

PROCLAMATION

BY

MAYOR MARTIN O'MALLEY

DESIGNATING JANUARY 16, 2005

AS

"JUSTICE SUNDAY"

IN BALTIMORE

WHEREAS, Justice Sunday serves as a precursor to the King Day of Service by launching a year-long effort to honor the life and legacy of the late Dr. Martin Luther King by encouraging the country to engage in volunteerism and service around issues of reducing crime and promoting equitable justice; and

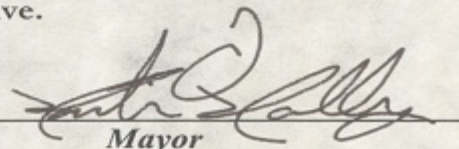
WHEREAS, in recognition of that spirit, in 1994 Congress passed the King Holiday and Service Act, which directed the Corporation for National and Community Service to support local efforts to make the King Holiday a day of service; and

WHEREAS, the National Religious Affairs Association (NRAA) of the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice (NABCJ), offers this national commemoration, by Grant of Rights authorized by the Martin Luther King Center for Nonviolent Social Change, as an opportunity to acknowledge the lifetime of selfless service by Dr. King as a clergy and martyr for justice; and

WHEREAS, there are an estimated two million children nationwide with one or both parents in jail or prison, and statistics suggest that a youth with a mentor is 70% less likely to use drugs, 85% less likely to go before juvenile courts, and 27% less likely to engage in abusive drinking.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARTIN O'MALLEY, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF BALTIMORE, do hereby proclaim January 16, 2005 as "**JUSTICE SUNDAY**" IN BALTIMORE, and do urge all citizens to consider this day and the year beyond as one of commitment to volunteerism to youth mentoring, and to service around this pressing social issue.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set the Great Seal of the City of Baltimore to be affixed this sixteenth day of January, two thousand five.



Mayor

