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## **ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA'S PRESIDENT INVITED TO ATTEND PRESIDENT OBAMA'S SIGNING OF ORDER THAT CREATES ECONOMIC ADVISORY BOARD**

Chicago, Illinois – February 6, 2009 - As a powerful signal that Alpha Kappa Alpha's message of economic empowerment has reached the upper corridors of power, the Sorority's international president, Barbara A. McKinzie, was invited to be a witness when President Barack Obama signs the Executive Order for the Economic Advisory Board. The signing takes place on Friday, February 6 at 10AM EST in the White House.

This newly-formed Board, headed by former Federal Reserve chairman Paul Volcker, consists of a variety of leaders from different sectors who will provide "rigorous analysis and vigorous oversight" as the administration formulates economic policy. In addition to their overseer role, the president has charged the Board with the responsibility of finding innovative ways to address the financial malaise in which the United States finds itself. The overarching—and ultimate—goal is to find bold solutions to reinvigorate the economy.

In accepting the invitation, McKinzie noted that the president's message "parallels Alpha Kappa Alpha's ESP programmatic theme and economic focus. Because of this, we are honored to have been extended an invitation to be a witness to this historic event."

McKinzie said that the Sorority joins with all Americans who have a vested stake in finding bold solutions to this crisis. Because of this, she said, "Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority applauds the president for reaching out to all Americans as he seeks permanent recovery and change."

She declared that the way to address the crisis is by supporting President Obama in his crusade to lead the nation out of economic peril.

"Contact your congresspersons and urge their support of permanent solutions to this crisis," she urged. "Insist that they not get bogged down in partisan politics, petty bickering or other divisive acts that thwart progress. The time for decisive action is NOW."

Underscoring the fact that the country is poised for change, McKinzie stressed that President Obama's resolve to fix the economy, get people back to work, seek progressive change and restore America to its global standing captivated the nation and catapulted him to victory.

"Now that he has assumed the mantle of leadership, we must unite with him as he forcefully takes on this economic crisis."

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**About Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.**

*Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority is America's first Greek-letter organization founded in 1908 by, and for, African-American college women. Headquartered in Chicago, Illinois, it is one of the world's leading service organizations. The Sorority's members have made a commitment "to serve all mankind" through a nucleus of more than 225,000 women in over 975 chapters in the United States, the Caribbean, Canada, Germany, Korea, Japan and in the continent of Africa. Barbara A. McKinzie is the 27th International President. McKinzie's administration is marked by the theme: ESP, which stands for Economics, Service and Partnerships. AKA celebrated its Centennial in 2008 and is now beginning its second century of making an impact on the world through Sisterhood and Service. For more information, log on to [www.aka1908.com](http://www.aka1908.com).*