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It's Time for Black Votes to Matter

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Black Votes Matter UNO Adjunct Professor, Preston Love Jr. Prestonlovejr.com

Black Lives, Black Poverty and Black Votes Matter



It's Time for Black Votes to Matter

My beloved, we have arrived at the time where the voting "rubber meets the roads". The 2016 general election is upon us. We are at the classic fork in the roads. Our community has so many needs that can be addressed by responsive elected officials, from top to bottom. From the President to our congressman, our State Senators and county and local office holders. We must vote those who have our self interest in focus, then do our job and demand that they be responsive and accountable, we must handle our business this year. Hopefully, we are beginning to realize that Black Votes Matter. Let's CELEBRATE NORTH OMAHA by showing our voting strength.

Black Votes Matter report:

Black Votes Matter yard signs are popping up all over the country, there have been sightings in Kansas, Missouri, Ohio, Texas, and Iowa for sure. In north Omaha, the demand for the yard signs is at its highest level. There are over 1400 yards signs in North Omaha and several spread around the city including west Omaha. The message of the signs is directed to blacks from blacks, our votes matter. We can make a difference. In 2008 the black vote in north Omaha made national and Nebraska history. Never before in the history of the USA had there been a split electoral vote. On the strength of the north Omaha vote, the 2nd Congressional District was won by Obama and the state was able to cast one, of the 5 Nebraska electoral votes for a Democrat, in this Republican dominated state. We can and should repeat that in 2016, this presidential election is just as important, our votes may even matter more, given the potential of a Trump presidency.

The Black Votes Matter effort continues with full time effort: speeches, visits to senior homes, appearance at events, recent participation on a congressional panel on voting rights, participation with a joint county coalition of voting organizations, lectures to youth groups on voting, registering voters weekly in collaboration with north Omaha social and civic groups, coordination of the clergy effort with The IMA 10K: Race to the Polls program, coordinating deputy registrar training, providing early vote applications to voters, working with RETAIN the anti-death penalty group working to keep the death penalty out of Nebraska, canvassing door to door for voter registration and more. Black Votes Matter and IMA 10K will provide Ride-to-the-Polls, just call 402-575-0144 (after October 1st) to volunteer to drive or to request a ride.

Recent significant political events for our community shows the respect for our vote is growing: Visit by the 3rd ranking congressman in the House of Representatives (James Clyburn, SC) to the Love's Jazz and Art Center, Democratic nominee for President by Hillary Clinton visit to North High School, campaign offices of the Ashford for congress at the OSBN building, Hillary for President campaign office at 60th & Ames. Many of our organizations are having events where voter Registration is taking place. The Election Commission will be sending every registered voter, polling place locations and early voting application (we been fighting for this for years).

Key Date: Saturday, September 10th. (10am until 3pm). Please plan to attend this fun filled outdoor event, with music, food and fun for the kids. Voter registration, meet and greet candidates for office and come meet our special guest WBO world boxing champion Terrence "Bud" Crawford.

To review previous Black Votes Matter column articles visit **Omahastar.com**. Or **prestonlovejr.com**. Preston love can be reached at prestonlovejr@gmail.com

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