

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NYS Community Commission on Reparations Remedies to Hold Public Hearing in Buffalo, NY – Community Invited to Share Testimonies, Learn about Local Impacts, and Meet Commissioners

Buffalo, NY — The New York State Community Commission on Reparations Remedies (NYSCCRR) will hold its first public hearing on November 12, 2024, at Elim Christian Fellowship Church, 70 Chalmers Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14214. The hearing begins at 5:30 PM and provides a platform for the public to share personal testimonies and insights on the enduring harms of slavery on the descendants of the Enslaved and African Americans in NYS.

The hearing offers attendees the opportunity to meet Commissioners Timothy R. Hogues, a Buffalo native, and Dr. Seanelle Hawkins, Chair of the NYSCCRR's statewide initiative. NYSCCRR was established under [Senate Bill S1163A](#) signed into law in 2023 by Governor Kathy Hochul. The Commission embodies New York State's commitment to examining reparations and addressing the long-term harms of slavery and its impact on African American New Yorkers from the early 1600s to present-day.

Appointed from diverse regions across the state, the nine Commissioners bring a broad range of expertise and commitment to their work, which includes research into the economic, social, and political effects of historical injustices. The Commissioners are committed to amplifying community voices, ensuring that the public's perspectives are integral to their recommendations for reparative measures.

During the Buffalo hearing on November 12th, testimonies will address critical topics under the theme of "Harms of Slavery in Buffalo, NY," inviting discussions about Buffalo's unique history and legacy within the broader context. Community members are encouraged to contribute to this important dialogue.

For more information about NYSCCRR, visit the Commission's website at: www.ny.gov/reparations, where resources including videos and minutes of past meetings, a presentation introducing the Commission and ways to contact the Commission are available. For those unable to attend the hearing in person, written comments or questions may be submitted via email to: ReparationsCommission@reparations.ny.gov.

About the NYS Community Commission on Reparations Remedies (NYSCCRR):

The NYSCCRR is dedicated to engaging New Yorkers statewide in addressing the legacies of slavery and systemic discrimination. Through public hearings and rigorous research, the Commission strives to develop meaningful, actionable recommendations for reparative policies that foster justice and equity across New York State.

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