NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NAACP West Volusia Branch 5146-B P. O. Box 385 DeLand, FL 32721



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The West Volusia NAACP Calls for Immediate Resignation of Loren King, Commissioner District I, City of Deltona

November 8, 2021 (DeLand, Florida) – Loren King was elected by the citizens of Deltona, Florida with a majority vote as Commissioner of District I for the City of Deltona, Florida in 2018. Loren King has publicly stated to be a member of the Oath Keepers.

On October 18, 2021 at a regular City Council meeting for the City of Deltona, Florida, the NAACP-WV President, Sean King addressed the council requesting the immediate resignation of Loren King.

"It's time that we work together to eliminate hateful rhetoric in our community," said Sean King, President of the West Volusia NAACP. We are asking the citizens, families and friends of the Deltona community to take a stand with us and attend the next Deltona Commission meeting on Monday, November 15, 2021 at 6pm at Deltona City Hall.

Mr. Loren King refused to acknowledge problems associated with his membership in the Oath Keepers organization and emphatically stated he will not be removed from office. On October 21, 2021 during a Fox 35 Interview, Loren King stated that he was aware of illegal activities performed by the Oath Keepers and failed to notify authorities.

Oath Keepers are essentially self-organized, and form official, semi-official or informal groups. Oath Keepers are a large but loosely organized collection of right-wing anti-government extremists who are part of the militia movement, which believes that the federal government has been coopted by shadowy conspiracy that is trying to strip American citizens of their rights.

The Oath Keepers were particularly active in 2020, participating in various anti-lockdown protests, providing vigilante-style "security" for local communities and businesses during the Black Lives Matter

protests that spread in the wake of the killing of George Floyd, and warning about a potential takeover by the "Marxist left" during the 2020 election.

Members of the Oath Keepers have been arrested in connection with a wide range of criminal activities, including various firearms violations, conspiracy to impede federal workers, possession of explosives, and threatening public officials.

Oath Keepers confront discrimination and secure justice such as hate crimes, religious freedom, free speech, race and racial justice, criminal justice reform, education equity, women's equity, voting rights, LGBTQ rights and Immigrant & Refugee rights.

Oath Keepers fight Antisemitism, combat extremism and hate, support Israel: A Jewish and Democratic State. A Florida man and member of the Oath Keepers has recently been charged with federal offenses that include conspiracy and obstruction of an official proceeding. The Oath Keepers are a large but loosely organized collection of individuals, some of whom are affiliated with militia.

About the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) – The NAACP a not-for profit corporation under Section 501c(4), founded in 1909, is the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization. Its mission is to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights in order to eliminate race-based discrimination and ensure the health and well-being of all persons. For more information about the West Volusia Branch, visit <u>www.WestVolusiaNAACP.org</u>.

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