



## NATIONAL BLACK POLICE ASSOCIATION

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2019

National Officers

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Chairwoman

**Carlos Bratcher**  
Vice-Chairperson

**Suwana Kirkland**  
Secretary

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Fiscal Officer

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**Perro Henson, Jr.**  
Parliamentarian

**Carolyn Stevenson**  
Chaplain

November 18, 2019

The Honorable Ayanna Pressley  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Pressley,

I am writing to you on behalf of The National Black Police Association (NBPA), to thank you for introducing H. Res. 702, also known as The People's Justice Guarantee, as a pledge for focused and urgent change. This resolution serves as a brilliant starting point for conversation and then action surrounding criminal justice reform. As we know, there are inequities in the criminal justice system which mostly harm communities of color. The NBPA is excited to know that you would make the reform of systemic issues of a multitude of underserved people a priority.

The NBPA was founded in 1972. We have been and continue to be a vanguard of reform in the criminal justice system. NBPA members represent law enforcement agencies across the country as well as in Canada and the United Kingdom. We act as a grass-roots conduit to build and strengthen relationships between law enforcement agencies and our communities through education, training, and community engagement. We are the oldest black law enforcement association in the United States, with the majority of our members originating from the rank-and-file of the agencies they represent. The tenets of The People's Justice Guarantee are in direct alignment with our mission to increase the awareness of the community, to be the conscience of the criminal justice system, and to enhance the quality of life in the African American community. Our legacy extends to supporting all communities, regardless of race or ethnicity, as we know that when **all** are treated equally with respect and human dignity, **all** benefit.

Thus, we embrace the Five Guiding Principles of The People's Justice Guarantee:

**Shared Power - Freedom - Equality - Safety - Human Dignity**

The NBPA's commitment to community is reflected in these principles, and we stand ready to work in concert with our partners to enhance the success and well-being of every member of society. We look forward to what is next as The People's Justice Guarantee is implemented.

Respectfully,

National Chairwoman

### Mission Statement

*To increase the awareness of the community, to be the conscience of the Criminal Justice System,  
and to enhance the quality of life in the African American Community*