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**TALLADEGA COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES NAMES**

**DR. GREGORY J. VINCENT AS THE 21ST PRESIDENT OF**

**TALLADEGA COLLEGE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Talladega, Alabama - Precisely 15-months ago, the Talladega College Board of Trustees set out to select leadership to take over the institution's helm. With assistance from WittKieffer, an international executive search firm, and a search committee comprised of the college's community leaders, students, and alumni, the Board of Trustees delivers.

The Talladega College Board of Trustees named Dr. Gregory J. Vincent as the college’s 21st president. Dr. Vincent is originally from New York, New York, and is widely known as a leader and educator in higher education and as a civil rights attorney and community advocate. Dr. Vincent currently serves as a Professor of Educational Policy and Law, Inaugural Executive Director of the Education and Civil Rights Initiative, and Program Chair of the Ph.D. Specialization in Diversity Equity and Inclusion at the University of Kentucky. Dr. Vincent is looking forward to getting to know the Talladega College family and working to mold and educate the next generation of leaders. “I thank Chairman Hugley and the Board of Trustees for the opportunity to serve as the 21st President of Talladega College,” says Dr. Gregory J. Vincent. “I am inspired by the sacred mission articulated by our founders in 1867 to educate generations of young people and our outstanding students, alumni, faculty, staff, and community partners. We will build on Talladega's compelling legacy as a faith-based Historically Black Liberal Arts Institution and work together to take full advantage of the exciting opportunities that lay ahead.”

Talladega College’s presidential search began in January 2021 and drew a large, diverse, and highly competitive pool of candidates. However, according to Mrs. Rica Lewis-Payton, Talladega College Board of Trustee member and search committee chair, Dr. Vincent's proven record of exceptional leadership and measurable results in public service, business, academia, and community sealed the deal. “Dr. Vincent’s unique position and values resonated,” says Mrs. Rica Lewis-Payton. “The search committee felt Dr. Vincent was best to help position Talladega College to become one of the best institutions of higher learning in the country.”

At such a critical time in the world with wars, pandemics, and feelings of uncertainty, it was vital that the Board of Trustees remained diligent through the search process and recruited top-notch talent with the experience, grit, and tenacity needed to lead the institution forward. “This is a historic moment for Talladega College,” says Isaiah Hugley, Chairman, Talladega College Board of Trustees. “We are confident Dr. Vincent will step into the presidency with the confidence, strength, and experience needed to lead Talladega College forward. Dr. Vincent knows our mission, lives our mission, and is committed to providing our students with a world-class education and experiences.”

Over the next three months, Dr. Vincent will work alongside the Acting President, Dr. Lisa Long, to ensure a smooth transition. Dr. Long will remain in place until June 30, 2022, one day before Dr. Vincent's start date of Friday, July 1, 2022. During this transitional period, Dr. Vincent will work alongside the faculty, staff, students, alumni, and various community supporters to assess the college and create a plan that will serve as the college's blueprint for the path ahead.

During Talladega College's Alumni Weekend (Friday, May 5 through Sunday, May 7), Dr. Vincent will present his vision to the college.

To stay abreast of all important updates, planned activities, and scheduled events surrounding the tenure and inauguration of the 21st president of Talladega College or volunteer, please visit [www.talladega.edu/administration/gregory-vincent](http://www.talladega.edu/administration/gregory-vincent) or email [21stpresident@talladega.edu](mailto:21stpresident@talladega.edu) or call 256-761-6120 for more information.

**More About Talladega College:**

Founded in 1867 as Alabama’s first private, liberal arts college serving black students, Talladega College has been known for academic excellence for more than 150 years. Its dedication to delivering horizon-expanding educational opportunities has yielded tremendous success. Notable alumni have included civil rights leaders, political luminaries, college presidents, accomplished business executives, outstanding social and natural scientists, and award-winning writers. In addition, the college sustains a close-knit community of about 1000 on a five-acre campus surrounded by the city of Talladega, Alabama, and gently rolling woodlands.

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