

Monday January 13, 2025
Anthony "Amp" Elmore
Orange Mound News Network
1035 Semmes Street
Memphis, TN 38111

Memphis Congressman Steve Cohen
167 N. Main Street Suite 369
Memphis, Tennessee 38103

Re: **Honoring Dr. King's vision: Orange Mound's African Connections**

Dear Congressman Cohen:

I am also copying this letter to Shelby County elected officials and citizens as part of our national campaign to honor Dr. King's Vision via our Orange Mound African Connections. In one week our nation will honor the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. This letter is our request asking that your office support our commitment to education, community & family.

On January 20, 2025 in concert with Dr. King's National Birthday celebration 2025 I am posting a National News Release titled: **Honoring Dr. King's vision: Orange Mound's African Connections**.



We have met with Ambassadors of Kenya, Ghana, Ethiopia and South Africa. We ask that you make arrangement for us to connect with the **"Embassy of Mali."** We want to arrange a sister City between "Orange Mound and Timbuktu." We are looking to develop in Orange Mound a culture of education, enlightenment and inspiration.

Congressman you do not have to take our word for it, just do an online search of the words; **"Orange Mound Birthplace of African Cultural Diplomacy"** you will learn via our efforts we have made **"Orange Mound the Birthplace of African Cultural Diplomacy."**

Congressman let me be clear to our Shelby County elected officials; I am fighting Memphis "White Supremacy, Racism and Black on Black Racism" whereas Orange Mound is a victim of unjust and unfair negative narratives and characterizations whereas negative stories get front page coverage and much positive Orange Mound History is imbedded in obscurity.

Please [click here to read our National News Release Titled : Orange Mound America's Black Community by Anthony "Amp" Elmore Sr.](#) Dr. King's birthday is upcoming as well as **"Black History Month."** Dr. King had an exceptionally strong relationships with Africa. Via his last speech in Memphis April 3, 1968 Dr. King mentioned **Johannesburg, South Africa, Nairobi, Kenya and Accra, Ghana.**

On May 13, 1959 via the **"African Freedom Dinner"** honoring Kenya Freedom fighter Tom Mboya Dr. King said: ***"Our struggle is not an isolated struggle, We are all caught in an inescapable network of mutuality."***

Africa is very much a part of the history and culture of "African/Americans." We in "Orange Mound" honor the history and legacy of Dr. King via our connections and dedication to building African and African/American relationships.

The name **"Orange Mound"** itself is believed to have been derived from the Osage Orange Trees planted by John Deaderick, a local plantation owner. However, this narrative overlooks the deeper significance of the **"Mound"** in the community's name, which likely ties back to the **African Mound Builders and their Afro-Indigenous heritage.**

This takes us back to education and our upcoming **"Black History Month Celebrations in America"** whereas we are asking your office to communicate with the "Embassy of Mali" whereas we connect our name Orange Mound with the 1310 Mali King Mansa Abubakari II who sailed to America with over 200 ships almost 200 years before Columbus.

Our interest is to arrange a "Sister City with Timbuktu" & Orange Mound." During the 13th to 17th Century Timbuktu was the world's center of learning. Timbuktu is a **"UNESCO World Heritage Site.** Congressman we in Orange Mound hold various facts of World History. Our home at 1035 Semmes in Orange Mound is "The Most African Home in America."



"Sharing the story of 'The Most African Home in America' in Orange Mound with African news outlets will not only showcase our deep cultural connections but also foster a sense of pride among Africans, many of whom may not have African furnishings themselves. This home stands as a powerful symbol of our shared heritage and can serve as a bridge, promoting cultural diplomacy and unity between the United States and African nations."

One example we got our furniture made in Ghana whereas we show via our video. We are seeking a sister city between Orange Mound and Ghana. My wife is Ethiopian whereas we can establish a formal relationship between an Ethiopian Community and Orange Mound.

On May 13, 1959 Dr. King honored Tom Mboya via the "African Freedom Dinner in Atlanta." From Orange Mound We created the upcoming **"First Black family Reunion in Africa."**

First Black Family Reunion in Africa.Com

Kisumu City Kenya August 2026



Anyang Nyong'o
Kisumu Kenya Governor

[Click here to see our Commerical](#)



The New Kisumu City Kenya





Anthony Elmore
African Cultural Diplomacy

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Congressman Cohen we are clearly honoring Dr. King's Vision via our Orange Mound African connections. Congressman we ask that your office support perhaps the most significant and untold "Black Memphis History" in the City of Memphis in relationship to **"Fork Pickery."** There should be a **"Fork Pickery Museum, Culture and education Center."** I ask the you support a Black History Month 2025 Formal Resolution acknowledgement in the area.

