

NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION USA, INC.

Dr. Jerry Young, President
Dr. Calvin McKinney, General Secretary
Envisioning The Future Exceptionally
Jeremiah 29:11



NATIONAL BAPTIST CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

Envisioning The Future Ministry
of
Criminal Justice Exceptionally
Micah 6:8 Ephesians 4:1-6



Harold & Doris Simmons
National Commissioners

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

THE NATIONAL BAPTIST CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION MINISTRY

	Page Number
National Baptist Criminal Justice Commission.....	2
Ministry Guidance Statements.....	3
General Secretary Ministry.....	4
Education Ministry.....	5
Navigating The Criminal Justice System Ministry.....	6
Juvenile Justice Ministry.....	9
Prison Fellowship Angel Tree Ministry.....	10
Adopt-A-School Ministry.....	11
Our Kids “OK” Ministry.....	12
Transitional Living Ministry.....	13
Polaris: Human Trafficking Ministry.....	14
Prison Ministry.....	15
Liberation Ministry.....	16

THE NATIONAL BAPTIST CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION
ENVISIONING THE FUTURE MINISTRY OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE EXCEPTIONALLY
MICAH 6:8 EPHESIANS 4:1-6

The National Baptist Criminal Justice Commission is a “Ministry” of the National Baptist Convention USA Inc., appointed by the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. President, Dr. Jerry Young, to impact “*Crime and Criminal Behavior*”; thereby, reducing the number of people within the Criminal Justice System in the United States. The main parts of the Criminal Justice System in the United States are: legislative (create laws); law enforcement (local, state, federal); adjudication (courts); and corrections (jails, prisons, probation and parole). In the Criminal Justice System, these distinct agencies operate together both under the rule of law and as the principal means of maintaining the rule of law within society. The Criminal Justice System is the means for society to “enforce the standards of behavior necessary to protect individuals and the community” from “*Crime and Criminal Behavior*”.

A normative definition views *crime* as deviant behavior that violates prevailing norms and/or societal standards prescribing how people ought to behave normally or according to social virtues. This approach considers the complex realities surrounding the concept of crime and seeks to understand how changing social, political, psychological, and economic conditions may affect changing definitions of *crime* and the form of the legal, law-enforcement and penal responses made by society. Behavior can be influenced and changed by a society in many ways without having to resort to the Criminal Justice System.

The National Baptist Criminal Justice Commission has been commissioned to control and influence sinful behavior wholly and holistically by ministering to the physical, Biblical and Spiritual needs of individuals and families. This will include the causes of *crime and criminal behavior* such as: poverty, joblessness, substance abuse, mental health, deviant thinking, marriage and family disillusionment, community disunity, violence, sexual immorality, mistreatment of our children and elderly, homelessness and other inconceivable actions.

The National Baptist Criminal Justice Commission will initially focus on three areas of ministry to influence behavior Biblically. The three areas are: persons on their way into the Criminal Justice System; persons within the Criminal Justice System; and persons released from the Criminal Justice System. The families of these persons will also be included in these ministries. Teaching and Training classes will be scheduled throughout all regions of the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. under the leadership and direction of our National President and National Regional Vice Presidents. Materials will be developed to enhance these teaching and training classes. National Baptist Criminal Justice Commissioners will be trained and certified to teach in specific areas of ministry. We will contact the National Baptist Congress of Education President and Dean to receive instruction and direction on achieving National certification.

The National Baptist Criminal Justice Commission will reach out to Pastors, Officers and Auxiliaries of local churches; Moderators, Officers and Auxiliaries of District Associations; Presidents, Officers and Auxiliaries of State Conventions; and National Officers and Auxiliaries to become participators in this physical and spiritual war. *The National Baptist Criminal Justice Commission* is committed to biblically and spiritually reducing *crime and criminal behavior* through *Biblical Proclamation To Salvation* and *Biblical Education To Liberation*.

HAROLD & DORIS SIMMONS
NATIONAL COMMISSIONERS

MINISTRY GUIDANCE STATEMENTS (2 CORINTHIANS 5:18-19)

VISION:

The Criminal Justice Commission Ministry will effectively influence and change sinful behavior wholly and holistically by ministering to the physical, Biblical and Spiritual needs of individuals and their families.

