



**For Immediate Release**  
**Friday, January 19, 2018**

**Contact: David Jacobs**  
212-965-2255 / [djacobs@naacpldf.org](mailto:djacobs@naacpldf.org)

**NAACP Legal Defense Fund Statement on Replacement of Kevin Davis as Baltimore Police Commissioner**

This morning, Baltimore Mayor Catherine Pugh replaced Commissioner Kevin Davis as head of the Baltimore Police Department. Deputy Commissioner Darryl DeSousa will take Davis' place, effectively immediately. NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. (LDF) President and Director-Counsel [Sherrilyn Ifill](#) issued the following statement:

"I would like to thank Commissioner Kevin Davis for his unyielding commitment to the important consent decree process that we all hope will result in meaningful policing reform in our city. Commissioner Davis was vocal and clear, at key moments over the last year, about the importance of the consent decree and his commitment to abide by its provisions. Commissioner Davis recognized that building trust between the community and the Baltimore Police Department requires a commitment to the promotion of constitutional policing practices, and meaningful and respectful engagement with the community. We look forward to working with Commissioner DeSousa and trust that he will bring the same commitment to the consent decree process and to community-oriented reform."

**###**

*Founded in 1940, the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. (LDF) is the nation's first civil and human rights law organization and has been completely separate from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) since 1957—although LDF was originally founded by the NAACP and shares its commitment to equal rights. LDF's Thurgood Marshall Institute is a multi-disciplinary and collaborative hub within LDF that launches targeted campaigns and undertakes innovative research to shape the civil rights narrative. In media attributions, please refer to us as the NAACP Legal Defense Fund or LDF.*