August 30, 2019

**Ald. Milele A. Coggs** (414) 286-2994

## New leader named for America's Black Holocaust Museum

**Dr. Robert "Bert" Davis** has been selected as the new President and CEO of America's Black Holocaust Museum (ABHM) and starts in the new role on Tuesday, September 3, **Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs** said today.

Dr. Davis assumes the ABHM leadership post on the eve of the reopening of the museum, which closed in 2008, two years after the passing of its beloved founder Dr. James Cameron.

"Dr. Robert Davis possesses the skills and experience to successfully guide the museum into its reopening and toward a future of stability and growth, and I congratulate the Dr. James Cameron Legacy Foundation on this most important hiring," said Alderwoman Coggs, whose 6<sup>th</sup> Aldermanic District includes the ABHM (at N. Vel R. Phillips Ave. and W. North Ave. – part of The Griot development) and who has worked diligently to ensure the future viability of the museum.

In a release from the ABHM, Dr. Davis said: "It is indeed an honor to continue the great and most necessary work of Dr. Cameron. He not only was one of the world's only survivors of a public lynching, but also a true Griot (West African term for storyteller). We must celebrate and advance his vision by keeping America's Black Holocaust Museum alive."

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## New leader takes helm/ADD ONE

Dr. Davis brings an extensive background in nonprofit museum management, education, and fundraising. Most recently, he served as principal of the nonprofit strategic consulting firm DRMD Strategies, LLC and former President and CEO to two Iowa organizations: the Dubuque County Historical Society and the National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium. Dr. Davis is the former President and CEO of the Zoological Society of Milwaukee, and during his tenure there, he secured a \$6.7 million donation, the largest foundation gift the Society had received to date. Prior to the Zoological Society, Dr. Davis was Vice President of Education for Chicago's Lincoln Park Zoo.

Dr. Davis has a Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from the Tuskegee University School of Veterinary Medicine (Tuskegee, Alabama) and a Bachelor of Science in Animal Science and Biology from Tuskegee Institute and University. He is a Board member of the Association of African American Museums (AAAM) and also a Board member and former Vice Chair of the American Alliance of Museums (AAM).