MISSION:

The Criminal Justice Commission will exhort, assist and equip the local church in its evangelistic and emancipating ministry to those in prison, ex-prisoners, victims, and their families. The Commission will effectively address the causes of crime and criminal behavior such as; poverty, joblessness, substance abuse, mental health, deviant thinking, marriage and family disillusionment, community disunity, violence, sexual immorality, mistreatment of our children and elderly, homelessness and other inconceivable actions.

MINISTRY APPROACH:

- 1) Minister to men, women and their families through local churches that will promote Christian living that helps them before entering the Criminal Justice System.
- 2) Minister to men, women and their families while they are in the Criminal Justice System that will present the plan of salvation and promote Christian living.
- 3) Minister to men, women and their families that have been released from the Criminal Justice System in a manner that offers guidance to ensure they do not return to the Criminal Justice System.

BIBLICAL PROCESSES:

Developing Effective Biblical Ministries Within The Criminal Justice System
Biblical Proclamation-To-Salvation & Biblical Education-To-Liberation

STRATEGIES:

- 1) The Criminal Justice Commission will establish a Ministry with National and Regional Commissioners who will assist and equip the local church in its evangelistic and emancipating ministry to those in prison, ex-prisoners, victims, and their families.
- 2) The Commission will generate training materials to be used by the National and Regional Commissioners to train and equip local and regional trainers.
- 3) The Commission will reach out to Pastors, Officers and Auxiliaries of local churches; Moderators, Officers and Auxiliaries of District Associations; Presidents, Officers and Auxiliaries of State Conventions; and National Officers and Auxiliaries to become participators in this physical and spiritual war.
- 4) The Commission will conduct training sessions and presentations in national settings, during regional workshops and local meetings to convey the need for and the work of the Ministry.
- 5) The Commission will establish and develop links to Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement Associations throughout the country to focus on preventive measures that Biblically and Spiritually lead our brothers and sisters toward a life in Jesus Christ rather than a life of crime, destruction and death.

ROBERT POPE - NATIONAL VICE COMMISSIONER
GENERAL SECRETARY MINISTRY (2 CORINTHIANS 8:18-21)

PURPOSE

The purpose of the General Secretary Ministry is to provide support services for the National Baptist Criminal Justice Commission. The support Services include but are limited to providing the logistics and administrative tasks and activities needed to ensure successful operation of meetings and events that support the National Baptist Criminal Justice Commission Ministry.

VISION

The General Secretary Ministry will use resources and tools to consistently establish an operational and administrative environment. This environment will produce the expected goals and objectives that will cause the Commission to move forward in an exceptional manner.

MISSION

The General Secretary Ministry mission is to provide services that include to aid in the strategic, tactical and logistics planning for meetings, workshops, and sessions. Additionally, this ministry develops budgets and performs financial management, and document development and management. Interacts with the National Convention's General Secretary's staff, the finance team and other administrative functions of the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. Ensures that the National Baptist Criminal Justice Commission function in accordance with the operating standards, procedures and processes of the Convention, with all Federal, State and local laws and regulations and with the Holy Scriptures.

METHODS

The General Secretary Ministry will provide leadership in the performance of logistics and administrative tasks and activities in accordance with the principles taught in the scriptures. These tasks and activities must be performed with consistency and integrity.

- 1) **Document Management** - Develop meeting minutes and other records associated with the National Baptist Criminal Justice Commission. Maintain the documentation, such as booklets, brochures and other materials.
- 2) **Budget Development** - Work with the Commissioners and the Convention's finance staff to develop the Commission's budget and financial management processes. Establish and maintain an accounting system, process and procedures that complies with the Convention's requirements and Commission's needs
- 3) **Plan and Facilitate Meetings** - At the National Commissioner's request schedule, plan and facilitate in person and teleconference meetings with National Vice and Regional Commissioners and others.
- 4) **Interact with the National Staff** - Interface and interact with the National Convention General Secretary Staff to aid in the planning of national meetings and other events related to the Convention and the Commission.
- 5) **Establish a Communication System** - As the National Baptist Criminal Justice Commission expands throughout the Convention and this country, develop a communication system that includes a web site, texting and teleconferences that supports Regional Commissioners and supporters will provide information and directives.
- 6) **Standard Operating Procedures** - Develop and maintain a set of Standard Operating Policies and Procedures for the National Baptist Criminal Justice Commission.

