



Media Contact:
Jessica Vega-Eugene
Vistra Communications
JessicaV@ConsultVistra.com
813.321.3309

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) Offers Condolences on the Passing of General Colin Powell

Alexandria, VA. – October 18, 2021 – The National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) mourns the passing of Former U.S. Secretary of State and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Colin Powell, due to complications from COVID-19. NOBLE extends its deepest condolences to the family of the first Black U.S. Secretary of State, a true public servant and international leader.

“The legacy of General Powell is profound. From his humble beginnings as a child of immigrants to his military accomplishments and becoming the top US diplomat, his life and career are an inspiration to all our members,” said NOBLE National President, Frederick L. Thomas.

NOBLE will remember General Powell as a highly respected hero whose name is synonymous with integrity. During his time as Secretary of State, the Bush administration was very supportive of NOBLE.

Though he was fully vaccinated against COVID 19, Powell was immunocompromised due to his battle with cancer. NOBLE draws upon the memory of his straightforward character to encourage our first responders to protect themselves and others at high risk.

“We wear protective gear to stop a bullet from penetrating our chests. But sometimes it’s not enough,” said President Thomas. “While this is a personal decision, I want to remind you that getting vaccinated is not just for your own safety but also for the safety of the children and families we serve as well as that of our agency staff and the overall community.”

Like Powell, NOBLE members are public servants tasked with protecting our communities. We honor this commitment by living the pursuit of justice by action.

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About the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives

Since 1976, The National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) has served as the conscience of law enforcement by being committed to justice by action. NOBLE represents over 3,000 members internationally, who are primarily African American chief executive officers of law enforcement agencies at federal, state, county, and municipal levels,



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other law enforcement administrators, and criminal justice practitioners. Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#). For more information, visit www.NOBLENational.org.