To the students of Jackson State University, Grambling State University, and the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff,

The Tougaloo College Student Government Association is saddened to hear of the recent shootings on, and near, the campuses of our fellow Historically Black Colleges and Universities. We are sending love, thoughts, and many prayers to those who sustained injuries from these incidents. Furthermore, we offer our sincere condolences to the families and friends of all students, faculty, and community members who have lost their lives during these acts of violence.

As an institution that has fought assiduously for what is right for 152 years and counting, we condemn ALL acts of violence, especially those that endanger our fellow Black leaders of tomorrow. While we cannot fathom the immense distress that now consumes each of your student bodies, our student body shares your pain all the same.

Therefore, as we encourage the Tougaloo College student body to obtain mental health counseling as needed, in response to the event that took place last week, we also urge our other HBCU families to do the same. Moreover, we promote acquiring grieving and mourning counseling for those who have lost individuals in these occurrences. It is a fact that minorities suffer from poor mental health outcomes due to a number of factors that include the cultural stigma surrounding mental health care. We acknowledge the importance of mental health, and we want you all to know it is okay to get help when you need it.

Lailah Gifty Akita once said: “There is beauty and power in unity. We must be united in heart and mind. One world, one people.” Today, as we return to

“Where History Meets the Future”
the normal schedule of school and end our homecomings and celebrations, we hope that you will transition knowing that the Tougaloo College Student Government Association and student body are united in heart and mind with all of our fellow Historic Black Colleges and Universities. On behalf of the Tougaloo College Student Government Association and student body, we stand in support of you. We uplift you! We pray for you! We love you!

Sincerely,

MONTAE’L Z. WILLIAMS

Montae’l Z. Williams
89th Student Government Association President
The D.Y.N.A.M.I.C. Administration

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