



U.S. BLACK CHAMBERS, INC.

The National Voice of Black Business

**Not affiliated with the National Black Chamber of Commerce*

November 16, 2020

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
President-Elect of the United States
C/O The Biden Transition Team
1401 Constitutional Ave NW
Washington, D.C.
20230

Dear Mr. President-Elect:

Congratulations on your election victory. During this time of peril and angst in our nation, our democracy will require robust and diverse leadership to build an America that works for everyone, especially our most vulnerable citizens. As a result, the U.S. Black Chambers, Inc. (USBC), the national voice of Black business is leading the way to ensure that the stewards of our democracy are prepared to adequately address this moment, answering the needs and priorities of the Black business community.

Black Americans grapple with unique hybrid obstacles that intersect race and social issues, which in turn, disproportionately impact our ability to start and grow small businesses, receive a quality education, invest in real estate, and live overall healthy lives. Despite these barriers, African Americans have consistently supported the nation at every turn in our history, including during the present coronavirus pandemic crisis and economic downturn.

As you begin to build the foundations of what will become the Biden-Harris administration, we strongly urge you to consider Congresswoman Marcia Fudge of Ohio as the next Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Representative Fudge is a member of the esteemed Congressional Black Caucus, championing critical issues that overwhelmingly grip underserved communities such as food security, water and environmental quality, and federal conservation programs. Most importantly, as a member of the House Agriculture Committee, and Chairwoman of its Nutrition, Oversight, and Department Operations Subcommittee, she holds the knowledge and skill set that will be crucial to solving the longstanding challenges that this perilous pandemic has underscored in desperate ways.

Accordingly, as you ponder with crucial decisions that will take us forward together as a country, we endorse Congresswoman Fudge to join you on this journey. Furthermore, in order for the Biden-Harris administration to advance the Black business community, we must work together to embrace policy that 1) Bolster the American economy; 2) Allow Black businesses to thrive; 3) Responsibly support a vibrant workforce; and 4) Prepare for the next generation of Black entrepreneurs.

We appreciate your time and consideration on this critical matter. As such, we look forward to working with your historic administration to create a vision for America's fastest-growing population of entrepreneurs, Black entrepreneurs.

Most Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Busby', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ron Busby
President & CEO
U.S. Black Chambers, Inc.