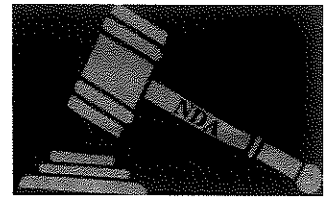




Blacks In Government®
2011 National Delegates Assembly
Boston, Massachusetts



RESOLUTION

BIG Joins National And International Community Asking The United States President and Attorney General To Stop The Execution of Mumia Abu-Jamal

WHEREAS, The National Organization of Blacks In Government (BIG), was incorporated in 1976 as a non-profit organization to advocate and educate and, today, BIG seeks to represent 3.4 million public and private civil servants by continuing to address discrimination in the workplace and its effect on public service; and

WHEREAS, the United States government, utilizing both public and private industry, employs over 2.5 million people according to the Office of Personnel Management statistics; and

WHEREAS, understanding such a massive workforce known as the Federal Government administered by three branches of government known as Executive, Legislative and Judicial, and each having co-equal United States constitutional authority, were designed as a system of checks and balances to “provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare and secure individual liberty” in accordance with the Declaration of Independence; and

WHEREAS, BIG National Delegates approved a Resolution on August 1, 2005, submitted by former BIG National First Vice President and Amnesty International Board Member Matthew Fogg, directing the BIG National President to send letters to the President of the United States and the Attorney General voicing BIG’s opposition to the Death Penalty administered in Federal and State jurisdictions’ in America and, following extensive research by many organizations and social justice experts stipulating the abhorrent historical racial injustice in the disproportionate application of the Death Penalty against African American males; and

WHEREAS, Mumia Abu-Jamal (born Wesley Cook on April 24, 1954) is a Black-American who was found guilty of and sentenced to death for the December 9, 1981 murder of Philadelphia police officer Daniel Faulkner and has been described as "perhaps the best known Death-Row prisoner in the world", and his sentence is one of the most debated today; and

WHEREAS, the world's largest human rights organization known as Amnesty International and other such organizations have condemned the death penalty, naming it cruel and unusual punishment and furthermore, have specifically indicated after extensive research over the years of his incarceration, that Mumia Abu-Jamal is in fact, an innocent man condemned to die for crimes he could not have committed, according to the subsequent evidence developed following his conviction; and

WHEREAS, as previously depicted and well known by all criminal justice experts, that African Americans have been disproportionately convicted, placed on death row and executed in America when compared to their Caucasian counterparts convicted of similar crimes; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

- (1) The National President of Blacks In Government will write a letter within 30 days to the President of the United States Barack Obama and to the United States Attorney General Eric Holder requesting a Federal investigation into the disproportionate number of African Americans on death row;
- (2) And request that President Obama and Attorney General Holder take necessary steps to stop the pending execution of Mumia Abu-Jamal and thereby, making him the last African American put to death under such mitigating circumstances and within an institution, where facts and statistical data overwhelmingly supports a perception, that America's Criminal Justice Institution is racially hostile to African Americans.

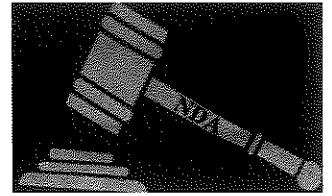
Submitted by:

Matthew F. Fogg

BIG Region XI
Heritage Chapter President
Former BIG National 1st Vice President
June 10, 2011



Blacks In Government®
2011 National Delegates Assembly
Boston, Massachusetts



RESOLUTION

BIG Joins National Law Officers Asking U.S. Leaders To Revamp Drug Prohibition Laws That Are Associated With Violence And Racial Injustice

WHEREAS, The National Organization of Blacks In Government (BIG), was incorporated in 1976 as a non-profit organization to advocate and educate and, today, BIG seeks to represent 3.4 million public and private civil servants by continuing to address racial disparate treatment in the workplace and its effect on public service; and

WHEREAS, the United States government, utilizing both public and private industry launched a “War On Drugs” forty years ago this year which has resulted in the United States having the highest incarceration rate in the world and an extraordinarily disparate impact on racial minorities, evidenced by Blacks receiving prison sentences for drug offenses at 10.1 times the rate as white offenders¹, despite consistent evidence that they are no more likely to use or sell currently illicit drugs than whites; and