THAD & SANDRA JONES - NATIONAL VICE COMMISSIONERS
EDUCATION MINISTRY (EPHESIANS 4:11-16)

PURPOSE

The purpose of the National Baptist Education Ministry is to:

- 1) Design and develop Biblical materials and teaching methods for the National Baptist Criminal Justice Commission Ministries.
- 2) Assist Commissioners at every level of the Commission to develop curriculums that support the Mission, Goals and Objectives of the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc.
- 3) Liaison with the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education and the Sunday School Publishing Board to obtain and maintain accreditation of the Commission's courses and instructors.
- 4) Create and deliver Commission overview presentations and course materials that promote the Commission's work.
- 5) Establish links with various educational organizations to maintain the most current information, environment and techniques that ensures the Commission maintains relevance and uses up to date methods.

MISSION

The Mission of the National Baptist Criminal Justice Education Ministry is to use the Bible and other educational tools to equip Commissioners and other instructors with materials and teaching methods necessary for establishing effective Ministries within the Criminal Justice System.

METHODS

- 1) To provide teaching methods that will minister to the sinful behavior of the world by engaging in a spiritual war that causes and encourages such behavior.
- 2) To prepare materials and presentations that will provide education and instruction.
- 3) To inspire the leaders of the parent body and all auxiliaries to prioritize the preventative education offered by this Commission.
- 4) To train Regional Commissioners and State Commissioners in presenting the materials developed by the Commission.
- 5) To ensure that all classes are certified through the Sunday School Publishing Board.
- 6) Manage teaching, researching and publications of materials of the National Baptist Criminal Justice Ministry Disciplines.

STEPHEN & LYNN PERRY - NATIONAL VICE COMMISSIONERS
NAVIGATING THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM MINISTRY (PSALM 142)

INTRODUCTION:

The Criminal Justice System is the set of agencies and processes established by governments to control crime and impose penalties on those who violate laws. There is no single criminal justice system in the United States but rather many similar, individual systems. How the criminal justice system works in each area depends on the jurisdiction that is in charge: city, county, state, federal or tribal government or military installation. Different jurisdictions have different laws, agencies, and ways of managing criminal justice processes.

The main systems are:

State: State criminal justice systems handle crimes committed within their state boundaries.

Federal: The federal criminal justice system handles crimes committed on federal property or in more than one state.

PURPOSE

Use Biblical concepts and approaches to minister to Suspects of Crimes and their families as they navigate through the many facets of the Criminal Justice System to seek Alternatives to Prison and Fair Sentencing in the Courts. Additionally, use the same concepts and approaches to minister to Victims of Crimes and their families as they cope with facets of the Criminal Justice System and assist with Victim awareness and Victim restitution.

VISION:

A ministry that assists Suspects and Victims and their families effectively navigate the Criminal Justice System by using Biblical principles and approaches. This ministry positively impacts their lives and causes them to see Jesus and places them on a path to accept His saving power.

MISSION:

To Minister to Victims of Crimes and their families; Suspects of Crimes not yet incarcerated and their families; offering Biblical transitional support for Holistic change in their lives; and working for systemic change in the Criminal Justice System.

METHODS:

- 1) Teach Biblical concepts and approaches that develop alternatives for living a healthier, more productive life, and improved levels of self-awareness and self-esteem.
- 2) Provide on-going small group counseling services, including associations with positive role models and involvement in an effective mentor ministry.
- 3) Teach Biblical responsibility and the dangers of substance abuse.
- 4) With assistance from the Transitional and Liberation ministries help Suspects choose a vocational and/or an educational career.

THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM PROCESS

The process may vary according to the jurisdiction, the seriousness of the crime (felony or misdemeanor), whether the accused is a juvenile or an adult, and other factors. Not every case will include all these steps, and not all cases directly follow this sequence. Many crimes are never prosecuted because they are not reported, because no suspects can be identified, or because the available evidence is not adequate for the prosecutor to build a case.

Prosecution/Prosecutors: are lawyers who represent the state or federal government (not the victim) throughout the court process-from the first appearance of the accused in court until the accused is acquitted or sentenced.

Defense Attorneys: Defense attorneys defend the accused against the government's case. They are either hired by the defendant or (for defendants who cannot afford an attorney) they are assigned by the court. While the prosecutor represents the state, the defense attorney represents the defendant.

Courts: Courts are run by Judges whose role is to make sure the law is followed and oversee what happens in court. They decide whether to release offenders before the trial. Judges accept or reject plea agreements, oversee trials, and sentence convicted offenders.

