



## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

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## **MELANIE L. CAMPBELL, PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL COALITION ON BLACK CIVIC PARTICIPATION AND CONVENER, BLACK WOMEN'S ROUNDTABLE STATEMENT ON THE HISTORIC INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT JOSEPH BIDEN & VICE PRESIDENT KAMALA HARRIS**

*CAMPBELL EXPRESSES HER JOY IN WITNESSING THE SWEARING IN OF KAMALA HARRIS AS THE 49<sup>TH</sup> VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, MAKING HISTORY AS THE FIRST WOMAN AND FIRST BLACK AND SOUTH ASIAN AMERICAN*

**Washington, DC (January 20, 2021)** -- Today, **Kamala D. Harris** was sworn in as the 49<sup>TH</sup> Vice President of the United States of America, making history as the second highest-ranking elected official in our nation. Vice President Harris is the first woman, and first Black and South Asian American, to break this glass ceiling.

Among the many distinguished witnesses at the proceedings on the Capitol steps was **Melanie L. Campbell**, President & CEO of the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation (NCBCP) and Convener of the Black Women's Roundtable (BWR) who attended the inaugural as the guest of Ohio Representative **Joyce Beatty**, chairwoman of the Congressional Black Caucus. Comments Ms. Campbell, *"My heart burst with pride today as I sat and personally witnessed one of the most iconic moments in American history, the swearing in of Kamala Harris as the first Black woman to become the 49<sup>th</sup> Vice President of the United States.*

*"Vice President Harris's accomplishment represents the leadership, hard work, determination and focus that Black women have displayed not only throughout this past election cycle, but for decades in our efforts to protect America's democracy.*

*"For Black women, her becoming a 'first' in so many areas represents not the end, but it's just the beginning."*

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The **National Coalition on Black Civic Participation (NCBCP)** is one of the most active civil rights and social justice organizations in the nation "dedicated to increasing civic engagement, economic and voter empowerment in Black America." The **Black Women's Roundtable (BWR)** is the women and girls empowerment arm of the NCBCP. At the forefront of championing just and equitable public policy on behalf of Black women, BWR promotes their health and wellness, economic security & prosperity, education and global empowerment as key elements for success.



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National Coalition on Black Civic Participation