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As a vocal outspoken opponent to President Trump, Rep. Maxine Waters (D-CA) has received death threats.

Rep. Maxine Waters Pushes Back Hard Against Unsubstantiated "News" From the Right

By Lauren Victoria Burke, NNPA Contributor
"Lies, lies, and more despicable lies. I am utterly disgusted by the spread of the completely false, absurd, and dangerous lies and conspiracy theories that are being peddled by ultra-right-wing pundits, outlets, and websites who are promoting a fraudulent claim that a member of my staff was responsible for the release of the personal information of Members of the United States Senate on Wikipedia. This unfounded allegation is completely false and an absolute lie," wrote veteran Congresswoman Maxine Waters in a relatively rare weekend press release.

The September 29 statement was a hot reaction to the unsubstantiated accusation that a member of Rep. Waters' staff revealed the personal information, including cell phone numbers, of three Republican members of the Senate Judiciary Committee in the wake of the controversial and emotional testimony of Dr. Christine Blasey Ford and Judge Brett Kavanaugh on September 27.

In a practice known as "doxxing," the Wikipedia pages of Republican Senators Lindsey Graham (R-SC), Mike Lee (R-UT) and Orrin G. Hatch (R-UT) were altered to reveal their personal information on Thursday, September 27, the same day as the hearing on the Senate side of Capitol Hill. The hearing was watched widely as the political base of both the right and the left took sides for and against Kavanaugh, President Trump's second nominee to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Waters' statement was not subtle. "The United States Capitol Police and our internal IT specialist have determined that the IP address in question does not belong to my office or anyone on my staff. The member of my staff - whose identity, personal information, and safety have been compromised as a result of these fraudulent and false allegations - was in no way responsible for the leak of this information. My office has alerted the appropriate authorities and law enforcement entities of these fraudulent claims. We will ensure that the perpetrators will be revealed, and that they will be held legally liable for all of their actions that are destructive and dangerous to any and all members of my staff," Waters continued.

Waters has frequently been the target of critical comments from President Trump. As a vocal outspoken opponent to President Trump, Waters has received death threats. In June, she cancelled events in Texas and Alabama after what was described as "very serious death threats." At a June 30 immigration rally in Los Angeles she stated, "I know that there are those who are talking about censoring me, talking about kicking me out of Congress, talking about shooting me, talking about hanging me," but said "you better shoot straight," to the crowd.

Rep. Waters is in her 14th term in the U.S. House and would likely become Chair of the House Financial Services Committee should Democrats take control of the House. Waters represents parts of Los Angeles California. Election Day is on November 6. The new Congress begins the first week of January 2019.

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Panthers' Reid returns, kneels during national anthem

By Steve Reid
CHARLOTTE (AP) - Carolina Panthers safety Eric Reid knelt during the national anthem in protest of racial and social injustice before Sunday's game against the New York Giants.

None of Reid's new Carolina teammates joined him or stood near him at midfield. He is the first Panthers player ever to kneel during the national anthem.

With a large American flag in the middle of the field, Reid went to his right knee as the "The Star-Spangled Banner" was sung by Marc Martel.

The 26-year-old Reid made his return to the NFL after signing with the Panthers on Sept. 27, four months after filing a grievance against the NFL alleging teams colluded against signing him during free agency after he knelt during the national anthem alongside 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick.

Kaepernick tweeted his support of Reid. "My Brother (at)E-Reid35, with (at)KSTILLS and (at)iThinkIsee12, continue to take a knee against systemic oppression. They are unwavering in their conviction! (hash)ImWithReid"

Reid said in a news conference last week he was undecided whether he would continue to kneel for the national anthem. He said Wednesday that he was "still considering other ways" of protesting and raising awareness, adding that he was "still evaluating the scope of our country and will make that decision later."

However, Reid made it clear he would continue to fight against racial and social injustice along with Kaepernick. Reid, who is African-American, said he will continue to "stand up for my people."

"Nothing will ever change unless you talk about it," Reid said. "So we're going to continue to talk about it. We're going to continue to hold America to the standards that it says on paper - that we're all created equal. Because it's not that way right now. But we're going to keep pushing toward that."

Reid's new teammates, including wide receiver Torrey Smith, a member of the Players Coalition, said this past week that potential protests would not be a distraction for the Panthers.

Smith said "no one cares" if he kneels during the national anthem. Reid was the first player to join Kaepernick by taking a knee back in 2016 to protest racial and social injustice.

Don't Believe the Hype - Vote, Our Lives Depend on It

By Derrick Johnson, President and CEO of the NAACP

In the 2016 U.S. presidential election, we were wrong. Political forecasters, pollsters, elected officials, and even media told us that the 45th President of our nation would be a woman named Hillary Clinton, but they were wrong.

In many cases, the margin between who became president and who lost the race was a slim few thousand votes. For example, in the 2016 Presidential election, the winning margin was less than 2 percent in Michigan, Florida, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, and two other states. Though the popular vote was won by Hillary Clinton (in excess of 3 million votes) and the margin between victory and loss was small in many states, the "near victory" serves as cold comfort to those communities whose civil rights are

slowly being rolled back under the ominous weight and rise of racism and White nationalism.

Today, like in 2016, we hear the predictions of a powerful political shift in the House of Representatives and possibly the Senate. While these predictions are promising, they alone will not ensure that the interests of the Black community will be affirmed by the winners of the midterm elections. The only way we will get the respect we deserve is to show up and show out at the polls in November.

When we take our well-deserved seat at the table, we know our impact is always powerful.

We've seen the collective power of Black women impact key races for office in special elections and primaries. Black women, according to our recent poll which analyzed the 61 most competitive midterm races, are tired of feeling disrespected by the Trump Administration and have made it a much higher priority to voice their displeasure at the polls. Black men are not far behind them. They too, along with other communities of color, are tired of the relentless racism permeating our nation and fueled by politicians.