Corrections: Correction officers supervise convicted offenders when they are in jail, in prison, or in the community on probation or parole. In some communities, corrections officers prepare pre-sentencing reports with extensive background information about the offender to help judges decide sentences. The job of corrections officers is to make sure the facilities that hold offenders are secure and safe. They oversee the day-to-day custody of inmates. They also oversee the release processes for inmates and sometimes notify victims of changes in the offender's status.

SUSPECTS

Report: Law enforcement officers receive the crime report from victims, witnesses, or other parties (or witness the crime themselves and make a report).

Investigation: Law enforcement investigates the crime. Officers try to identify a suspect and find enough evidence to arrest the suspect they think may be responsible.

Arrest or Citation: If they find a suspect and enough evidence, officers may arrest the suspect or issue a citation for the suspect to appear in court at a specific time. This decision depends on the nature of the crime and other factors. If officers do not find a suspect and enough evidence, the case remains open.

PROSECUTION AND PRETRIAL

Charges: The prosecutor considers the evidence assembled by the police and decides whether to file written charges (or a complaint) or release the accused without prosecution.

First Court Appearance: If the prosecutor decides to file formal charges, the accused will appear in court to be informed of the charges and of his or her rights. The judge decides whether there is enough evidence to hold the accused or release him or her. If the defendant does not have an attorney, the court may appoint one or begin the process of assigning a public defender to represent the defendant.

Bail or Bond: At the first court appearance (or at any other point in the process—depending on the jurisdiction) the judge may decide to hold the accused in jail or release him or her on bail, bond, or on his or her "Own Recognizance" (OR)," (OR means the defendant promises to return to court for any required proceedings and the judge does not impose bail because the defendant appears not to be a flight risk). To be released on bail, defendants have to hand over cash or other valuables (such as property deeds) to the court as security to guarantee that the defendant will appear at the trial. Defendants may pay bail with cash or bond (an amount put up by a bail bondsman who collects a non-refundable fee from the defendant to pay the bail). The judge will also consider such factors as drug use, residence, employment, and family ties in deciding whether to hold or release the defendant.

Grand Jury or Preliminary Hearing: In about one-half of the states, defendants have the right to have their cases heard by a grand jury, which means that a jury of citizens must hear the evidence presented by the prosecutor and decide whether there is enough evidence to indict the accused of the crime. If the grand jury decides there is enough evidence, the grand jury submits to the court an indictment, or written statement of the facts of the offense charged against the accused. In other cases, the accused may have to appear at a preliminary hearing in court, where the judge may hear evidence and the defendant is formally indicted or released.

Arraignment: The defendant is brought before the judge to be informed of the charges and his or her rights. The defendant pleads guilty, not guilty, or no contest (accepts the penalty without admitting guilt). If the defendant pleads guilty or no contest, no trial is held, and offender is sentenced then or later. If the defendant pleads not guilty, a date is set for the trial. If a plea agreement is negotiated, no trial is held.

ADJUDICATION (TRIAL PROCESS)

Plea Agreements: The majority of cases are resolved by plea agreements rather than trials. A plea agreement means that the defendant has agreed to plead guilty to one or more of the charges in exchange for one of the following: dismissal of one or more charges, a lesser degree of the charged offense, a recommendation for a lenient sentence, not recommending the maximum sentence, or making no recommendation. The law does not require prosecutors to inform victims about plea agreements or seek their approval.

Trial: Trials are held before a judge (bench trial) or judge and jury (jury trial), depending on the seriousness of the crime and other factors. The prosecutor and defense attorney present evidence and question witnesses. The judge or jury finds the defendant guilty or not guilty on the original charges or lesser charges. Defendants found not guilty are usually released. If the verdict is guilty, the judge will set a date for sentencing.

POST-TRIAL

Sentencing: Victims are allowed to prepare for the judge (and perhaps to read at the sentencing hearing) a victim impact statement that explains how the crime affected them. In deciding on a sentence, the judge has a range of choices, depending on the crime. These choices include restitution (paying the victim for costs related to the crime), fines (paid to the court), probation, jail or prison, or the death penalty. In some cases, the defendant appeals the case, seeking either a new trial or to overturn or change the sentence.

Probation or Parole: A judge may suspend a jail or prison sentence and instead place the offender on probation, usually under supervision in the community. Offenders who have served part of their sentences in jail or prison may-under certain conditions-be released on parole, under the supervision of the corrections system or the court. Offenders who violate the conditions of their probation or parole can be sent to jail or prison.

