

October 10, 2017

## **Michigan Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials Supports Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands in Addressing their Humanitarian Crisis**

ANN ARBOR, Michigan - The Michigan Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials (MBC-LEO) released the following statement in support of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands in relation to the humanitarian crisis resulting from Hurricanes Irma and Maria:

We stand in agreement with the United States Conference of Mayors' statement regarding the devastation that has struck Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The White House should follow the example of the nation's mayors, and other locally elected officials, who form a united front to support their fellow Americans in times of crisis.

We stand in solidarity with San Juan Mayor Carmen Yulin Cruz, and the other municipal officials, who were elected to be the voice of their people.

The people of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands are American citizens and deserve the same assistance and respect that our government would provide to any U.S. State. "We need to continue to press our leaders to provide assistance that will save lives, and help residents rebuild their homes and communities," said Lois Allen-Richardson, president Michigan Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials.