

Taalib Saber, EDFU Foundation Delegate

Peace and Greetings. My name is Taalib Saber and I'm a United States Lawyer representing EDFU Foundation. It's an honor to address this forum because I've studied the great pan Africans Malcolm X, Kwame Nkrumah. I've derived my organizing skills from the fusion of Kwame Ture's wits and Amilcar Cabral tactics.

We're our ancestors wildest and proudest dreams. It was that dream to cause me to become a lawyer and to take up the case of David Griffin.

Mr. Griffin was a 47-year-old father and grandfather of African descent who had his life come to a tragic end and an end, that is a clear microcosm of the neglect of the American system. On March 14th of this year, a Medical team was called to assist Mr. Griffin in Washington due to his mental state being altered. The Office of Unified Communication (OUC), who received the emergency call about Mr. Griffin, despite the seriousness and danger that Mr. Griffin posed to himself, refused to escalate the matter to a priority so the police would be on notice. Because of this, Mr. Griffin drowned in a river whereby the police arrived late to the wrong location.

The United States has the public duty doctrine, that allows the police and government not to act to assist someone unless there's a special relationship to the individual. So, this act prevents people like Mr. Griffin from receiving proper justice. This doctrine also highlights how Black life is ignored and undervalued in the United States overall.

There are approximately 1.5 million missing Black men from everyday society in the United States, due to a combination of mass incarceration or early, unnatural deaths.

Many people of African descent live under food apartheid, being 30% more likely to die from heart disease, and Black women are 60% more likely to have high blood pressure.

And these injustices aren't specific to the United States. I've been to Brazil, where their state sanctioned violence against Black people is horrendous. I've been to South Africa, where the Blacks and others wealth gap is abysmal.

What a blessing it would be if we didn't have access to clean water like in the cases of certain States in the US, Uganda helped to provide it. Or the next time we were shot down in the streets like dogs by state sanctioned violence, Ghana decided that it would no longer provide its cocoa?

Sovereignty and freedom aren't just catchphrases that are used in liberation songs. They are actions that take courage, sacrifice, and strength to execute. We collectively have the resources but we need sustainable unity. Everyone in here should be dressed in something that we produced. That's power! That's unity! We need each other unified because we ARE each other. THANK YOU.