VICTIMS

Victims need to understand their rights, choices they have to make and what to expect throughout the criminal justice process to help them stay safe. If they are harassed or stalked by the offender at any point in the criminal justice process, they should immediately report these violations to the police and the prosecutor. While the offender is in jail or prison, the corrections staff is required to notify them if the offender is released, escapes or if a parole hearing is pending. Most states have automated notification systems that allow registered victims to check on the status of an offender at any time.

A. J. & TERESA BYRD - NATIONAL VICE COMMISSIONERS
JUVENILE JUSTICE MINISTRY (PSALMS 1:2-4)

PURPOSE

Juvenile Justice Ministry focuses on incarcerated juvenile individuals, their families, victims and their communities as it relates to ministering to them before, during and after incarceration. The ministry provides crime prevention ministries to juveniles before entering into the Criminal Justice System; biblically ministering to juveniles while in the Criminal Justice System; and a smooth transition back into society after release from the Criminal Justice System and reducing recidivism (returning to the Criminal Justice System). This area of criminal law applies to persons not old enough to be held responsible for criminal acts.

VISION:

A community where the life of every juvenile, outside and inside the Criminal Justice System, is impacted by the Word of God and their value is restored in the sight of God.

MISSION

To minister to juveniles in Detention Centers, Correctional Facilities, Group Homes, Residential Treatment Centers and Emergency Shelters. This ministry assists and equips the Districts and local Churches in its evangelistic ministry to juvenile offenders, and their families according to biblical standards.

METHODS:

The Juvenile Justice Ministry will harness the collective power of the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. State Conventions, Districts and Churches to those that identify their wish to express their obedience to Christ through ministry and minister to those who are behind prison walls or in Adjudication.

- 1) To provide Church congregations with the necessary tools to participate, initiate, and sustain an effective Juvenile Justice ministry by:
- 2) Identifying the need for organizing and developing a Juvenile Justice Ministry.
- 3) Providing local and state requirements for church participation in a Juvenile Justice Ministry.
- 4) Providing training and practical experience through classroom learning and actual ministry opportunities.
- 5) Motivate and mobilize those who are inspired to do this work with incarcerated youth.

MINISTRY GOALS:

- 1) To get National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. Churches committed to provide faith based services for juvenile inmates and their families.
- 2) To positively impact the lives of families of the incarcerated juveniles in a manner that helps them to see Jesus in the lives of the congregation.
- 3) To develop and deliver training materials, training, and information for State Conventions, Districts and local Church congregation to affect the life of the incarcerated.
- 4) Present God's Word to juvenile inmates through faith based experiences that causes them to experience the love of Jesus.
- 5) To help the inmate and persons in the Criminal Justice System consider a different life path that has the effect of reducing crime in our communities.

ERNEST & JOICE TINSLEY - NATIONAL VICE COMMISSIONERS
PRISON FELLOWSHIP ANGEL TREE MINISTRY (*DEUTERONOMY 6:4-9*)

PURPOSE:

The Prison Fellowship Angel Tree Ministry identifies children in metropolitan areas who have incarcerated parents and pair them with local Churches in the area that will provide gifts to these children that are represented as coming from their parents during the Christmas Season. The Prison Fellowship Angel Tree Ministry provides positive connections with children, their incarcerated parents or loved ones with Jesus Christ through the ministry work of the Church.

VISION:

The Prison Fellowship Angel Tree Ministry impacts the lives of families to turn toward Christian life and away criminal life. The long-term effect of the Prison Fellowship Angel Tree Ministry is to reduce crime in the community and an expansion of God's Kingdom here on Earth.

MISSION:

The work of the State Convention Presidents and District Moderators with the aid of the National Baptist Criminal Justice Commission, is to connect with the Pastors of local Churches and get their commitment to the Prison Fellowship Angel Tree Ministry.

METHODS:

- 1) The Prison Fellowship Angel Tree Ministry is being implemented in metropolitan areas in partnerships with the National Baptist Criminal Justice Commission and local Churches of the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc.
- 2) The Prison Fellowship Angel Tree Ministry works with District Moderators to gain their assistance in identifying Churches that will provide this Ministry to children of incarcerated parents beginning with the Christmas Season.
- 3) Local Churches register with Prison Fellowship Angel Tree Ministry to provide faith based services for the children of incarcerated persons. The Prison Fellowship Angel Tree Ministry will provide names and information about the children and their Guardians.
- 4) The National Baptist Criminal Justice Commission Ministry and the Prison Fellowship Angel Tree Ministry will work together to assist State Conventions, District Associations and local Churches to effectively implement the Prison Fellowship Angel Tree Ministry.
- 5) A celebration, such as a Christmas Celebration, may be used to draw the incarcerated person's family to Church; the Church exhibiting the Love of Jesus will strengthen their relationship with Jesus.

