



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF BIRMINGHAM

WILLIAM A. BELL, SR.
MAYOR

October 29, 2014

Dr. David Dyson
Founder and President
Life Leaders America
David@LifeLeaders.us

Re: Freedom initiatives for Birmingham

Dear David,

Birmingham is increasingly getting known as a city where "*Freedom Lives.*" As stated in two proclamations I presented to the City Council last year supported by Patriotism in Action and Freedom Lives of Life Leaders, Birmingham can be known positively for our national contributions to America's National Veterans Day and the Civil Rights Movement. Both stand for Freedom. Birmingham is a Freedom City. The Freedom Lives and Free to Flourish programs launched through Life Leaders with John Hornsby as chair are helping us tell our history and write a new inspiring chapter *for the good of the City.*

I have enjoyed our work since you and John Hornsby proposed this concept in January 2013. The ads placed by Freedom Lives with creative design led by Terry Slaughter honoring Birmingham for Veterans Day, Civil Rights, and The Tuskegee Airmen as National Veteran Award Honoree in our City has reached millions of readers. The work of the Patriotism in Action team, including Col. Barefield and Col. Dunn, in 2012 advising Senator Sessions to help gain passage of the U.S. Senate Resolution restoring Birmingham's legacy for starting Veterans Day is vital. That effort and the "Birmingham Forward" commemoration give us opportunity to brand Birmingham for our history and future service providing events and education to inspire students and our other citizens.

We can teach our students, our city citizens, and our country of Birmingham's historic and future role as a leader advancing principles of freedom. The City is taking action to develop our national distinctions, services, and attractions to advance freedom at home and as a resource for our country and world.

The history and future of Veterans Day and Civil Rights events and education are valuable to our City's heritage and future. Because of these, more people are "Free to Flourish." The programs you preparing for our schools can inspire more students to understand the freedoms advanced here and to write their plans for character traits and goals that can inspire more to stay in school and succeed. Work by Freedom Lives to build communications and community cooperation can help us unite education, community development, tourism, and other programs of the City.

Chuck is keeping me informed on your discussions and decisions. I also look forward to periodic briefings on plans and progress plus participating in key events.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William A. Bell, Sr.".

William A. Bell, Sr.
Mayor