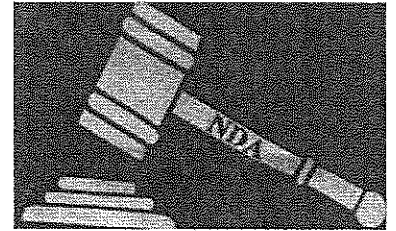




Blacks In Government®
2014 National Delegates Assembly
Las Vegas, Nevada



RESOLUTION

Renewal of Commitment to State/Local Black Employees

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, the National Constitution of Blacks In Government identifies among its necessary organizational purposes developing a mechanism for inclusion, growth and power for present and future Black employees in Federal, State, and Local governments; and

WHEREAS, the effectiveness and ultimate worth of any organization to a society and/or to its people is determined by how well that organization, through its membership, holds itself accountable for sustaining and fulfilling its own avowed commitments, as well as by the degree to which its economic, political and human resources are devoted to those ends; and

WHEREAS, the National Constitution of Blacks In Government authorizes Regional Councils to act as local advisors to the Board of Directors and National Organization, and to present written concerns, resolutions, recommendations and proposals of the Region to the Board of Directors and/or the National President; and

WHEREAS, the National Constitution of Blacks In Government tasks the Executive Committee with implementing policies established by the Board of Directors, and with transacting routine business between meetings of the Board of Directors, as well as with keeping members abreast of action items, decisions, and organizational changes;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National President shall instruct the National 2nd Vice President (State) and National 3rd Vice President (Local) to coordinate with the BIG National Membership Chair, Regional 2nd and 3rd Vice Presidents, and the host Region's Membership Committee, in advance of each annual National Training, to develop and arrange for dissemination of informational handouts to the employees at the state/local government agencies within the host Region's jurisdiction, for the purposes of facilitating new member recruitment and the formation of new BIG Chapters. These handouts shall provide information on BIG; on its programs, goals and objectives; on BIG's annual training; on why the agency employees should support and join BIG's advocacy efforts; as well as a membership application form and dues remittance guidance.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that the National 2nd Vice President and 3rd Vice President, respectively, and National Membership Chair, shall conduct an on-site meeting with interested prospective new members during the annual National Training period, and subsequently coordinate any/all necessary follow-up state and local member recruitment strategy and/or other Chapter organizing activities regarding BIG membership within the aforementioned agencies, through the host Regional President (and/or Regional Directors). All related outcomes shall be presented to the Board of Directors and be included in the National Executive Committee's next report to the National Delegates Assembly.

[Note: No additional financial costs will be necessary in implementing this Resolution.]

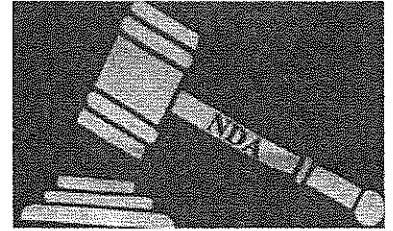
Respectfully submitted by:

John D. Hunter, II
FMS-BIG Chapter

Region XI Council



Blacks In Government®
2014 National Delegates Assembly
Las Vegas, Nevada



RESOLUTION

RIGHT-TO-VOTE AMENDMENT TO THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

WHEREAS in a democracy, the right to vote is a *moral imperative*, the most fundamental *legal right* and is *protective of all other rights*; and

WHEREAS when President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the 1965 Voting Rights Act he said, "The right to vote is the basic right, without which all others are meaningless"; and

WHEREAS the right to vote is a fundamental right and should be *explicitly* guaranteed to all Americans in the U.S. Constitution; and

WHEREAS "nowhere in the United States Constitution is there an explicit declaration of the right to vote. Initially the Constitution appears to have left that right up to the states." (*Oxford Companion to the U.S. Supreme Court*); and

WHEREAS prior to becoming President of the United States, Professor Barack Obama, as a teacher of constitutional law at the University of Chicago, began each of his constitutional law classes sharing with his students the surprising fact that an explicit "federal individual right to vote" is not in the U.S. Constitution; and

WHEREAS the Constitution has been amended 17 times since the Bill of Rights and 7 of those amendments pertain to voting – 14, 15, 17, 19, 23, 24 and 26 – but none of them add the *explicit, fundamental, affirmative, individual, citizenship or federal right to vote* to the Constitution; and

WHEREAS three amendments *outlaw discrimination in voting* on the basis of *race* (15th) - the 1965 Voting Rights Act was the enabling or implementing legislation for this amendment 95 years later - *sex* (19th) and *age* (26th); and

WHEREAS a right to vote constitutional amendment would *fulfill* the 15th, 19th and 26th Amendments; and

WHEREAS of the 119 nations that elect their public officials using some form of democratic elections, 108 have the right to vote in their constitution, but the United States is one of the 11 nations - including **Azerbaijan, Chechnya, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Libya, Pakistan, Singapore and the United Kingdom** - that does not explicitly contain a citizen's right to vote in its constitution; and

