

July 18, 2020

RE: Reflecting on the Recent Loss of our Heroes

Dear NBLSA Family,

This morning we awoke to the loss of Rep. John Lewis, an activist and an icon.

Having met Rep. Lewis when I was fourteen years old, I can personally attest to his presence and power first-hand. His voice resonated with hope as he urged myself and the Black students with me to take charge of our destiny and believe that we are capable of creating change. More than a decade later, I continue to strive to enact that change.

This loss comes on the heels of the passing of C.T. Vivian, another activist and icon, who fought alongside Rep. Lewis for racial equality in Selma and across the country.

Rep. Lewis and C.T. Vivian were pillars of the Black community and were giants fighting against the oppression and disenfranchisement of all people. Now that they are among the stars, it is up to us to carry-on in their place. There is still work to be done and justice to be sought for **Breonna Taylor** and the many others we have lost in this year alone.

As we reflect on the legacy of these heroes, I urge you all to consider what “Good Trouble” you can get into this day, this week, this year to honor those who have come before us and paved our way forward.

In NBLSA Service,



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