

MAY NEWSLETTER

Updates from the field | Can't Stop, Won't Stop!



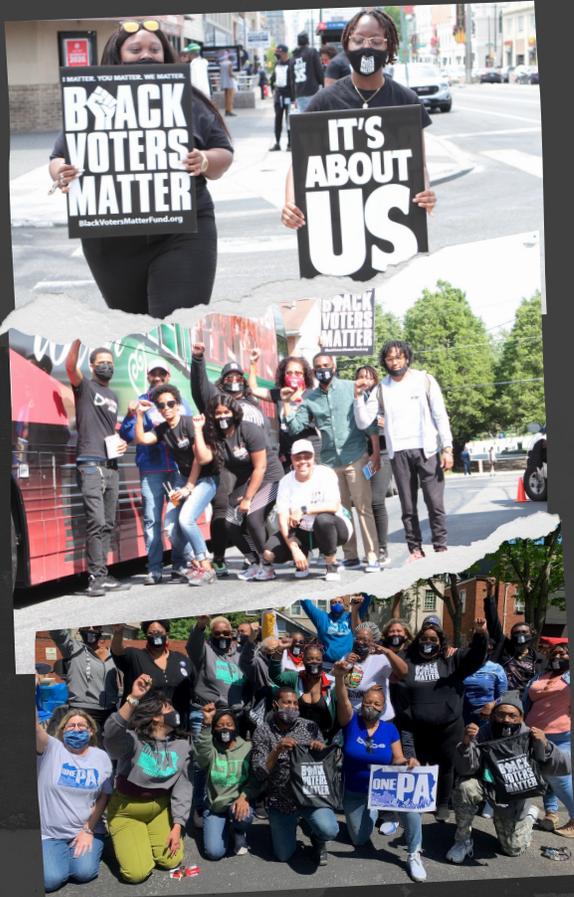
We're continuing our work on the ground! From GOTV efforts, fighting against voter suppression, launching our new bus tour and more! Take a look at our May newsletter!

I MATTER. YOU MATTER. WE MATTER.

BACK VOTERS MATTER

BlackVotersMatterFund.org

UPDATES FROM THE FIELD



PENNSYLVANIA

Black Voters Matter started the month of May with a bang! We hit the ground running in states like Pennsylvania for a GOTV Community Cookout ahead of the May 18th Election!

We visited Montgomery County, Erie, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh to educate our community. BVM supplies food distribution and merchandise giveaways, and more! Great work by our Pennsylvania State Coordinator, Brittany Smalls.

ALABAMA

The Blackest Bus in America headed down to Alabama for The John Lewis Advancement Act Day of Action! In multiple cities, we joined our partners to educate our community on HR1/S1 and HR4, voter education, food and toy giveaways. We also held a votercade with our partners from Selma to Montgomery with over 100+ cars!

Shoutout to our Alabama State Coordinator, Arnee Odoms, for your amazing work!



UPDATES FROM THE FIELD



NORTH CAROLINA

In North Carolina, we joined our partners and Black organizers on the ground to bring awareness to the murder of Andrew Brown Jr. by law enforcement.

You can take action by doing the following:

- Freedom Fighter Bond Fund: bit.ly/supportec22
- NC Community Bail Fund: bit.ly/supportec21
- Text NC4BL to 22999

FLORIDA

In Florida, Black Voters Matter and our partners participated in the first annual Jacksonville Emancipation Celebration to spread love and build power! There were local Black owned food trucks and vendors, live performances, dancers and poets.

We also visited Tallahassee, Florida to support Florida residents and continue our voter outreach.



VOTER SUPPRESSION



FLORIDA SB 90

BVM is continuing our work of fighting against voter suppression in multiple states, like Florida. In May, Governor DeSantis signed Senate Bill 90 (SB 90) into law. This bill will severely restrict vote-by-mail ballot drop-offs and voter registration efforts in a state where election security was not even an issue last November.

Read our full statement [here](#).

How are we taking action? We are joining our folks at League of Women Voters of Florida, Florida Alliance for Retired Americans and individual voters in a lawsuit against all 67 Florida counties challenging the voter suppression law. Read more [here](#).

NORTH CAROLINA SB 326

In North Carolina, we are continuing our fight against SB 326 that targets Black and brown voters. Remember to take action by doing the following:

- Joining our letter writing campaign: bit.ly/stopsb326
- Tell 5 friends to take action: bit.ly/5friendspledge

In North Carolina we are also fighting against HB 805 and SB 300, two anti-protests bills. Be sure to follow us on social media for more updates!