WHEREAS the U.S. has a “states’ rights and local control” voting system; and

WHEREAS since *voting is a state right*, with virtually no national standards, we have ended up with multiple and varied election systems in the 50 states (plus DC), 3,143 counties (or county equivalents) and 13,000 local voting jurisdictions that administer 186,000 precincts, all organized on a “separate and unequal” basis, controlled and managed by local election officials with 86% of Section 5 Preclearance objections involving *local*, not national or state, voting issues; and

WHEREAS while there is no fundamental individual right to vote in the Constitution, the Supreme Court in *District of Columbia v. Heller* (2008) ruled that the 2nd Amendment *did* guarantee a fundamental individual right to a gun; and

WHEREAS we have the ironic situation that the world’s so-called leading democracy has the fundamental individual right to a gun but *not* the fundamental individual right to vote in its Constitution; and

WHEREAS a “right to vote” constitutional amendment is: (a) *non-partisan* – not Democratic, Republican or independent; (b) *non-ideological* – not liberal or conservative; (c) *non-programmatic* – it doesn’t require you to support or oppose any particular legislative program(s); and (d) *non-special interest* – it’s application is not limited to minorities, women, labor, business, seniors, lesbians and gays or any other special interest groups - *it applies to all Americans*.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Blacks In Government supports adding a right-to-vote amendment to the U.S. Constitution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Blacks In Government supports putting a statewide referendum on the November 2016 general election ballot in our state (and all states where this is possible), which would read something like: “The U.S. Constitution does not contain an explicit individual right to vote. Do you favor adding an explicit individual right to vote amendment to the U.S. Constitution? Yes _____ No _____;” and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Blacks In Government specifically supports House and Senate Joint Resolutions which would add a right to vote amendment to the U.S. Constitution – e.g., such a resolution (H.J. Res. 44) which was introduced into the 113th Congress by Congressman Mark Pocan of Wisconsin; and

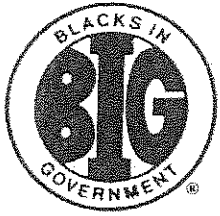
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Blacks In Government, Inc. will educate the general public on this issue by supporting getting citizens in our state to sign a petition in support of adding a right to vote amendment to the U.S. Constitution and sharing the signed petitions with all appropriate governmental officials; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Blacks In Government encourages other organizations and individuals – e.g., political organizations and leaders, religious organizations and leaders, civil rights organizations and leaders, other civic organizations and leaders, business organizations and leaders, voting rights organizations and leaders, labor organizations and leaders, women’s organizations and leaders, youth organizations and leaders, gay and lesbian organizations and leaders, environmental organizations and

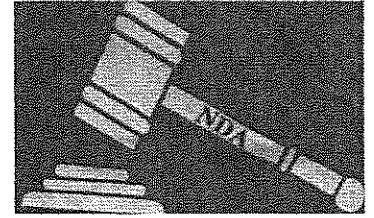
leaders – to pass organization resolutions and make personal endorsements for adding a right to vote amendment to the U.S. Constitution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Blacks In Government encourages all organizations that pass resolutions and individuals who make personal endorsements of adding a right to vote amendment to the U.S. Constitution to release such actions to the press and send them to the President of the United States, to the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, and to the Majority and Minority Leaders in the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives.

Matthew F. Fogg
BIG National 1st Vice President
BIG Region XI Heritage Chapter President



Blacks In Government®
2014 National Delegates Assembly
Las Vegas, Nevada



RESOLUTION

Establishment of Special BIG Tiger Team

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 at the state, local and federal level, and to ensure their full, equal and unbiased access to all hiring, developmental and career advancement opportunities in government, at all levels; and

WHEREAS, BIG has served as an advocate to address unlawful discrimination against Black government employees, is considered the front runner of special emphasis organizations in this Country and received the highest number of attendees at its National Training Institute (NTI) as compared to other organizations;

WHEREAS, to remain a viable, effective advocacy organization, BIG should ensure that it is financially solvent to meet the challenges ahead in austere times with the national economy,

WHEREAS, the economic status of the United States as a whole is going through some challenging times due to political ideologies, changes in the world economy and severe government budgetary constraints, all of which impacts on BIG remaining financially solvent in the future,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors (BOD) shall establish a "Tiger Team" to research and ascertain agency policy on approval of training sponsored by affinity organizations, i.e., BIG, FEW, FAPAC, etc. and the level of approved support for local, state and federal agencies to and allow their employees to attend the BIG National Training Institute regardless of position,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that since the revenues from the NTI serve as the major source of income for the organization, attendance projections for income from the NTI is urgently needed for future planning; this team and information is urgently needed based on recent changes to government policy that impacts several government agencies from allowing their employees to attend the NTI,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this team is established as soon as possible to provide feedback on the planning of the 2015 NTI and thereafter to ensure that BIG meets its financial obligations and continue to conduct future successful NTIs,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that members of this team shall consist of individuals who have experience in extensive research, who have or know how to develop high level contacts in agencies to compile this information; that these individuals are selected from the overall organization based on experience and ability and not on holding any particular BIG office or position,

Submitted by:

