



Black Farmers and Agriculturalists Association, Inc.™

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Mike Pence
Vice President-Elect
1717 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D. C. 20003

November 30, 2016

Mr. Mike Pence:

On behalf of our founders, managers and thousands of members around the country, we would like to congratulate you on your success as being elected to be the Vice President-Elect of the United States of America.

The Black Farmers and Agriculturalists Association, Inc. (“BFAA, Inc.”) is a center right organization focusing on and advocating for the economic rights of the sons and daughters (heirs) of farmers, current farmers and ranchers in the African American community. These sons and daughters are committed to making sure that the African American “rural” community will receive a full measure of opportunities and benefits that all Americans have enjoyed from the prolific bounty the United States has afforded its citizens.

We are animated and applaud the pledges that President-Elect Trump has espoused for revitalizing and improving the quality of life for African Americans in the traditional “urban” cities where many of the sons and daughters of African Americans now reside. Moreover, we hope that your administration will also remember the place from which this generation of new city dwellers migrated. Interestingly, the majority of the remaining land owners (absentee) in the African American community now reside in the many cities throughout the United States (Los Angeles, Chicago, Philadelphia and New York City, to name a few). They have both a vested interest in the improvements of their current places of residence as well as an affinity in the lands of their birth (Georgia, Alabama, Texas, Mississippi, North and South Carolina, etc.). They are inextricably linked to these two communities.

BFAA, Inc., on behalf of these communities stands ready to provide policy recommendations at all time relevant and material to your parties’ agenda to make sure that these communities receive adequate and comparable relief, as will be, here again, afforded all other communities from the Trump Administration.

To this end, we respectfully ask that the Trump Administration will consider the following:

1. Instruct the Justice Department to request the Judiciary Committee On The Constitution (both houses) to review USDA's implementations of the Consent Decree(s) and/or settlement agreements in Pigford I, Pigford II, Keepseagle and the Hispanic and Female farmers and ranchers adjudications for potential Due Process and Equal Protection violations under sub-chapter:

(e)(1) of the Appropriations Act of 1998, Public Law 105-277, § 741 (the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (15 U.S.C. §1691 *et seq.*), the Housing Program established under Title V of the Housing Act of 1949)) and §§ 14011 and 14012 of the 2008 Farm Bill.

2. Consider granting socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers (African American and Hispanic), along with their heirs, the same protective status as is enjoyed by Native American Tribes (Bureau of Indian Affairs under the Interior Department) regarding land rights (their property remedies, etc.).

3. Establishing a National legal advocacy entity for African American absentee land owners (partition sales, quieting titles, probate and tax sales, etc.)

4. Establishing a National Banking institution for subordination of government (USDA and SBA) loans and loan servicing for socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers.

5. Authorize the Justice Department to conduct a disparate impact study regarding state and federal statutes for *quieting-the-title* on farm and ranch land held by socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers.

6. Institute a moratorium on the sale of farm and ranch land owned by socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers (their heirs) until items # 1 through 5 are resolved and/or disposed.

These are a few points that we would like to expand upon in our introductory letter and look forward to meeting with Trump transition and/or staff on further policy matters.

Again, many congratulations and we pray that the hand and spirit of God will guide and tarry with you, as Vice President under the Trump Administration in making and maintaining the greatness of the United States of America. Thank you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Burrell', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Thomas Burrell, President, BFAA, Inc.