MINISTRY GOALS:

- 1) To get National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. Churches committed and registered to provide faith based services for families, specifically the children of incarcerated persons.
- 2) To positively impact the lives of families of the incarcerated in a manner that helps them to see Jesus in the lives of the congregation.
- 3) To affect the life of the incarcerated through the faith based experiences of their family, especially the children, that causes them to experience the love of Jesus Christ.
- 4) To help the inmate and persons in the Criminal Justice System consider a different life path that has the effect of reducing crime in our communities.

CHARLES AND DONNA EWING - NATIONAL VICE COMMISSIONERS
ADOPT-A-SCHOOL MINISTRY (*MATTHEW 20:28a*)

PURPOSE

This Ministry brings to the National Baptist Criminal Justice Commission an approach and methods to establish local ministries within their school system in the community where their local church is located.

VISION

Higher percentage of young men who attend elementary, middle and high school begin performing and achieving at levels that produce well-educated graduates and more productive citizens.

MISSION

The Ministry will provide to the National Baptist Criminal Justice Commission materials, methods and support to successfully implement this ministry in their community. The Ministry will provide to the school systems support from the local church. The support provided will have an immediate and long term positive impact on the behavior and performance of the students in those the targeted schools of the local school system.

METHODS

- 1) National Baptist Criminal Justice Commissioners will identify and assign a person within their Region to manage the Adopt-A-School Ministry.
- 2) Obtain your Pastor's support.
- 3) Identify a school that is in the community.
- 4) Decide early in the process the level of the school (elementary, middle or high).
- 5) Meet with the school's principal and staff to determine the needs of the school.
- 6) Prioritize the list of needs in collaboration with school's staff.
- 7) Match team members with assignments consistent with their gifts and talents.

STRATEGY

- 1) Assign a person to manage the Adopt-A-School Ministry for their Region.
- 2) Provide materials, training and other support needed to expand the Ministry.
- 3) Develop improvements and updates to the materials and presentations.
- 4) Establish relationships with Pastors to promote their involvement.
- 5) Prepare workshops, seminars and sessions as a class to present during a General Session.
- 6) Goals will be established by State Conventions with the aid of the National Adopt-A-School Team to develop an Adopt-A-School Ministry in the Districts and local Churches of their State Convention.

NATIONAL VICE COMMISSIONERS
OUR KIDS “O. K.” MINISTRY (*PROVERBS 22:6*)

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Ministry is to reverse the grim statistics related to the high rates of incarceration and homicide that young African American males are currently facing. The O.K. Program is a national mentoring model for African American men and boys. The program brings together African American police officers and Pastors from around the country to recruit, train and organize African American men to mentor African American boys 12-18 years old.

MISSION

To develop partnerships between police officers and men in our community that forms a powerful relationship that changes interactions between the two groups. Working together, through the O.K. Program, police officers and black men can help young African American men develop leadership and critical thinking skills, while promoting academic excellence and good moral character.

METHODS

The men in the program are called “Teammates”, because the O.K. Program is based on a team-mentoring concept. Each teammate is important to the team’s success. This team concept provides the organizational structure necessary to allow black men an opportunity to take responsibility in helping to change the course of young African American males. Every Saturday, KIC’IT Session (Kids Interacting Communicating Immix Teammates) brings together O.K. Program police officers with African American men and boys. In these sessions strong relationships are built as men share life experiences with their younger counterparts

STRATEGY

An agreement was made between the Little Rock Police Department and Arkansas Baptist College to establish an O.K. Program in Little Rock with a goal to over time ultimately have a chapter in each of the High Schools in Little Rock.

- 1) Expand the O.K. Ministry as a mentoring model throughout this country, the goal, through the “One Hundred Thousand Strong National African American Male Mentor Initiative”, is to enlist 100,000 African American men to mentor our boys.
- 2) Contact Community leaders and provide them with website information on how police and African American communities are working together.
- 3) Arrange exploratory meeting w/officials, Community leaders and O.K. Program Representative to discuss the possibility of bringing O.K. Program to your city.
- 4) Identify schools where the O.K. Program will be implemented and identify a police officer or officers to coordinate the program.
- 5) School administrators and teachers provide academic and citizenship information on the boys, in order for the officers and the men to be aware of the boys’ progress in school.
- 6) Young men in the program receive awards for their efforts, achievements and successes. By earning at least a 2.5 GPA and good citizenship each grading period,
- 7) The boys also qualify to participate in fun excursions to college and professional ball games, amusement parks and other exciting events.

