NORCROSS, GA, January 24, 2017 — Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Atlanta ("Advancing Justice - Atlanta") and the Gwinnett Branch of the NAACP met with Gwinnett County Commissioner Tommy Hunter to find common ground and to come up with solutions to bridge the gap between the Commissioner and the community’s diverse populations. This meeting came after the commissioner’s remarks about civil rights leader, Congressman John Lewis. Advancing Justice - Atlanta representatives scheduled a meeting for Tuesday, January 24th at 3:30pm with Commissioner Hunter. At this time, the Commissioner refused to meet with a larger group of organizations and insisted on only meeting two people.

A representative from Advancing Justice and the Gwinnett NAACP met with him today. The goal of the meeting was to allow Commissioner Hunter to propose his solutions in forging a path forward in uniting our communities. Although he was courteous and listened to our complaints, he was not prepared to offer solutions. Instead, he agreed to sit down with the larger group of organizations at a later date and is making plans to attend a community event with the NAACP to further increase visibility in our communities.

"I am encouraged that Commissioner has agreed to take the first step by attending the Gwinnett County Branch NAACP General Membership meeting on February 14th. We look forward to hosting the Commissioner and the community for a beginning dialogue." says Marlyn Tillman, President of the Gwinnett Branch of the NAACP.

"It was a good first step towards building bridges and understanding that the communities of color in Gwinnett will not stand for racism and bigotry. Commissioner Hunter must continue these conversations and take part in diverse community events to hear the voices from all constituents in order to regain the trust of the community." said Stephanie Cho, Executive Director of Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Atlanta.

Advancing Justice and other community organizations will encourage our respective community members to attend and take part of the NAACP event in February.

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](http://www.advancingjustice-atlanta.org).