



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **AAHOA Statement on Violence at the U.S. Capitol**

ATLANTA, Ga., Jan. 6 – AAHOA President & CEO Cecil P. Staton issued the following statement in response to the violence at the U.S. Capitol today:

“Our nation and commitment to the freedom of speech are only strong and meaningful when they rest upon a foundation of civility and respect for the law. What we witnessed today was not a free expression of speech but mayhem designed expressly to impede and ultimately upend the peaceful transfer of power that has been a hallmark of our democracy since 1797.

“Today's violence and destruction have no place in our society, and we condemn this un-American behavior. We applaud Vice President Pence and our leaders in Congress for honoring the will of the American people by resuming their proceedings and certifying President-elect Joe Biden's Electoral College victory. The peaceful transition of power must continue unimpeded for the good of our nation.”

### **About AAHOA:**

*AAHOA is the largest hotel owners association in the world. The over 19,500 AAHOA members represent almost one in every two hotels in the United States. With billions of dollars in property assets and hundreds of thousands of employees, AAHOA members are core economic contributors in virtually every community. AAHOA is a proud defender of free enterprise and the foremost current-day example of realizing the American dream.*

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