HB805 & SB300

If HB805 & SB300 pass it would:

- Add two new felonies to the "resisting an officer" statute, which will increase the number of people of color who would be charged with a felony under this statute.
- Create a process for law enforcement to slow the process of families being able to get access to body cam footage through the court.
- Increase criminal penalties for "riot" activity.
- Increase low-level misdemeanors to higher-level felonies for people exercising their constitutional right to protest.
- Arrested protestors would have to spend the night in jail or longer while they wait for a judge.

**BACK
VOTERS
MATTER**

VOTER SUPPRESSION



TEXAS SB7

in Texas, we continued our work on the ground to fight voter suppression (Senate Bill 7) by visiting Beaumont, Texas with a caravan to talk with community members on how to take action by contacting legislators! Take a look at our press conference.

Due to the community organizing, Democrats walked out of the Texas House chamber SB7 hearing before a midnight deadline, which denied the necessary quorum to hold a vote.

Black Voters Matter Fund would like to acknowledge the work of the whole Texas Right to Vote coalition, including Texas Organizing Project, MOVE Texas, Texas Civil Rights Project, NAACP, Communications Workers of America and many more. Read our full statement here.

TAKE A STAND AGAINST VOTER SUPPRESSION! SHOP NOW!



Show the world you stand with Black Voters Matter against voter suppression! Order Now!

Proceeds will benefit our Freedom Ride for Voting Rights Campaign! Want to know more about the Freedom Ride? Keep reading to learn more about our exciting new bus tour in June and how you can get involved!



FREEDOM RIDE FOR VOTING RIGHTS

WE'RE GOING BACK ON TOUR!



FREEDOM RIDE FOR VOTING RIGHTS

From The South to Washington D.C.

JUNE 19-26, 2021



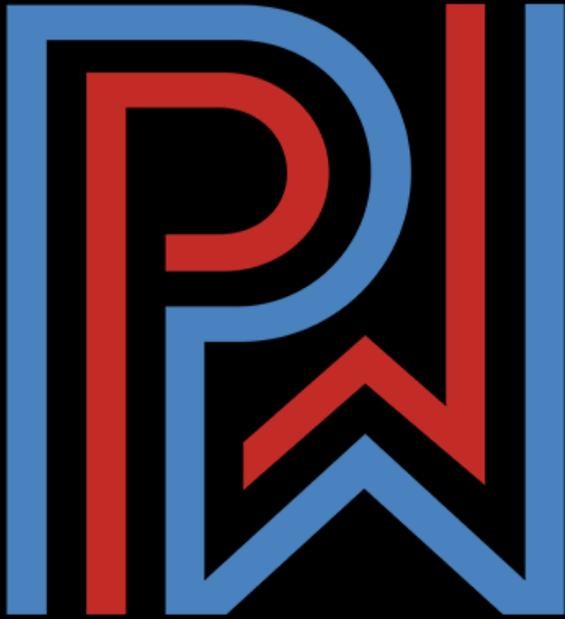
Our fight against voter suppression continues! "The Blackest Bus in America" is going from the South to Washington D.C. BVM will board its signature "Blackest Bus in America" for a voter outreach tour from Jackson, Mississippi to Washington D.C., with a pre-launch in New Orleans, Louisiana. We'll be making stops in key southern states to rally with partner organizations and concerned citizens and discuss the issues impacting their communities.

The campaign and bus tour seeks to raise awareness on HR1/S1, voter suppression, support D.C. statehood, and work with Black communities on various different issues. Read our full statement [here](#).

Stay updated on our tour by visiting our [website](#)!

Text "FREEDOMRIDE" to 797979!

DONOR SPOTLIGHT



"Public Wise supports Black Voters Matter because they are leading the way in building power in Black communities through voter engagement. The work they did in the 2020 cycle was innovative and impactful and provided hope and inspiration during a bleak time in our country's history. Black Voters Matter was among Public Wise's first grantees, and we are proud to continue working alongside their team in the fight for a truly just and multiracial democracy." - Public Wise

Persistent and unyielding in our commitment to a just multiracial democracy, Public Wise fights to secure a government that reflects the will and protects the rights of the people. Public Wise accomplishes this through education, research, organizing, funding, and partnerships that support more voting and more equitable representation. Public Wise envisions a democracy that is truly of the people, by the people, and for the people, with government that is representative, accountable, trusted, and transparent.

Public Wise

MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

BVM IN THE MEDIA

Checkout some of our favorite media highlights this month!

- [AP News](#)
- [ABC News](#)
- [The Cross Connection](#)
- [Washington Post](#)
- [Fox 26 Houston](#)
- [The World Tonight with Kelly Wright & Nayyera Haq](#)

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Get involved text “WEMATTER” to 797979!

Donate: <http://blackvotersmatterfund.org/donate>

Volunteer: <http://blackvotersmatterfund.org/volunteer>



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