

NAACP

WEEKLY NEWS UPDATE



What We Did This Year

New York Times: [The White House will freeze federal student loan repayments until May 1.](#)

Even so, the kind of sweeping forgiveness that many progressives and activists sought has remained elusive, and some of them quickly pointed out that the Biden administration could do more: "If you can afford to pause student loan payments over and over again, you can afford to cancel it," Derrick Johnson, the president of the N.A.A.C.P., said in a terse statement.

CNN: [USPS reaches settlement with NAACP over 2020 mail-in voting](#)

The United States Postal Service announced an agreement Friday with the NAACP on a lawsuit the civil rights organization filed prior to the 2020 election that had challenged USPS delivery delays.

Under the settlement, the USPS said it anticipates enacting policies and practices during the 2022 midterms that are similar to the "extraordinary measures" used during the November 2020 general election. Those measures came amid criticism that the USPS, under the leadership of Postmaster General Louis DeJoy, implemented changes that impacted the delivery of mail-in ballots during a highly consequential election year and ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

Black Enterprise: [NAACP releases Civil Rights Scorecard](#)

A coalition of civil rights groups released a report grading lawmakers on their voting record and saying U.S. politicians are failing them. The report comes after Republicans blocked voting rights legislation from advancing for a second time last week as Democrats continue to negotiate over President Joe Biden's social spending bill. The report was released by the National Urban League, NAACP, National Action Network, and several other civil rights groups. The

scores were based on senators' votes on the American Rescue Plan Act, the John R. Lewis Voting the Rights Advancement Act, and the For the People Act.

The New York Times: [Key Biden allies express outrage over Border Patrol's treatment of Haitian migrants](#)

Senator Chuck Schumer of New York, the majority leader, said that the administration could not "continue these hateful and xenophobic Trump policies that disregard our refugee laws."

Washington Post: [Opinion: The Biden administration must go into overdrive to reclaim our courts](#)

We need to resurrect the path of the civil rights lawyer to the federal bench. Such civil rights legal giants as Thurgood Marshall, Constance Baker Motley, Robert Carter, Nathaniel Jones and U.W. Clemon were appointed to judgeships between the administrations of John F. Kennedy and Jimmy Carter. But recent Democratic administrations have eschewed that practice, leaving our courts with very few judges who practiced civil rights law. We need such lawyers and other progressives back on the bench to bring some balance to courts around the country.

The Source: [Vistaprint, Boston Celtics & NAACP Launch \\$1M Grant to Support Black Small Business Owners](#)

Vistaprint, the Boston Celtics Shamrock Foundation & NAACP have announced the formation of the Power Forward Grant. The grant will provide \$25,000 grants to Black-owned small businesses across New England.

Variety: [NAACP Image Awards 2021: The Complete Televised Winners List](#)

The NAACP Image Awards officially began on Monday, giving out a set of awards each night. In addition to Anderson, "Black-ish" dominated with wins by Deon Cole and Marsai Martin in their respective comedy series categories. However, it was "Insecure" that walked away with the prize for outstanding comedy series.

CNN: [Ten more members of Congress join NAACP lawsuit against Trump and Giuliani for conspiring to incite US Capitol riot](#)

The lawsuit is backed by the NAACP, and its president, Derrick Johnson, accused the former President of inciting "a meticulously organized coup ... that placed members of Congress and the integrity of our democracy in peril."

Black Enterprise: ['We're Doing It Bigger and Better': Daymond John Announces 2nd Annual Black Entrepreneurs Day and \\$250k NAACP Powershift Grant](#)

In addition to fostering dialogue about a variety of entrepreneurial topics, Black Entrepreneur Day welcomed the next class of NAACP Powershift Grant recipients.

Hudson Valley Press: [NAACP Convention Focuses on Diverse Future Agenda](#)

"As we continue to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic and a political, social, and economic system in need of fixing, this year's convention sets the tone on how we move forward," said Derrick Johnson, president and CEO, NAACP. "While we've yet to see the long-term consequences of the past four years, we know that the issues plaguing our nation and communities have compounded exponentially. The significance of how we rebuild our country cannot be understated. The 112th Annual Convention provides a foundation for all to come to the table to discuss and implement long-overdue solutions."

Business Insider: [Pelosi's softness on canceling student debt has 80 progressive organizations 'disappointed'](#)

The racial impact of student-debt cancellation would also be significant, the letter said. Insider reported in April that 36 civil rights organizations released civil-rights principles detailing the benefits that student-debt cancellation would have on Black borrowers. The organizations, including the NAACP, wrote that Black borrowers typically owe 50% more student debt than white borrowers, and four years later, Black borrowers owe 100% more.

Essence: [NAACP Partners With Lancôme for New 'Write Her Future' Scholarship Fund](#)

The legendary beauty brand recently announced its partnership with the NAACP to provide a scholarship fund and mentoring programs for young women on their collegiate educational journey to foster self-confidence, empowerment, and opportunities for learning and career development in the United States. The Write Her Future

Scholarship Fund at NAACP in partnership with ACT-SO builds on the brand's global commitment to empower women by giving them access to literacy, mentoring and entrepreneurship courses.

STATEMENTS:

- [Youth and College Director, Wisdom Cole, issues Statement on President Biden's Administration Decision to Pause Student Loan Payments to May 1](#)
 - [NAACP, Public Citizen and LDF Claims Victory in Lawsuit Against U.S. Postal Service to Ensure Timely Delivery of Mailed Ballots](#)
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Our work is funded by grassroots donors like YOU! To continue challenging injustice across America, it is essential that we hit our \$150,000 goal **by midnight on Friday, December 31** — and we need your help. Please, consider making a generous donation to the NAACP today and help bolster the fight against inequality in 2022 and beyond!

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