Advancing Justice - Atlanta Condemns Gwinnett County Commissioner Tommy Hunter’s Comments and Calls on Him to Meet with Diverse Group of Community Leaders

NORCROSS, GA, January 17, 2017 — Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Atlanta (“Advancing Justice - Atlanta”) condemns Gwinnett County Commissioner Tommy Hunter’s comments on Saturday, January 14th, in which he called Congressman John Lewis a “racist pig.” We call on Commissioner Hunter to immediately schedule a series of meetings with our organization and other organizations that serve communities of color in his district to discuss our grievances.

Advancing Justice - Atlanta recognizes Congressman Lewis’ important contributions to the civil rights movement in our country, having been a contemporary of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The comments directed towards Congressman Lewis do not represent the vast majority of feelings within Commissioner Hunter’s district and are an affront to the tens of thousands of people of color that are his constituents. “Through the series of meetings we would like for him to schedule, we hope to hear a verbal and written apology from him and for him to commit to working hand-in-hand with our communities to build a more inclusive Gwinnett County,” says Stephanie Cho, Executive Director.

As the first non-profit law and advocacy center dedicated to the protection and promotion of the civil, social, and economic rights of Asian immigrants and refugees in Georgia and the Southeast, and operating in Gwinnett County, we find Commissioner Hunter’s comments to be extremely disrespectful and are prepared to hold him accountable for his words and actions. Gwinnett County is the most diverse county in the State of Georgia and sitting members of the Board of Commissioners should be more cognizant of the county’s diversity and more thoughtful about the words that they use.

For more information about Asian Americans Advancing Justice, call 404-585-8446 or email info@advancingjustice-atlanta.org.

About Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Atlanta

Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Atlanta (formerly Asian American Legal Advocacy Center or AALAC) is the first non-profit law center dedicated to Asian immigrants and refugees (“Asian Americans”) in the Southeast.

Our goal is to engage, educate and empower under-represented Asian Americans to greater civic participation.

We are one of five independent organizations that make up the national Asian Americans Advancing Justice. Together with our affiliates in Chicago, DC, Los Angeles and San Francisco, we bring more than 100 years of collective experience in addressing the civil rights issues faced by Asian Americans and other vulnerable and underserved communities. Visit www.advancingjustice-atlanta.org.