

Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016

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**For Immediate Release**

**The Black Caucus of the Young Democrats of America will join The City of Jackson Employees for the First Visible Protest combating Furlough Day.**

**Jackson, MS** -- On August 7, 2015, the City of Jackson announced that employees will be furloughed one day per month beginning in October of 2015. The city presented documentation stating that the city's deficit of \$15 million dollars was the reason behind the furlough. During the furlough, employees are required at least one day of the month to work fewer hours to assist with the city's deficit. The once a month furlough impacts everyone from emergency and first responders, city service employees, part-time employees, and others. As a result, employees for the City of Jackson have taken a large hit financially, and now have their way of life compromised.

The City of Jackson firmly believes the outcome of the Furlough Day will assist with increasing the deficit that is owed by the city and save \$4.9 million dollars, annually. Employees for the City of Jackson believe that there are numerous other factors that have contributed to the decrease in revenue within Jackson that should have been looked into prior to the administration's decision for a furlough. However, since the decision was made, there has been no documentation or proof that the furlough has helped to increase the city's deficit.

"Anytime workers are displaced, being railroaded, or are not having the questions answered in unjust circumstances, it is our duty to provide support and help them navigate through the quagmire." – Black Caucus of the Young Democrats of America Chairman, Ra Shad Frazier-Gaines.

Leaders and members of The Black Caucus of the Young Democrats of America (Black Caucus) are joining forces with The City of Jackson employees to combat their Furlough Day through protest. All are welcome to join the movement on Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 at Jackson City Hall, located at 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi beginning at 10:30 in the morning. The Black Caucus agrees with City of Jackson employees that The Furlough will, and most likely has, already impacted numerous, if not all, lives. The Black Caucus is hopeful that this protest will force The City of Jackson administration to renegotiate or terminate The Furlough Day, while also displaying how their decision has massively impacted the lives and well being of all employees.

For more information regarding The Black Caucus of the Young Democrats of America, please visit our social media profiles on Facebook and Twitter. To schedule interviews prior to the day of the protest or to request a press kit, please contact Communications Director, Jovan C. Richards. For all on site Questions and Answers, please contact Black Caucus Chairman, Ra Shad Frazier-Gaines. All contact information can be found below.

**Contact Information:**

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