



August 13, 2020

Hon. Bernard C. Young
Office of the Mayor
250 City Hall, 100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
mayor@baltimorecity.gov

Via Email and FedEx (tracking number 771259247963)

Re Request to Paint on Street

Dear Mayor Young,

Having [opened](#) the streets of your city for public expression, Students for Life of America (SFLA) and The Frederick Douglass Foundation (FDF) request the opportunity to add our voices to those concerned about the treatment of people of color in America. Black Lives do matter, born and preborn, as too many people are lost in America today from causes that should be addressed and prevented for their disproportionate impact on minority communities. [City officials intervened](#) to allow a Black Lives Matter artwork to continue to be displayed. We ask that our message of hope and a future – BLACK PREBORN LIVES MATTER – receive the same support and respect in Baltimore. We are asking you, Mayor Young, to respond promptly to our permit with permission to add our message in favor of the dignity of Black preborn life to the public forum of the city streets, which you have opened to others.

SFLA and FDF request permission to paint BLACK PREBORN LIVES MATTER on the 300 block of North Howard at 6 o'clock in the morning on August 29, 2020, to celebrate the beautiful children with endless potential who are the future of their community and deserve the opportunity to make their mark in the world.

As an organization of nearly 1,300 groups on middle and high school, college and university, medical and law school campuses in all 50 states, SFLA works daily alongside the generation most targeted for abortions. But it should shock people to know that abortion disproportionately takes aim at minority communities. Though only [13 percent](#) of the female population, African American women make up [38 percent](#) of all abortions tracked, according to the CDC.

FDF, with their state affiliates across the country, stand for and with Black America, including the most vulnerable among this population, those black babies still in the womb. As a public policy and educational organization FDF is a collection of pro-active individuals committed to developing innovative and new approaches to today's problems, including the systemic racism of Planned Parenthood and their founder.

Planned Parenthood's founder Margaret Sanger [wrote of her intentions](#) for birth control, "We do not want word to go out that we want to exterminate the Negro population." It is not surprising that the organization she founded continues to target women of color for their population control efforts.

In the state of [Maryland](#), the abortion rate the fourth highest in the nation, and disproportionately more black babies are aborted, the [deadly legacy of abortion](#) has robbed the city of tremendous potential, and it must come to an end to ensure the city's future.

First Amendment Assemblies are regulated by M.D. Code § 3-904 and the responsibility of the police to not disrupt first amendment activities is clearly described in M.D. Code § 3-701. The code requires that for an assembly to be unlawful a person may not disrupt a person's right to tranquility in the person's home. The code does not prohibit a meeting or assembly on premises commonly used for discussion of subjects of public interest. SFLA has timely applied for a special event permit outlining our plan of peaceful demonstration. SFLA's compliance with Baltimore City Department of Transportation's application process requires our application be approved. This letter and SFLA's permit application clearly establish how far SFLA's painting demonstration is from an unlawful assembly as described above.

You must allow SFLA and FDF to paint its BLACK PREBORN LIVES MATTER message. Your original decision to paint "Black Lives Matter" on the street may very well be government speech. However, your decision [to allow private citizens to paint additional messages](#) such as ["Defund the Police"](#) and ["Black Trans Lives Matter"](#) and to [intervene on behalf of a public display](#) of another's speech indicates that public areas are now an open forum for free speech. You are not permitted to discriminate on the basis of viewpoint in making determinations relating to public assemblies in public fora. The message of the preborn will not be silenced.

The Pro-Life Generation cannot be silent on the horrors of abortion. As [Martin Luther King Jr.](#) once said, "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." We are asking to make our voices heard on behalf of the preborn, so that they will have hope and a future.

For Life,



Kristan Hawkins
President
Students for Life of America
Students for Life Action



Reverend Dean Nelson
Chairman
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