



Chartered 1708

Office of the Mayor
Gavin Buckley, Mayor
160 Duke of Gloucester Street
Annapolis, MD 21401-2517

September 13, 2019

To: Alderpersons, City of Annapolis

From: Mayor Gavin Buckley

Re: Housing Authority of the City of Annapolis Appointment

Pending your approval, I would like to appoint Bishop Craig Coates to the Housing Authority of the City of Annapolis Board. This appointment fills a vacancy on the commission.

Craig N. Coates
Annapolis, MD 21401

A copy of his resume is attached.

Thank You.

GB/hrr

Reviewed by: <u>Housing and Human Welfare Committee</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Favorable	<input type="checkbox"/> Unfavorable
_____	_____
Committee Chair	Date

Bishop Craig Norvain Coates, Ph. D

Apostle Coates was licensed as a minister in 1987 under the National Baptist Conference and answered the call to pastor in 1994. He founded The Rapture Church, with two locations (Lothian and Annapolis). After 8 years of pastoring both locations, he was ordained to the office of Bishop in January, 2002 under the Holy Christian Orthodox Church in Springfield, Massachusetts, where he served as Secretary General. Six years later, he was appointed to the executive board of the King's Apostle Church Worldwide Ministries in 2008 under the leadership of Apostle Wilbert Baltimore where he served as Secretary General. In 2008, he also founded Fresh Start Church, a ministry that has grown to over 800 parishioners in eleven years. Currently he serves as Senior Pastor. Most recently, he established the Triumphant Church Assemblies, a spiritual covering for Pastors, local churches, and non-profits.

Apostle Coates pursued his education at the University of Maryland where he maintained a 4.0 gpa. He had the privilege of serving as a Professor's researcher and student teacher in the area of African American Studies and Wealth Inequalities. In addition, he acquired a Licensed Pastoral Counselor and Licensed Temperament certificate from the National Christian Counselor Association. He holds two doctoral degrees from the North Carolina College of Theology, in Theology and in Sacred Music. A life-long learner, he serves as a student lecturer at the UMCP on appointed occasions pertaining to community and faith-based partnerships.

Apostle Coates is a true entrepreneur, having established Modern Priest Wear, Inc., a company that has produced fine clergy wear since 2014 with a global reach from the United States and Canada to Brazil and South Africa. In 2004, he founded My Brother's Keeper Barbershop in downtown Annapolis, MD. For ten years, this company stood as one of two Black-owned commercial properties in the historic Annapolis district.

Due to his keen ability to address current issues, Apostle Coates launched Growth Matters, Inc. a consulting business that conducts church assessments, workshops, and trainings on church growth and community partnerships. He is often contracted by governmental agencies to carryout assessments and to facilitate meetings circumventing collaboration and community engagement.

Apostle Coates enjoys sharing the gospel and teaching principles of church growth and development. A lecturer to the Church body, he is able to present practical insight and strategies that assist in the growth and development of today's church community.

He has partnered with many agencies and churches in bringing real issues to the forefront, to include the Anne Arundel County Health Department, the City of Annapolis Police Department, the City of Annapolis Mayor's Office, Office of Emergency Management, and the Community Action Agency. Apostle Coates is currently serving his second consecutive appointment as the county's first African American chairman of the HIV Commission at the appointment of the county executive. He serves on numerous boards and commissions to include Hands of Hope, Inc., the Annapolis Police Foundation Board, Compass Academy School for Autism, and the Equal Protection Task Force. He also served as a member of the Anne Arundel County Public Schools Blue Ribbon Commission, appointed by current superintendent, Dr.

George Arlotta, and the Office of Civil Rights Mediation Team. In addition, he serves as the staff Pastor for Lasting Tributes Funeral Home located in Annapolis, MD.

He resides in Annapolis with his wife, Sheree and their two children, Olivia and Ian.