



Lincoln University

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Office of the President

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May 1, 2020

Mr. Nelson Henry, Jr.
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

via email: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Henry,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, faculty, staff, alumni and students of Lincoln University, I am pleased to inform you that you have been selected to receive the award of Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*. This degree will be conferred upon you at our 161st Commencement ceremony. We will notify you of the date as soon as the Commencement ceremony has been rescheduled. We hope that you will be able to be with us at that time.

Since its founding in 1854, Lincoln University has had a commitment to excellence in scholarship and service. Over the first one hundred years of Lincoln's existence, its graduates distinguished themselves in medicine, science, theology, education, law, the arts, diplomacy and many other fields. One of every ten Black lawyers was a Lincoln undergraduate. Our alumni include two former African heads of state, Dr. Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana and Dr. Nnamdi Azikiwe of Nigeria, the late Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, poet Langston Hughes, actor Roscoe Lee Brown, author Melvin B. Tolson, African American film historian Donald Bogle, thirty-six college presidents, ten ambassadors and consuls, several mayors and numerous other men and women of distinction

Some of the national and international persons of renown who have received honorary degrees from Lincoln include Archbishop Desmond Tutu, His Excellency Sam Nujoma, President of the Republic of Namibia, Mrs. Rosa Parks, Mother of the Civil Rights Movement, and former U.S. Secretary of Labor Alexis Herman.

We would consider it a privilege and an honor for Lincoln University to confer upon you an honorary doctorate degree in recognition of your service as a World War II veteran as well as your perseverance in receiving an honorable discharge from the US Army on September 5, 2019, nearly 75 years after separation from military service. Your resilience in successfully achieving your bachelor's degree despite the injustices you endured, and your positive contributions to the legacy of Lincoln University, also add to our excitement about the possibility of honoring you in this way.

Since the University does not confer honorary degrees in absentia, we do hope that you will be able to accept this invitation. May we please hear from you by May 15, 2020? You may contact me at [REDACTED], or via email at [REDACTED]. We very much look forward to your favorable reply.

Sincerely,

Brenda A. Allen
President