WILLIE BOB & LILLIE JOHNSON - NATIONAL VICE COMMISSIONERS
TRANSITIONAL LIVING MINISTRY (*GALATIANS 6:2*)

TRANSITION FROM CHILDHOOD TO ADULTHOOD AND INDEPENDENT LIVING

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the National Baptist Criminal Justice Commission Transitional Living Ministry:

- 1) To assist Biblically adolescents who face a range of developmental issues.
- 2) Minister to teens approaching adulthood and living independently.
- 3) Minister to youth and young adults living with families struggling to achieve self-reliance
- 4) Minister to youth and young adults facing obstacles in out-of-home care.

VISION:

The vision of the National Baptist Transitional Living Ministry is to support the churches located in communities that work every day to put an end to youth homelessness, adolescent pregnancy and domestic violence.

MISSION:

To provide National Baptist Criminal Justice Transitional Living Ministries with support and projects that provides long-term residential services to homeless youth ages 16-22. The services offered are designed to help young people who are homeless make a successful transition to self-sufficient living.

METHOD:

The National Baptist Criminal Justice Commission Transitional Living Ministry participants will be required to provide youth with stable, safe living accommodations, and services that help them develop the skills necessary to become independent. Living accommodations may include host-family homes, group homes, maternity group homes, or supervised apartments owned by the program or rented in the community.

- 1) Safe, stable living accommodations
- 2) Basic life-skill building, including consumer education and instruction in budgeting, the use of credit, housekeeping, menu planning, food preparation and parenting skills
- 3) Interpersonal skill building, including enhancing young people's abilities to establish positive relationships with peers and adults, make decisions and manage stress
- 4) Educational opportunities, such as GED preparation, postsecondary training and vocational education
- 5) Assistance in job preparation and attainment, such as career counseling and job placement
- 6) Education, information and counseling to prevent, treat and reduce substance abuse
- 7) Trauma-informed mental health care, including individual and group counseling
- 8) Physical health care, including routine physicals, health assessment and emergency treatment

NATIONAL VICE COMMISSIONERS
POLARIS: HUMAN TRAFFICKING MINISTRY (PSALMS 82:3-4)

PURPOSE:

The National Baptist Criminal Justice Commission will collaborate/partnership with Polaris, the Nation's leading nonprofit organization working globally to eradicate human trafficking. This ministry will implement activities to further the mission of Polaris to systemically disrupt human trafficking by:

- 1) Responding to victims of human trafficking effectively and immediately.
- 2) Equipping key stakeholders and communities to address and prevent human trafficking.
- 3) Disrupting the business of human trafficking through targeted campaigns.

VISION:

This ministry in collaboration/partnership with Polaris will support systematic disruption efforts to eradicate human trafficking networks and modern day slavery that rob human beings of their lives and their freedom.

MISSION:

In collaboration with Polaris, develop a comprehensive workplan to implement anti-trafficking efforts across the six regions of the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. to:

- 1) Ensure survivors of trafficking are at the center of what we do.
- 2) Help Polaris efforts to restore freedom for victims.
- 3) Support Polaris data analysis efforts to pursue human traffickers everywhere.

METHODS:

- 1) Support and promote the National Human Trafficking Hotline number **1-888-373-7888** and the **BeFree Textline (233733)** that connects victims to critical support to get help and stay safe. Also, equip communities with tools to combat human trafficking.
- 2) Support survivors of trafficking across the nation to combat human trafficking by creating opportunities for education, vocational training, and economic empowerment
- 3) Support Government Relations anti-trafficking efforts through advocacy appeals at the State and Federal level.
- 4) Support Polaris Data Analysis work to provide information and education to the public on the types of trafficking in the US.
- 5) Support Polaris' strategic priority intervention work to disrupt human trafficking networks in illicit massage businesses and residential brothels in the US.

MINISTRY GOALS:

- 1) Develop a ministry team that brings this work to National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. Churches in a manner that supports the effort of Polaris.
- 2) Design, develop and deliver training and information to every level of the Convention including National Regions, State Conventions, Districts Associations and Local Churches.

