Metropolitan Washington Association of Independent Insurance Agents 127 S Peyton Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 P.O. Box 369, New Cumberland, PA 17070 (202) 516-8181 | <u>mwaiia@mwaiia.org</u> | mwaiia.org