

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Virginia State Conference NAACP and Virginia Southern Christian Leadership Conference set to Kick-off the 2019 African American Community Listening Tour

Richmond, VA Virginia State Conference NAACP President Reverend Kevin L. Chandler and Virginia SCLC President Reverend William Avon Keen announce the kick-off of the **NAACP/SCLC African American Community Listening Tour** at 11:00 AM on Thursday, August 1st at the Virginia State Capitol and a 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Listening Tour Session which will be held at Third Street Bethel AME Church located at 614 N. Third Street in downtown Richmond – *for more details see NAACP-SCLCListeningTour.org*.

The Listening Tour has been formed to hear solutions to significant issues and concerns that plague many African American communities across Virginia. Unlike solutions to African American issues and concerns that are often formed by politicians and corporate types, during the Listening Tour sessions SCLC and NAACP leaders will hear directly from African American leaders and residents in multiple communities across Virginia.



Listening Tour sessions will include local pastors, church leaders, community, neighborhood and civic leaders, fraternal, organizational and leaders of multiple groups along with many community activists across Virginia.

As planned, the series of Listening Tour Sessions will begin in early August and conclude in late September – see info below.

At the conclusion, NAACP, SCLC, leaders along with many other community leaders will hold a press conference to distribute a summary of findings citizens from across Virginia have charged them and ensure politicians and others in power work quickly to implement.

The public is invited to attend all Listening Tour activities. Listening Tour Sessions are closed to the media to ensure both the integrity of the discussions and to allow participants to freely share their ideas and opinions as we develop solutions to address problems and issues in African American communities across Virginia.

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Listening Tour Schedule (A/O 7-28-19):

Planned areas and dates where Listening Tour Sessions will be held include:

<u>Thursday</u>, <u>August 1st</u> Richmond/Central Virginia Locations:

11:00 AM **NAACP/SCLC Press Event** at the Virginia State Capitol

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM **Listening Tour Session** at Third Street Bethel AME Church 614 N. Third Street, in downtown Richmond