



## For Immediate Release

January 8, 2021

### **Statement from National Pharmaceutical Association President Ryan C. Marable, PharmD Regarding the anti-Democracy Riot in Washington, DC**

SCOTTSDALE, AZ – On January 6, 2021, the United States of America experienced a lawless, misguided, violent insurrection (riot) on one of the most highly regarded landmarks within the country; our nation’s Capitol Building. During the rampage, rioters attacked Capitol Hill employees, vandalized federal property, intimidated workers and officers through their violent mob actions that led to the deaths of four participants and over 57 injured. Even more disheartening than the physical attacks is the clear disregard and disrespect for our democracy and the democratic process. As the president of the oldest Black pharmacists association, National Pharmaceutical Association, that now represents minority pharmacists - beyond the African American/Black race - and serves the interests of minority patients often underserved and underrepresented, I draft this position statement of the National Pharmaceutical Association condemning the actions of the white supremacists who participate in and/or support such domestic terroristic behavior against the people of the United States of America.

As leaders and co-authors of collaborating statements from national pharmacy associations calling out racism and racial injustices in America beyond pharmacy and healthcare, we demand accountability of our political leaders, as their decisions, rhetoric, and actions dictate how we and the people we care for live our daily lives. We also encourage our professional colleagues and affiliates to stand with us in unity. As leaders within one of the most trusted professions in this country, our members are often called upon to service public health needs, which historically neglect, or take advantage of, marginalized groups leading to mistrust of the health system. The ever-looming COVID-19 pandemic has called upon black and minority pharmacists to step forward to lend added trust within hesitant communities. This is an opportunity for that trust to be earned, by correcting wrongs and restoring order within our democratic system of governance.

As a community of black and minority pharmacy professionals, NPhA promotes the highest standards of pharmaceutical care and education of health-related issues facing marginalized populations. It is imperative that we continue to work together, not only to build a better profession, but to create safe and inclusive communities based in trust across the nation.