As we approach November, we hear the faint yet consistent refrain- elections have consequences—ringing in our ears.

Today, as we fight against the nomination of Brett Kavanaugh, we are reminded of the harsh reality that his presence would remake the Supreme Court of the United States into a bastion of conservatism reminiscent of yesteryears when access to our democracy was parceled off according to skin color.

For the Black community, November is a watershed moment. If we fail to vote in numbers respective to our actual political power, future generations will suffer for our apathy. We don't have to tell our people how to vote, only that we must vote as if our lives and our children's lives depend on it. Because it does.

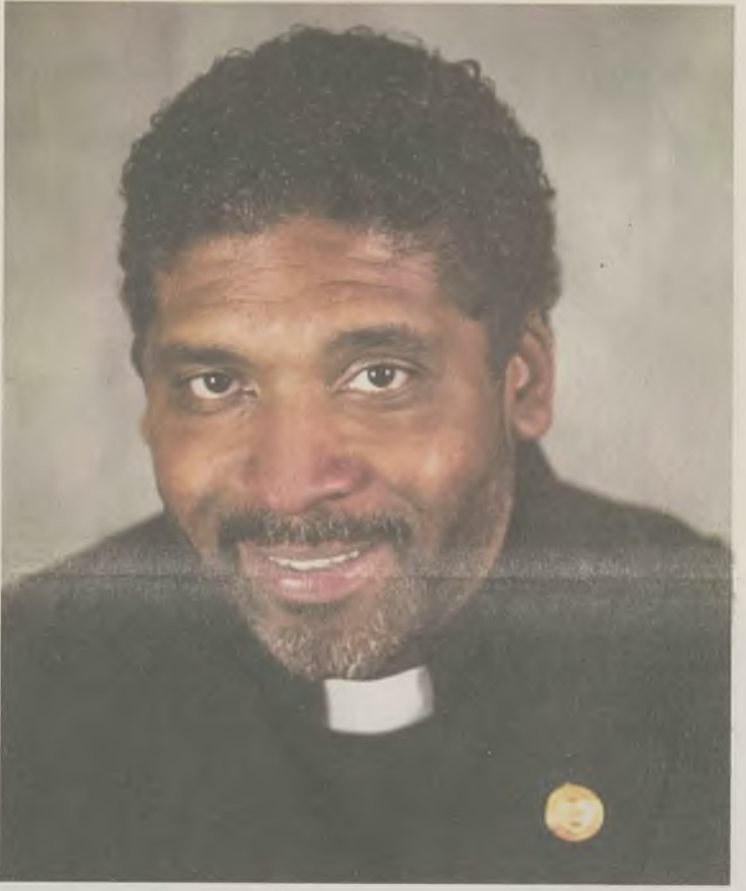
The NAACP has decided to fight back and we ask you to join us by using your ballot as the weapon of choice.

We ask you to visit NAACP.org to download and share resources to help those you know get registered and mobilized to vote. We are asking you to reach out to five people in your personal or social networks and bring them with you to the polls. If you understand the importance of this year's elections, we know that you will sound the alarm, connect with others, and express your power by casting your vote.

Voting is not just about politics, it's about fighting police brutality, preserving civil rights, providing public education, protecting the right of workers to organize, and giving those who need healthcare access to it. But most importantly, voting is about our ability to live as equals in a society that doesn't always view us as such.



By Derrick Johnson,



REV. WILLIAM BARBER

North Carolina civil rights leader receives 'genius grant'

By Martha Waggoner

RALEIGH (AP) - The Rev. William Barber, one of the newest recipients of the honor known as the genius grant, said Oct. 4 that becoming a 2018 MacArthur fellow means he has more work ahead of him, not less.

So appropriately, he was participating in -- and getting arrested at -- a "Fight for \$15" protest outside McDonald's headquarters in Chicago on Oct. 4, the day the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation announced this year's 25 MacArthur fellows.

Each recipient will receive \$625,000 over five years to use as they please.

"They don't share these grants so that you sit down," Barber said in a telephone interview Oct. 4. "They hope and believe you will do more things."

The foundation noted that Barber "is effective at building unusually inclusive fusion coalitions that are multiracial and interfaith, reach across gender, age, and class lines, and are dedicated to addressing poverty, inequality, and systemic racism."

The 55-year-old Barber, minister of Greenleaf Christian Church in Goldsboro, first came to the public eye when he was elected president of the state chapter of the NAACP in 2005. He began the "Moral Monday" movement in North Carolina in 2013 and led frequent protests over issues such as voting rights, gerrymandering, LGBTQ rights and unions.

Barber is now co-chair of the Poor People's Campaign, a revival of the movement begun by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. just before the assassination of the civil rights leader in April 1968.

"The message of an award like this is to keep on, keep fighting, don't despair, somebody sees you," said Barber, who's been arrested at least 15 times.

Barber hasn't decided specifically how he will use the money, although he does have tentative plans. "One of the things I always wanted to do is go places where people don't have the resources to bring you and help empower communities," he said.

Among those congratulating Barber on Oct. 4 was former Vice President Al Gore, who attended events with him in August in North Carolina. One of the platforms of the Poor People's Campaign is ecological devastation, a prime interest of Gore, who shared the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007 for his campaign to protect the environment.

"Nobody is more deserving," Gore tweeted. Barber described his work as "a long struggle. It's going to continue to be a struggle."

Added Barber, "I do it because it's not about what you have to suffer but how you help others who suffer, who don't need you to do things for them but need you to stand alongside them."

Follow Martha Waggoner on Twitter at [http://twitter.com/mjwaggoner](https://twitter.com/mjwaggoner)