## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## HOUSTON NAACP DELIVERS STATEMENT REGARDING AHMAUD ARBERY MURDER

Houston, Texas...The Houston NAACP officially joined the national campaign to demand justice for Ahmaud Arbery. NAACP Vice President Dr. James Dixon, II delivers the official statement from the organization. Dr. Dixon states:

Despite present challenges, the Houston NAACP and partnering organizations deemed it necessary to Run, Walk or Ride on May 8, 2020. Why, because that day was Ahmaud Arbery's birthday, a day of celebration. But he was murdered by a racially motivated killers, father and son, Gregory and Travis McMichael. So instead of being celebrated by his Mother, family and friends, people around the nation are grieving the tragic loss of a great young man's life.

The Houston NAACP is here to declare outrage over another senseless lynching of a Black male in America. Ahmaud lost his life taking a jog in his neighborhood. In our opinion, the sadistic minds of his killers, felt he was a criminal the day he was born a Black man in America. These types of people only need an opportunity to release their madness. According to their demented judgment, it could've been any African American male taking that fatal jog.

Further, we are galvanizing to demand swift justice. This means several things:

- Fair Charges: This was a hate crime. It was racially motivated. In the eyes of the killers (yes killers) Ahmad was criminal on May 8, 1994, which was the day he was born black.
- A Fair Trial, which requires a jury of his peers. We do not expect to see an all white jury.
- A Just Decision and Sentence, based on the laws of Georgia regarding murder and crimes of hate.
- An FBI Investigation, that identifies any and all culprits who are responsible for the cover-up in this case.

Thank God for the person who videotaped this lynching. Without that, video Ahmad Arbery would have been murdered and the world perhaps would never have known the truth about how he was killed. But we have seen countless cases where even videoed evidence was not enough to receive justice.

Finally, we are here to appeal to the moral consciousness of America. Truth is, these kinds of tragedies and injustices should be a fact of the past. But in 2020, our nation is still plagued with the epidemic of racial hate and superiority. And I am convinced that the responsibility of every God-fearing American is to unite in the fight to promote love and mutual respect. I have been preaching for years, "We are one family, with one future." Ahmaud was born on Mother's Day. So we are asking the nation to pray for his Mother, Wanda Cooper-Jones. For her, no Mother's Day will ever be the same.

For an interview or an additional statement with Dr. James Dixon, II. Contact Crystal Jackson at 713-907-9515 or crystalj@thecommunityoffaith.org.