Mary Peoples

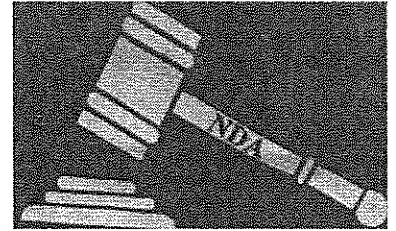
Honorable Mary Peoples

Huntsville-Madison County Chapter

Region IV



Blacks In Government®
2014 National Delegates Assembly
Las Vegas, Nevada



RESOLUTION

Establishment of BIG Special Membership Team

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 at the state, local and federal level, and to ensure their full, equal and unbiased access to all hiring, developmental and career advancement opportunities in government, at all levels; and

WHEREAS, the effectiveness and ultimate worth of any organization to a society and/or to its people is determined by how well that organization, through its membership, holds itself accountable for sustaining and fulfilling its own avowed commitments,

WHEREAS, the membership of BIG at the chapter level and any other level is the backbone of the organization to impact local, state and federal government rules, policies, regulations that affect the quality of life of African Americans,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors (BOD) shall establish a "Tiger Team on Membership" to explore means and ways of improving/increasing BIG membership of the organization at all levels—local, state and federal and for retaining these members which will help improve the organization's financial status for the future,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that members of this Tiger Team consist of subject matter experts from the BIG family as a whole who have organizational, management, and planning skills to effect surveys/questionnaires, research local and state entities for an effective plan to recruit from these sectors; that better utilization of members who are not at a BIG committee or officer level be included in getting this task done which improves our utilization of highly skilled human resources in BIG,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board task the NEC to implement and establish this team of members (in conjunction with the National Membership Chairperson) as soon as possible, with specific responsibilities/duties and a timeframe in which to provide a report back to the NEC, Board and to the delegates.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that all Regional Councils are afforded an opportunity to recommend at least one name of an individual in their areas to serve on this Tiger Team.

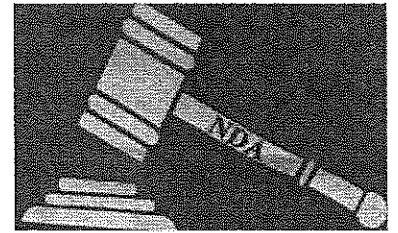
Submitted by:

Mary Peoples

Honorable Mary Peoples
Huntsville-Madison County Chapter
Region IV



**Blacks In Government®
2014 National Delegates Assembly
Las Vegas, Nevada**



RESOLUTION

**Blacks In Government® Calls On United States
President and Attorney General To Launch A
Criminal, Civil and Human Rights
Violation/Investigation Into The Death of Eric
Garner by the New York City Police Department**

WHEREAS, The National Organization of Blacks In Government, was incorporated in 1976 as a non-profit employee advocacy and professional development organization, now seeking to represent 2.5 million current and retired government workers throughout all levels of government to include public and private industry, collaborating on issues of mutual concern and by utilizing collective strengths in confronting workplace and community issues; and

WHEREAS, The BIG National Constitution Goals & Objectives clearly state "to eliminate practices of racism and racial discrimination against Blacks in government; and

WHEREAS, the NYPD is a municipal government organization sworn to protect and serve the New York community and should be free of any and all racial and discriminatory practices; and

WHEREAS, A recent report by the American Civil liberties Union indicates widespread racial disparities in New York City depicting the arrest and incarceration of black verses white Americans for certain drug offenses; and

WHEREAS, In July 2014, millions of Americans observed a video of depicting New York Police Department (NYPD) White officers placing Eric Garner a Black American and New York resident in a chokehold prohibited by NYPD since 1993 which, appears to have ultimately caused the death of Eric Garner while he actually stated several times to the police officers, "***I can't breath!***"; and,

WHEREAS, A subject matter expert and retired Federal law enforcement official/BIG Officer has advised the BIG National President, that in his professional opinion the entire incident as depicted in the video is highly probable of criminal, civil and human rights violations involving, improper police tactical procedures to include, the emergency medical response not provided to Eric Garner; and,

WHEREAS, BIG stands in solidarity with the outrage of New York citizens and organizational leaders all across America with mutual concerns, having seen time and time again videos depicting Black and Brown Americans being subject to suspect police arrest procedures resulting in death or great physical harm of Black and Brown Americans; and,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, BIG will write a letter asking the President of the United States and the U.S. Attorney General to launch a full scale criminal, civil and human rights violation probe into this incident; and,

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the letter will ask the Attorney General to provide Americans with National community policing guidelines that will help to alleviate the growing fears and perceptions of many Black and Brown Americans that police nationwide are not carrying out their motto to "protect & serve" Black & Brown American people and, are in fact, creating a hostile environment for many Black & Brown Americans, and;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, A written copy of this resolution is to be delivered to the NAACP, the Black Leadership Forum and the Congressional Black Caucus.

Submitted by:

Matthew F. Fogg
BIG National 1st Vice President
Region XI Heritage Chapter President
Chief Deputy United States Marshal, RET.