

**From:** [Steve Roberts](#)  
**To:** [Kimberly Hart](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Black Americans for a Better Future and Mensah Real Estate  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 22, 2021 4:55:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [BAFBF - Check.pdf](#)  
[Information \(filed\).pdf](#)  
[Notice of Seizure \(filed\).pdf](#)  
[Final Order \(signed\).pdf](#)

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Thanks for talking today. Here are the court filings and copy of the returned seized funds.  
Best, Steve Roberts

**Steve Roberts**

*Holtzman Vogel Baran Torchinsky & Josefiak PLLC*

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**From:** Kimberly Hart <[khart@fec.gov](mailto:khart@fec.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 22, 2021 2:04 PM  
**To:** Steve Roberts <[sroberts@HoltzmanVogel.com](mailto:sroberts@HoltzmanVogel.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: Black Americans for a Better Future and Mensah Real Estate

Sure.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

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**From:** Steve Roberts <[sroberts@HoltzmanVogel.com](mailto:sroberts@HoltzmanVogel.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 22, 2021 1:54:30 PM  
**To:** Kimberly Hart <[khart@fec.gov](mailto:khart@fec.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Black Americans for a Better Future and Mensah Real Estate

Could we talk at 4:45pm instead please? I have another call at that time.  
Thanks, Steve Roberts

**Steve Roberts**

*Holtzman Vogel Baran Torchinsky & Josefiak PLLC*

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**From:** Kimberly Hart <[khart@fec.gov](mailto:khart@fec.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 22, 2021 12:25 PM  
**To:** Steve Roberts <[sroberts@HoltzmanVogel.com](mailto:sroberts@HoltzmanVogel.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: Black Americans for a Better Future and Mensah Real Estate

Hello. Would 4p work for you? My cell phone number is Thanks.

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**From:** Steve Roberts <[sroberts@HoltzmanVogel.com](mailto:sroberts@HoltzmanVogel.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 22, 2021 10:48:57 AM  
**To:** Kimberly Hart <[khart@fec.gov](mailto:khart@fec.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Black Americans for a Better Future and Mensah Real Estate

Good morning – I'd be happy to discuss. I think it's more accurate to say that the Commonwealth's Attorney for the City of Alexandria handled the criminal matter against Mensah. Would late this afternoon work for you?

Thanks, Steve Roberts

**Steve Roberts**

*Holtzman Vogel Baran Torchinsky & Josefiak PLLC*

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**From:** Kimberly Hart <[khart@fec.gov](mailto:khart@fec.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 22, 2021 6:59 AM  
**To:** Steve Roberts <[sroberts@HoltzmanVogel.com](mailto:sroberts@HoltzmanVogel.com)>  
**Subject:** Black Americans for a Better Future and Mensah Real Estate

Good morning. My name is Kimberly Hart and I am an attorney with the Enforcement Division at the FEC. Chris Marston with the Black Americans for a Better Future provided me with your information. He indicated that you handled the legal matter against Mensah Real Estate and might be better suited to provide some background information on the legal matter. Please let me know if you have some time today to talk about the matter. Thanks in advance.



# PAYMENT VOUCHER

CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

VENDOR NUMBER
PREPARATION DATE 04/16/19
VP 833308
Terms NET 30

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Black Americans for a Better Future (BAFBF)  
c/o Christopher Marston, Treasurer  
2422 South Lowell Street  
Arlington, Virginia 22206

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T.

## COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY

Attn: Donald Harrison-Wright  
(703) 746-4100

Enter special requests, actions or notes here.

Please include copy of  
court order w/check  
& send me a copy of  
check.

Goods received as ordered and in good  
condition. Received by:

CERTIFIED AS TO AVAILABILITY  
OF FUNDS

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

### CERTIFICATION BY DEPT. HEAD

I certify that the items or services listed hereon have been received, that  
payment has not previously been made, that the attached invoice is an  
original invoice, and that this expenditure is a proper charge as indicated  
in conformance with all City Purchasing Ordinances and Regulations.

