RESOLUTION DEMANDING
THE REMOVAL OF ALL FORMS OF THE CONFEDERATE FLAG
Endorsed March 2016

WHEREAS, the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color (CBAC), organized in 1992, is a coalition created to act as a collective voice for issues of common concern to its member organizations; and

WHEREAS, the member organizations of the CBAC are the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA), the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), the National Bar Association (NBA), and the National Native American Bar Association (NNABA); and

WHEREAS, the member organizations of CBAC are the national voices of their respective legal communities in the United States and its territories and possessions; and

WHEREAS, the shooting deaths of nine African Americans at the historic Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina on June 17, 2015, has renewed the expression of public dissatisfaction with the practice of flying the Confederate flag; and

WHEREAS, there has been major movement from retailers to remove the Confederate flag and its image from stock as they have taken a stance against the production and resale of the Confederate flag, several states still either fly the Confederate flag or have state flags that evoke symbols of Civil War Battle flags; and

WHEREAS, the CBAC recognizes that the removal of the Confederate flag and eradication of other government-used images of the flag is a symbolic move toward eradicating racism in America; and

WHEREAS, real healing and wholeness will only come if America has a real conversation about the systematic racism that is deeply embedded in the fabric of America; and

WHEREAS, we can and should use this tragic moment to cause real and not just symbolic change.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CBAC opposes the use by government and public institutions of a symbol that offends a large portion of this country and reminds communities of color of a time when they were treated inhumanely; and
NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the CBAC specifically encourages state and federal legislators, judges, academic institutions, businesses and all those in authority to exercise their discretion, to take a firm position against racism by refusing to sanction, display and/or sell the Confederate flag in any manner.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this resolution shall be a national priority of the CBAC until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

CERTIFICATION

WE, the duly-elected Presidents of the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA), the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), the National Bar Association (NBA), and the National Native American Bar Association (NNABA), hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly enacted by a duly noticed meeting of the Board of Directors.

_________________________            March 1, 2016
Roberto Maldonado               Date
President, Hispanic National Bar Association

_________________________            March 1, 2016
Jin Y. Hwang                   Date
President, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association

_________________________            March 1, 2016
Benjamin Crump         Date
President, National Bar Association

_________________________            March 1, 2016
Linda Benally          Date
President, National Native American Bar Association