



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SCMA LAUNCHES COMMUNITY CIVIC ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE

The South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs ("CMA") is encouraging communities to become more civically engaged through a new Civic Engagement and Education Academy.

CMA recognizes civic engagement as the cornerstone of our country's democracy and the best way for communities to advocate for their interests and well-being. As such, CMA encourages communities to become more civically engaged by:

- serving on federal, state, and local juries;
- registering to vote, voting, and encouraging others to do the same; and
- communicating with public and elected officials on salient issues, including, but not limited to legislation and policy measures affecting: public education, healthcare, business interests, and other community interests.

The Commission for Minority Affairs will offer a virtual course on civic advocacy beginning August 2020. Individuals, groups and organizations are encouraged to participate in the free program.

For more information on scheduling a civic engagement presentation for your community, contact Brenton Brown, Director of Public Policy and Community Affairs, at 803-563-1411 or BBrown@cma.sc.gov.

For more information on the importance of civic education and engagement, please refer to the following websites:

- South Carolina Election Commission and voting in South Carolina: <https://scvotes.gov>
- South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs – voter education efforts: <https://cma.sc.gov/voting>
- South Carolina Legislature: <https://www.scstatehouse.gov>.

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ABOUT THE S.C. COMMISSION FOR MINORITY AFFAIRS

The South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs is the official South Carolina state agency bridging the gap between our ethnic minority communities. The Commission's mission is to be a catalyst that identifies and examines emerging issues and trends by providing constructive solutions and approaches to support the policy and socio-economic development of ethnic minority communities. For more information, visit our website at www.cma.sc.gov.