

**Statement of Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs  
About Closure of America's Black Holocaust Museum  
July 30, 2008**

Yesterday's announcement by the board leadership of America's Black Holocaust Museum that the venue would be closing its doors – at least temporarily – was unfortunate. However, it is hoped that this time of closure will allow for successful reorganization, which will lead to sustainability for the long term.

The museum shares critical pieces not only of African-American history, but also of American history that must be preserved. It is my sincere hope that the philanthropic community, both here and across our nation, will see the value of the museum and offer assistance to keep it going. I have committed myself to continuing to work with the city, the museum and community to reopen this valuable community asset and hopefully bring it back even better and stronger than it was before.