



## *Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc.*



As a child of the sixties, I watch what is happening after the death of George Floyd with sadness, anger and a very deep feeling of pain and frustration. Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc., grieves with the many families suffering from the trauma of police brutality and indifference. We understand the feeling of helplessness, the frustration, the outrage and the powerlessness felt by the young people of today. But we cannot allow any of that to deter us from fighting systemic racism that seems to be built into the very fiber of this country.

We cannot allow ourselves to be diverted from achieving our ultimate goal of social justice. We must not allow our frustration and weariness to overcome our ability to respond with concrete actions that will help us to achieve the rights of any first-class citizen of the United States. As Killer Mike, the activist, stated in his appearance in Atlanta, *"I am duty bound to be here to simply say that it is your duty not to burn your own house down for anger with the enemy. It is your duty to fortify your own house so that you may be a house of refuge in times of organization". Now is the time to plot, plan, strategize, organize and mobilize."*

Yes, now is the time to plot and plan a concentrated effort with an agenda towards proactive action, accountability, and results as it relates to a system that allows police brutality and mass incarceration of African American males. Now is the time to organize and strategize with a sense of purpose and a clear vision of what we want to achieve.

We begin this action by filling out the 2020 Census, we must be counted. Each person counted represents money and programs for our neighborhood. Then, we must, not only vote, but work and volunteer to make sure we elect leaders that are cognitive of our needs and then we must hold those leaders accountable to the people that made it possible for him or her to be elected. We pray that even during the pandemic and this unrest, instead of saying "We Shall Overcome", one day in the very near future, we can finally say "We Have Overcome"

Dorothy M. White  
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