Department Head

Donald L. Harrison-Wright

Date

04/16/19

DESCRIPTION	INVOICE NUMBER	INVOICE DATE	TOTAL PRICE
Civil Forfeiture action pursuant to attached court order.			
Principle loss			25,000.00
Interest on account			554.58
TOTAL			\$25,554.58

ACCOUNT NUMBER	TRANS CODE	TRANS CODE	AMOUNT	✓
			2,554.58	

### Total Allocations

\$2,554.58

DISCOUNT	
AMOUNT PAID	
AUDITED AND APPROVED FOR PAYMENT BY	

City of Alexandria, VA 22313

Invoice Date	Invoice Number	Description	Invoice Amount
04/16/2019	VP833308	CIVIL FORFEITURE ACTION PURSUANT Voucher - 307322	\$25,554.58
Vendor Name	Check No.	Check Date	Check Amount
999998 BLACK AMERICANS FOR A BETTER FUTURE BAFBF	00751332	04/18/2019	25,554.58



**City of Alexandria**  
Alexandria, Virginia  
General Account

SunTrust Bank  
64-79/611

Vendor Number: 999998  
Check Date: 04/18/2019  
Check Number: 00751332  
VOID 120 DAYS FROM DATE OF ISSUE

**\$25,554.58**

Pay Twenty Five Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Four Dollars and 58 cents \*\*\*\*\*

To The  
Order Of

BLACK AMERICANS FOR A BETTER FUTURE BAFBF  
C/O CHRISTOPHER MARSTON  
2422 SOUTH LOWELL STREET  
ARLINGTON, VA 22206



*Karen L. Taylor*  
Authorized Signature

MP

*Dan R.*  
Authorized Signature

MP

FORM # PSBLX

AP

**\* See Reverse Side For Easy Opening Instructions \***



Accounting Division  
P O Box 178  
City of Alexandria  
Alexandria, VA 22313

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

BLACK AMERICANS FOR A BETTER FUTURE BAFBF  
C/O CHRISTOPHER MARSTON  
2422 SOUTH LOWELL STREET  
ARLINGTON, VA 22206

VIRGINIA:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

IN RE:

FIFTH THIRD BANK ACCOUNT AND/OR UNDER ACCOUNT NAMES  
 "JOHN APPIAH MENSAH" AND/OR "MENSAH REAL ESTATE PROPERTY, LLC"

CL18001663

TO: CHRISTOPHER MARSTON, TREASURER  
 BLACK AMERICANS FOR A BETTER FUTURE (BAFBF)  
 2422 SOUTH LOWELL STREET  
 ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22206,  
*Defendant.*

TO: JOHN APPIAH MENSAH  
 5070 BEVERLY GLEN VILLAGE LANE, APT. D  
 NORCROSS, GA 30092,  
*Defendant.*

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FINAL ORDER

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The Court finds that:

1. The Commonwealth filed this action on March 30, 2018.
2. The defendants were properly served.
3. John Appiah Mensah has not filed an answer.
4. The property at issue is subject to forfeiture, but partially rightfully belongs to the victim in the criminal case, Black Americans for a Better Future (BAFBF).

As such, it is ordered that the above-named FIFTH THIRD BANK ACCOUNT AND/OR UNDER ACCOUNT NAMES "JOHN APPIAH MENSAH" AND/OR "MENSAH REAL ESTATE PROPERTY, LLC" (held by the City of Alexandria in a holding account) shall be disposed of as follows:

1. \$915.20 shall be remitted to the Commonwealth for the cost of service by publication, pursuant to Va. Code §§ 8.01-316(B) and 17.1-601, as follows:  
     Payable to: Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney  
     Mailed to: c/o Donald Harrison-Wright  
                 520 King Street, Suite 301  
                 Alexandria, Virginia 22314
2. \$25,000.00, or any lesser amount remaining in the account, to include any interest posted to the account, shall be remitted to BAFBF, the victim in the criminal case, to the following address:  
     Payable to: Black Americans for a Better Future  
     Mailed to: c/o Steve Roberts  
                 45 North Hill Drive, Suite 100  
                 Warrenton, Virginia 20186

3. Any funds remaining in the account, to include any interest accrued, after the disbursement of the above amounts shall be forfeited to the Commonwealth, as follows:

Payable to: Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney  
 Mailed to: c/o Donald Harrison-Wright  
 520 King Street, Suite 301  
 Alexandria, Virginia 22314

And this matter is ended.

It is so ordered.

W. A. F. K. M. L. A.  
 JUDGE

Entered <sup>April 2</sup> ~~March 13~~, 2019.

