

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

(Northern Division)

CAROLINE COUNTY BRANCH OF THE  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE  
ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE, *et al.*,

Plaintiffs,

v.

TOWN OF FEDERALSBURG, MARYLAND,

Defendant.

Civil Action No. 23-cv-00484-SAG

**SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND RELEASE**

**THIS SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND RELEASE** (the “Agreement”) is made and entered into this 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2024, by, between, and among Caroline County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Caucus of African American Leaders, Roberta Butler, Sherone Lewis, Darlene Pitt Hammond, Elaine Hubbard, Nikendra Bordley, Ryan Haynes, and Lywanda Johnson (collectively, the “Releasing Parties”), and the Town of Federalsburg, Maryland (the “Released Party”). The Released Party together with the Releasing Parties are referred to herein as the “Settling Parties.”

**RECITALS**

WHEREAS, the Releasing Parties filed a Complaint in the United States District Court for the District of Maryland against the Released Party styled *Caroline County NAACP, et al. v. Federalsburg*, Case No. 1:23-cv-00484 (the “Litigation”); and

WHEREAS, the Complaint alleges that Federalsburg's at-large, staggered-term election system violated Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act and denied Black voters in Federalsburg the ability to participate equally in the political process and to elect the candidates of their choice, with the result that no Black person had ever been elected to any Federalsburg municipal office in its 200-year history; and

WHEREAS, the Plaintiffs suffered harms resulting from the Town's discriminatory election system; and

WHEREAS, through this litigation and the efforts of the Settling Parties, Federalsburg adopted a two-district election map, with one majority-Black district; and

WHEREAS, in September 2023, under the newly adopted election map, the voting residents of Federalsburg elected two Black residents to the Town Council—the first Black residents to be elected to the Town Council in the Town's 200-year existence; and

WHEREAS, the Settling Parties are desirous of settling all existing or future claims, disputes, and actions between and among them of whatever nature, arising from or in any way connected with the Litigation or the prior election system and bring complete resolution to this matter.

### AGREEMENT

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and agreements set forth herein, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Settling Parties hereby covenant and agree as follows:

1. **Recitals**: The foregoing recitals are incorporated into and made part of this Agreement.
2. **Payment**: In consideration of the Settling Parties' entry into this Agreement, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is acknowledged