EMERSON & JESSICA TURNER - NATIONAL VICE COMMISSIONERS
PRISON MINISTRY (*HEBREWS 13:3*)

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the National Baptist Prison Ministry of the National Baptist Criminal Justice Commission is to focus on the incarcerated individual, their families, victims and their communities as it relates to ministering to them while incarcerated, providing for a smooth transition back into society after incarceration and the reducing the return rate to the incarcerated state (recidivism).

VISION:

A community where the life of every inmate is impacted by the Word of God and the value of each inmate is restored as the true apex of God's creation.

MISSION STATEMENT:

The Mission of the National Baptist National Baptist Criminal Justice Prison Ministry is to exhort, assist and equip the local church in its evangelistic and emancipating ministry to those in prison, ex-prisoners, victims, and their families according to biblical standards of justice.

MISSION:

- 1) To provide delegates and churches with the necessary tools to participate, initiate, and sustain an effective prison ministry by:
- 2) Establishing a compelling need for organizing and developing a prison ministry.
- 3) Establishing a compelling need from a church and societal point of view.
- 4) Apprising churches of local and state requirements for participation in prison ministry.
- 5) Exposing delegates to a myriad of prison ministry options.
- 6) Providing training and practical experience through classroom learning and actual ministry opportunities.
- 7) Calling to action those who have been inspired to do the work.

METHODS:

The National Baptist Prison Ministry will harness the collective power of the Parent Body through its auxiliaries and affiliated churches and clearly identify those who wish to express their obedience to Christ through ministry and minister to those who are downtrodden, left behind and to those behind prison walls. This ministry provides opportunities to fulfill *Matt 25:31-46*.

INSTRUCTION

The National Baptist Prison Ministry has developed a training course (8029L) that addresses the classroom-training component of this initiative. Scripture challenges us to "*Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth (2 Timothy 2:15)*" to be competent soldiers in the battle. The class comes with a "practicum" component, where students will get hands-on experience about the nature of the work.

EXPUNGED RECORDS

The National Baptist Prison Ministry has developed information, techniques and strategies relative to the avenues to expunge their records in every state where this is an option after incarceration.

ARTHUR & VIRGINIA ROBINSON - NATIONAL VICE COMMISSIONERS
LIBERATION MINISTRY (*GALATIANS 5:1*)

PURPOSE

The purpose of the National Baptist Liberation Ministry of the National Baptist Criminal Justice Commission is to focus improving the life of persons liberated from jail or prison through Christian associations and biblical teaching.

MISSION

The Mission of the National Baptist Liberation Ministry is to provide an environment that will cause persons recently liberated to successfully transition to life outside of jail and prison and transform their lifestyle and behavior to function successfully in a Christian community.

METHODS

The following elements are important components to the successful re-entry of a person back into society after a jail or prison term:

- 1) There must be a place for them to live and begin their transition; includes family, friends, and halfway house.
- 2) A strong family support system is very beneficial to facilitating transition and an aid to transformation to societal norms.
- 3) It is beneficial for successful re-entry of a person into society to connect with a local church, attend worship regularly, mid week service and get involved in some ministry.
- 4) To begin transformation of their life a person must not associate with persons with old friends with bad habits that may slow or stop the transformation.
- 5) A person recently released from jail or prison must begin form a lifestyle that avoids the use of foul language and being respectful to others.

EDUCATION

- 1) Begin work to obtain a GED, an Associate degree, or attend a technical school.
- 2) Enroll in classes that may provide skills in computer programming or operation, bookkeeping or other business skills, or some of the trades, such as carpentry, masonry and other crafts.

EMPLOYMENT

- 1) With some assistance, each person must seek employment with the last company they were employed if a position is available.
- 2) Explore job opportunities - Writing an effective resume, develop interviewing techniques, networking and social media.
- 3) Seek employment from Career Centers, DVA Job Centers, and State Employment Agency, and second chance programs.

ADDITIONAL RULES FOR SUCCESS

- 1) As part of the transformation, wear a collared shirt with closed in shoes and solid colors.
- 2) For successful job hunting and joining the community, avoid loud colors, busy patterns, baling and trendy styles. This means neat haircut or neatly press hair, and for men trimmed mustache and beard.
- 3) The recently liberated person must be shown to wear apparel that does not include jeans, denim, leggings, sweatshirts, tennis shoes, shorts or flip flops for any type of job search encounter.

NATIONAL BAPTIST CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

Envisioning The Future Ministry of Criminal Justice Exceptionally
Micah 6:8 *Ephesians 4:1-6*



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