I ask for this:

Jessica Best Smith for  
 Jessica Best Smith (Va. Bar no. 79076)  
 Senior Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney  
 520 King Street, Suite 301  
 Alexandria, VA 22314  
 703-746-4100  
 703-746-4466 fax  
 jessica.smith@alexandriava.gov

Seen and Not objected to \_\_\_\_\_:

Steve Roberts for <sup>with permission</sup>  
 Steve Roberts  
 Attorney for Black Americans  
 for a Better Future  
 45 North Hill Drive, Suite 100  
 Warrenton, VA 20186  
 540-341-8808  
 540-341-8809 fax

Seen and \_\_\_\_\_:

JOHN APPIAH MENSAH

VIRGINIA:

## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

IN RE: FIFTH THIRD BANK ACCOUNT AND/OR UNDER ACCOUNT  
 NAMES "JOHN APPIAH MENSAH" AND/OR "MENSAH REAL ESTATE  
 PROPERTY, LLC"

CL18001663

TO: Christopher Marston, Treasurer  
 Black Americans for a Better Future (BAFBF)  
 2422 South Lowell Street  
 Arlington, Virginia 22206  
*Defendant.*

TO: John Appiah Mensah  
 5070 Beverly Glen Village Lane, Apartment D  
 Norcross, Georgia 30092,  
*Defendant.*

FILED  
 CLERK OF COURTS  
 CITY OF ALEXANDRIA  
 2018 MAR 30 P 1:06  
 EDWARD SEMONIAN, CLERK  
 BY  
 DEPUTY CLERK

## INFORMATION

COMES NOW the Commonwealth, by Jessica Best Smith, Senior Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney, and informs the Court that on or about the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2018, the above-named property was seized by law enforcement authorities of the Commonwealth pursuant to Virginia Code §19.2-386.19 because it was involved in a violation of Virginia Code §19.2-386.19, Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, to wit: it was used in substantial connection with the laundering of proceeds of, or traceable to the proceeds of, some form of activity punishable as a felony under the laws of the Commonwealth in violation of Virginia Code § 19.2-386.19, et seq., Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

WHEREFORE, the Commonwealth prays that the property be condemned and forfeited to the Commonwealth, and sold or otherwise disposed of according to law, and asks that the Clerk of this Court notify all persons concerned or interested in the property to appear and show cause why such property should not be forfeited.

## COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

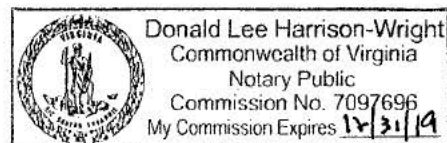
By:

*Jessica Best Smith*  
 Jessica Best Smith (VSB no. 79076)  
 Senior Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney  
 520 King Street, Suite 301  
 Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
 703.746.4100  
 703.746.4466 fax

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
 CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, to-wit:

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 30<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2018, by Senior Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Jessica Best Smith.

*[Signature]*  
 Notary Public





VIRGINIA:

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA**

IN RE: FIFTH THIRD BANK ACCOUNT AND/OR UNDER ACCOUNT  
 NAMES "JOHN APPIAH MENSAH" AND/OR "MENSAH REAL ESTATE  
 PROPERTY, LLC"

CL18001663

TO: Christopher Marston, Treasurer  
 Black Americans for a Better Future (BAFBF)  
 2422 South Lowell Street  
 Arlington, Virginia 22206  
*Defendant.*

TO: John Appiah Mensah  
 5070 Beverly Glen Village Lane, Apartment D  
 Norcross, Georgia 30092,  
*Defendant.*

FILED  
 CLERK OF COURTS  
 CITY OF ALEXANDRIA  
 2018 MAR 30 P 1:05  
 EDWARD SEMONIAN, CLERK  
 BY DEPUTY CLERK

**NOTICE OF SEIZURE**

**TAKE NOTICE** that on or about the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2018, the above-named property was seized by law enforcement authorities of the Commonwealth pursuant to Virginia Code §19.2-386.19 because it was involved in a violation of Virginia Code §19.2-386.19, Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, to wit: it was used in substantial connection with the laundering of proceeds of, or traceable to the proceeds of, some form of activity punishable as a felony under the laws of the Commonwealth in violation of Virginia Code § 19.2-386.19, et seq., Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

**WARNING:** The interest of the party defendant(s) in the property is subject to forfeiture to the Commonwealth unless, within 30 days of service of this notice, an answer under oath is filed in this proceeding setting forth (i) the nature of the defendant's claim, (ii) the exact right, title, or character of the ownership or interest in the property, and the evidence thereof, and (iii) the reason, cause, exemption, or defense he may have against the forfeiture of his interest in the property including, but not limited to, the exemptions set forth in Va. Code §19.2-386.8. *This Answer must be filed with the Circuit Court for the City of Alexandria, and a copy sent to: Jessica Best Smith, Senior Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney, Commonwealth's Attorney's Office, 520 King Street, Suite 301, Alexandria, Virginia, 22314.*

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

By:



Jessica Best Smith (VSB no. 79076)  
 Senior Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney  
 520 King Street, Suite 301  
 Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
 703.746.4100  
 703.746.4466 fax