MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 26, 2024
TO: Academic Deans, Division/Department Heads, Faculty, Staff, and Students
FROM: Michael L. McFrazier
Interim Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
SUBJECT: Participation in Commencement – August 10, 2024

Greetings Summer 2024 Graduates,

Congratulations on your upcoming graduation! The 113th Summer Commencement for undergraduate and graduate candidates is Saturday, August 10, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in the William “Billy” J. Nicks, Sr. Building (Baby Dome). Graduating students will be allotted fifteen (15) tickets, of which ten (10) are reserved for the Baby Dome and five (5) are reserved for Alternate Viewing Sites. Tickets will be distributed through each College and School beginning July 24, 2024. For friends, families, and guests unable to attend Commencement in person, the University will stream the event live at www.pvamu.edu/stream and www.youtube.com/pvamu.

Candidates for graduation should report to the Student Recreation Center by 7:30 a.m. The processional for students will begin at 8:30 a.m. Faculty will be pre-seated, wearing full regalia. Commencement rehearsal is Friday, August 9, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. in the Baby Dome.

The speaker for this summer’s Commencement is Representative Ron Reynolds. Representative Reynolds was sworn in on January 10, 2011, as State Representative, House District 27. Reynolds is currently serving his seventh term in the Texas House, and is the first African American State Representative in Fort Bend County since Reconstruction.

Reynolds was named “2021 87th Session Legislator of the Year” by Fort Bend United and The Young & the Politics. He was voted by his House colleagues as “Freshman Legislator of the Year” and “Public Servant of the Year” by the Houston Minority Contractors Association. He served as the House Minority Whip during the 83rd & 84th Legislative Sessions. Reynolds is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and 100 Black Men of America.

Reynolds is the Chair of the Texas Legislative Black Caucus and Vice Chair of the Texas Energy & Climate Caucus. He is founder and past Chair of the Texas House Progressive Caucus, and serves as the Legislative Leader for the Texas State NAACP and the Texas Coalition of Black Democrats. Reynolds also serves as the ranking member on the House Committee on Environmental Regulation and Land & Resource Management.

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Prior to being elected State Representative, Reynolds was an Associate Municipal Judge for the City of Houston, Past President of the Houston Lawyers Association, and Past President of the Missouri City & Vicinity NAACP. He is a recipient of three honorary doctorates: a “Doctor of Humanities” from Trinity International University of Ambassadors, and both a “Doctor of Philosophy in Humanitarianism” and a “Doctor of Divinity” from Pendleton Chapel Seminary School.

Representative Reynolds is a devout Christian and is a proud father of three wonderful children.

For more information about Commencement, please visit www.pvamu.edu/commencement.

xc: Dr. Tomikia P. LeGrande
Ms. Carol Campbell
PVAMU Campus Community