Congressman I would like for your office to support our bold and unprecedented stance in regards to **“Black Memphis History” Black History Month 2025**. I ask that your **office support our honoring our 18th United States President Ulysses S. Grant**. Honoring President Ulysses S. Grant during Black History Month at our home in Orange Mound or at the Orange Mound Community Center would be a meaningful way to highlight his contributions to civil rights. Our Involving the youth can also help educate and inspire the next generation about the importance of historical figures like Grant. This event could foster a sense of pride and unity within the community while also promoting a deeper understanding of our shared history and education.



Congressman it should be told that one in every 4 Black men Joined the Union Army and Blacks were station at **“Fort Pickering”** whereas this Black History has been erased and they call the area **“Chickasaw Park.”** Congressman this was a U.S. Federal Fort whereas General Grant named General Sherman to be the Commander. In 1906 via the crowing of the Nathan Bedford Forrest Statue Confederates removed and erase all history of Black fighting in the Civil war. Fort Pickering should be a Museum. I ask that during Black History Month 2025 that you support holding ceremony and informing America about **“Fort Pickering”** a Federal Fort taken over by the Union Army in 1862 after the Battle of Memphis during the civil war.



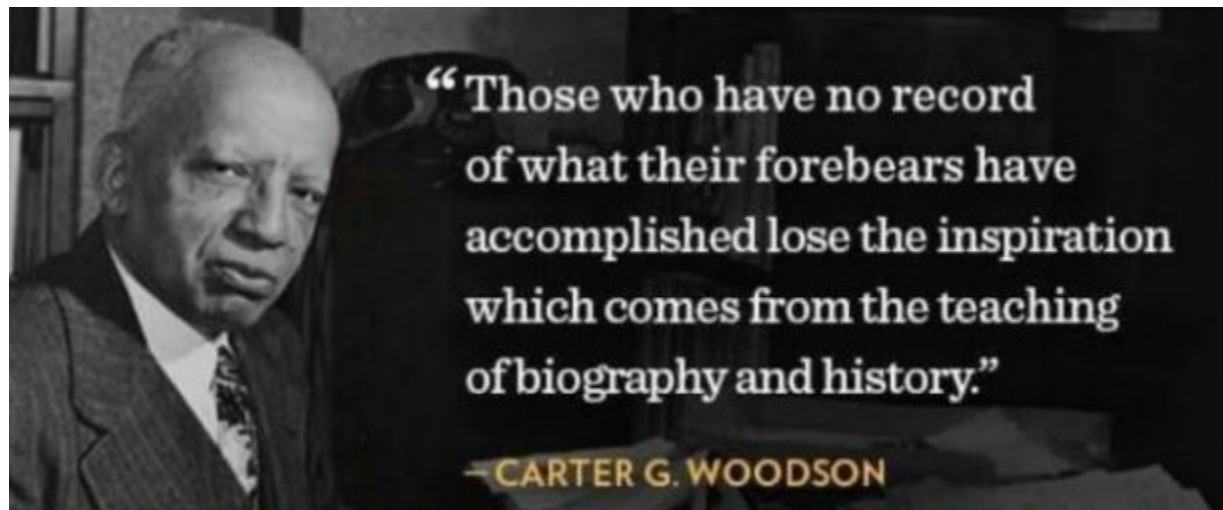
Congressman President elect Donald J. Trump is “rewriting history” whereas such actions are despicable and accurate history should be told. Donald J. Trump is looking to erase History which is despicable. Equally despicable as to what happen in Memphis whereas you as our duly elected Congressman in the 9th Congressional District should and can support “Black Memphis History.”

In 1988 our U.S. Congress established “The National Film Registry.” Whereas Congress role is to preserve films not as the best films, but films are preserved for their relevance and historic cultural value to America’s History and culture.

Today in our world Kickboxing and Mixed Martial Arts is one of the world’s most practiced sports and art forms. In the case of me Anthony “Amp” Elmore in 1987 I started production and completed not only the 1st Independent 35mm Theatrical Film in Memphis Film history titled **“The Contemporary Gladiator.”** Click on the upcoming link. I created right here in Orange Mound [“The First Kickboxing Film in World Film History.”](#)

In my case we did not just create Black History in Orange Mound we created **“World History.”** Congressman you are the leader of the democratic party in Tennessee your acknowledging this history can get our 1988 Memphis film release “The Contemporary Gladiator” honored by our U.S. Congress National Film Registry. Black History Month is coming up in two weeks you could proudly go to the floor of Congress and acknowledge that the birth of the 1st Kickboxing film in world film history happened in Memphis in “Orange Mound.”

How do we honor Dr. Martin Luther King? Dr. King said **“Silence is betrayal.”** Congressman I am not asking for money , however I want to encourage our youth to engage in history.



Please Assist us at educating our youth,

Anthony “Amp” Elmore Sr.....