WHEREAS, Former BIG National First Vice President, Matthew Fogg, was an intricate part of the war on drugs from 1989 to 1992, providing supervisory leadership for the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Washington Metropolitan Area (joint law enforcement drug and gun interdiction) Task Force; and he personally observed racially biased enforcement procedures that targeted “inner city urban areas” i.e. Black offenders, and met internal resistance when he requested equal enforcement of upscale “white areas” and offenders; and

WHEREAS, the incarceration of women, especially women of color, convicted of low-level drug-related offenses, has negatively impacted families, created drug war orphans, and dramatically increased the burden on social services; and

WHEREAS, most drug arrests can be interpreted as a virtual race war to profile, incarcerate and disenfranchise African-Americans; invalidated by its disproportionate and biased enforcement operations and prosecutions; thus treating similarly-situated White Americans much differently; and

¹ Source: Gorvin, Ian. Targeting Blacks: Drug Law Enforcement and Race in the United States. New York: Human Rights Watch, 2008. Print.

WHEREAS, Professor Michelle Alexander, a research expert and author of a profound novel, “The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness” statistically reveal that “More African Americans are under correctional control today... than were enslaved in 1850” (before the Emancipation Proclamation), due in major part to drug related charges; and

WHEREAS, a global commission consisting of former presidents of several countries, former United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan and other world leaders released a report in early June 2011 encouraging nations to enact “models of legal regulation of drugs to undermine the power of organized crime and safeguard the health and security of their citizens”; and

WHEREAS, the National Black Caucus of State Legislators passed a resolution that both condemned the war on drugs and committed lawmakers to developing alternatives in 2004; and, the National Black Police Association and the California NAACP endorsed the Regulate, Control and Tax Cannabis Act of California in 2010; and, notable black leaders including Professor Michelle Alexander, Reverend Jesse Jackson, Congressman John Conyers, and Congressman Bobby Scott have criticized our current drug policies; and

WHEREAS, the Institute of the Black World 21st Century, which is committed to building the capacity of Black communities in the United States to work for the social, political, economic and cultural uplifting, and enhanced quality of life for all marginalized people, held a press conference on June 17, 2011, to declare a war on the “war on drugs” and to create just and humane alternatives to a failed strategy stating, “Black communities have been a primary target for selective police practices that have resulted in the mass incarceration of millions of Black people. It is time to declare war on the war on drugs and vigorously explore just and humane alternatives to a failed strategy;” and

WHEREAS, Law Enforcement Against Prohibition, which was founded in 2002 by current and former police officers opposing the war on drugs and today represents 40,000 cops, judges, prosecutors, federal agents, and civilian supporters, and includes African-American criminal justice experts Major Neill Franklin (ret.), Executive Director, and Chief Deputy U.S. Marshal Matthew Fogg (ret.), Speaker, cites that African-Americans constitute 53.5 percent of all persons who entered prison because of a drug conviction²; that in South Africa under apartheid, internationally condemned as one of the most racist societies in history, 851 black men were imprisoned per 100,000³ but in the United States under prohibition, 4,919 black men are imprisoned per 100,000⁴; and supports a model of

² Id.

³Source: Mauer, Marc. Americans Behind Bars: The International Use of Incarceration. The Sentencing Project. September 1994.

⁴Source: Harrison, Paige M. & Allen J. Beck, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Prison and Jail Inmates at Midyear 2004 (Washington, DC: US Dept of Justice, April 2005), p. 2 and p. 11, Table 14.

regulated and controlled distribution of drugs, which would lead to fewer incidences of death, disease, crime, and addiction; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

- (1) That Blacks in Government calls for a Federal investigation for solutions to eliminate the pretense and continued arrest and incarceration of African-Americans at extraordinarily disparate rates for drug related charges; and
- (2) That Blacks in Government will deliver a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States of America Barack Obama and United States Attorney General Eric Holder.

