

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: The word justice appears in many of the United States' most cherished documents to include the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Pledge of Allegiance; and

WHEREAS: The pursuit of justice assures a fair society; and

WHEREAS: The National Alliance of Faith and Justice (NAFJ) founded the national observance of Justice Sunday to honor the role of Dr. King as a clergy and drum major for justice and to commemorate the spirit and selfless acts of thousands of diverse faith and community volunteers who fought and continue to preserve human dignity and the quest for social change; and

WHEREAS: The national observance of Justice Sunday on January 15th, 2017, offers a benchmark to launch or renew efforts to build mutual respect and pledge to work together to ensure all children retain and maximize access to the pencil (education) rather than the pen(itentiary); and

WHEREAS: In 1994, Congress passed the King Holiday and Service Act which directed the Corporation for National and Community Service to support a national day of service; and

WHEREAS: The theme of Justice Sunday 2017, A Charge To Keep We Have: Reflect, Renew, and Reform challenges all to facilitate assistance in transition and healing (f.a.i.t.h.) before and beyond the MLK National Day of Service; and

WHEREAS: January is National Mentoring Month during which NAFJ partners with Pine Bluff CARES Mentoring affiliate, the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice, Interested Citizens for Voter Registration, Inc., institutions of faith and education, municipalities and community stakeholders to encourage mentoring as a service priority; and

WHEREAS: Justice Sunday 2017 will serve as a national day of recruitment and subsequent screening and training for caring adults and tutors to help youth to reach their full potential; and


WHEREAS: NAFJ encourages the use of National Park Service sites as resources to promote civic dialog and interpretation of relevant themes such as civil rights;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim January 15th, 2017, as

JUSTICE SUNDAY IN ARKANSAS

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 9th day of December, in the year of our Lord 2016.




Asa Hutchinson, Governor


Mark Martin, Secretary Of State