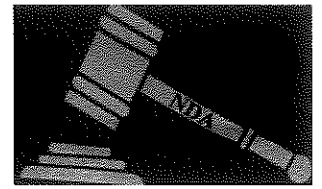
Submitted by:

Matthew F. Fogg

BIG Region XI
Heritage Chapter President
Former BIG National 1st Vice President
June 10, 2011



Blacks In Government®
2011 National Delegates Assembly
Boston, Massachusetts



RESOLUTION

BIG Opposes The 112th Congress ANTI-FED Legislation

WHEREAS, The National Organization of Blacks In Government (BIG) was incorporated in 1976 as a non-profit organization to advocate and educate, and today, BIG seeks to represent 3.4 million public servants by continuing to address racially disparate treatment in the workplace and its effect on public service; and

WHEREAS, the Constitution of BIG, Article II, Goals and Objectives state, in part, that BIG is to be an advocate of equal opportunity for Blacks in government to eliminate practices of racism and racial discrimination against Blacks in government, and provide a non-partisan platform on major issues of local, regional, and national significance that affect Blacks in government; and

WHEREAS, The recent United States Congressional 'Continuing Resolution' this year which nearly caused a Federal Government shutdown and is still pending final approval before Congress, depicts severe budget cuts disproportionately affecting Federal employees; and

WHEREAS, On May 12, 2011 and other occasions, legislators and their staff indicated specifically that their Federal employee constituents have not voice their opposition to Anti-Federal legislation in sufficient numbers; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

That the National President of Blacks In Government, in conjunction with the Legislative Review Committee Chair, will develop a letter writing campaign for the participation by BIG members that would voice strong opposition to anti-Federal legislative bills as well as send letters supporting favorable legislation.

Submitted by:

Matthew F. Fogg

BIG Region XI
Heritage Chapter President
Former BIG National 1st Vice President
June 10, 2011



Blacks In Government®
2011 National Delegates Assembly
Boston, Massachusetts



RESOLUTION

BIG Joins National And International Community Asking The United States President, U.S. Attorney General, Missouri State Governor And the Special Master Judge To Stop The Execution of Reginald Clemons

WHEREAS, The National Organization of Blacks In Government (BIG), was incorporated in 1976 as a non-profit organization to advocate, educate and today, BIG seeks to represent 3.4 million public and private civil servants by continuing to address discrimination in the workplace and its effect on public service; and

WHEREAS, BIG National Delegates approved a Resolution on August 1, 2005, submitted by former BIG National 1st Vice President Matthew Fogg and sent to the President of the United States opposing the USA Death Penalty following extensive research by Amnesty International USA - the world's largest nongovernmental human rights organization and the NAACP Legal Defense Inc. stipulating to the abhorrent historical statistics that depict racial injustice in the application of the Death Penalty against African American males; and

WHEREAS, Amnesty International reports on its world wide webpage; [“the Reggie Clemons case illustrates many of the flaws that plague the Missouri capital punishment system—there was no physical evidence, and there were only two witnesses to the crime, both (White) of whom offered self-serving testimony. Other disturbing factors include alleged police brutality, possible racial bias, prosecutorial misconduct, and (as seemingly always in death penalty cases) inadequate legal representation.”]

WHEREAS, St. Louis, Missouri Blacks In Government Associate member, the Reverend Madeline Coburn, a Prison Chaplain for the International Network of Prison ministries (<http://prisonministry.net/tcoidc>) is the spiritual advisor for Reginald Clemons and has consistently advocated for many wrongfully convicted and death row inmates contacted and accompanied retired Chief Deputy U.S. Marshal Matthew Fogg, a BIG member and civil rights advocate during an interview of Mr. Clemons on death row at the Potosi Correctional Center in St. Louis. Later both met with Mr. Clemons mother. While hearing her story and observing the many years of untold pain and suffering in her eyes, Mr. Fogg assured Mr. Clemons mother that he would do everything within his power as directed by GOD to see that the state of Missouri would not put her innocent son to death and release him appropriately; and

WHEREAS, today a Special Master, the honorable Judge Michael Manners will hear new evidence in death row inmate Reginald Clemons case after 20 years on November 7, 2011 at 9 a.m. in the St. Louis, Missouri City Courthouse.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

(1) The National President of Blacks In Government will write a letter within 30 days to the President of the United States Barack Obama and to the United States Attorney General Eric Holder requesting a Federal investigation into why a disproportionate number of African Americans males are on death row;

(2) **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the BIG National President will write President Obama, US Attorney General Holder, Missouri Special Master the honorable Judge Michael Manners and Governor Jay Nixon of the great state of Missouri asking each to take necessary steps to stop the pending execution of **Reginald Clemons** for the reasons as stated in this resolution and submit to each the following letter in part with suggested wording, as proposed by Amnesty International;

Blacks In Government is a world class organization advocating for civil rights in public service and,

["In the interest of justice, I urge you to grant Reggie Clemons clemency. Mr. Clemons was sentenced to death in St. Louis as an accomplice in the 1991 murder of two young white women, Julie and Robin Kerry. Two other black youths were also convicted, including Marlin Gray (executed in 2005). Clemons has consistently maintained his innocence, and his case illustrates many of the flaws in the U.S. death penalty system.

While I have tremendous sympathy for the family and friends of Julie and Robin Kerry, and am mindful of the pain and grief that they have experienced, I believe capital punishment only perpetuates a harmful cycle of violence.

I am particularly troubled by the lack of physical evidence in this case, allegations of police coercion and prosecutorial misconduct, questions of inadequate legal representation, questions of racial bias, and finally, what appears to have been a "stacked" jury.

At the time of the trial, the prosecution conceded that Clemons neither killed the victims nor planned the crime because there was no physical evidence that tied him to the crime itself or the events leading up to it. The two main witnesses were a former suspect and a co-defendant.

Clemons alleges that under the pressure of police brutality he confessed to raping one of the victims, though never to murder. Four federal judges have agreed that the prosecutor's conduct during the trial was "abusive and boorish." And Clemons' lawyer had a full-time job in another state during her representation of Mr. Clemons, resulting in poor preparation for the trial.

The final issue when considering the case of Mr. Clemons is that of race. Not only were the murder victims white, but the two crucial witnesses were as well. The three

convicted defendants were black, and during the jury selection, blacks were disproportionately dismissed, resulting in a racially under-represented jury given the statistical black population of St. Louis. The jury's flaws were also noted in 2002 by a U.S. District Court judge who ruled that Clemons' death sentence should not stand because six prospective jurors had been improperly excluded at the jury selection. Later a high court overturned this ruling on technical grounds.

While I am sympathetic to the pain and suffering caused by this terrible crime, I feel that executing Reggie Clemons would be unfair and unjust. It is clear that Mr. Clemons' trial was flawed in numerous regards and that serious questions persist regarding the reliability of his conviction and the proportionality of his sentence. I hope that you will follow this recommendation and commute the death sentence of Reggie Clemons.]

Submitted by:

Matthew F. Fogg

Matthew F. Fogg
BIG Region XI
Heritage Chapter President
Former BIG National 1st Vice President
Former Board Member – Amnesty International USA
Retired Chief Deputy U.S. Marshal

August 7, 2011



**Huntsville-Madison County Chapter
Blacks In Government
Post Office Box 505
Huntsville, Alabama 35804**

RESOLUTION

Status of Black Employment Program in Federal Agencies

WHEREAS, Blacks In Government (BIG) was founded, formally organized in 1975, and incorporated in 1976, to serve, to represent and to advance the interests of black Civil Service employees, and to ensure their full, equal and unbiased access to all hiring, developmental and career advancement opportunities in government at all levels; and

WHEREAS, as a result of historical past discrimination in employment against minority groups, specifically African-Americans, certain Special Emphasis Programs were created to provide special emphasis on what should be done for affinity groups to promote their hiring, promotion, training and development to have access to equality of opportunity in the federal government; and

WHEREAS, Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Management Directive (MD) 715 requests agencies to commit sufficient human resources and budget allocations to its EEO programs to ensure successful operation; and

WHEREAS, EEO MD 715 also requests agency special emphasis programs to be monitored by the EEO Office for coordination and compliance with EEO guidelines and principles, e.g., the Black/African American Employment Program;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors shall instruct the National President to issue a letter/memorandum to Executive Level Agency Department Heads within 90 days to ascertain the status of the Special Emphasis Program within their agencies (along with a suspense date to respond); that a copy of such notices will be provided to all Regions and Chapters;

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors task the National President to provide written feedback on the results of communications sent to federal agencies to all Chapters and Regions within a six month timeframe in 2012 calendar year.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that upon receipt of information requested, agencies found not to have effectively implemented or maintained a special emphasis program addressing employment concerns of Black/African American employees be contacted and offered assistance from Blacks In Government in getting a viable program implemented.

Submitted by:

Mary Peoples

Huntsville-Madison County Chapter
Region IV

