

**ITEM C.107
FOR ACTION**

| <i>FOR PRESBYTERIAN MISSION AGENCY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S OFFICE USE ONLY</i> | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|--|--|
| | A. Finance | | E. Corporate Property, Legal, Finance |
| | B. Justice | | F. PC(USA), A Corporation |
| X | C. Leadership | | G. Audit |
| | D. Worshiping Communities | | H. Executive Committee |
| | | | J. Board Nominating & Governance Subcommittee |
| | | | P. Plenary |

Subject: Comment on the 222nd General Assembly (2016) – Overture 064 (Business Item #10-03) “On Taking Specific Action to Address the Worsening Plight of the African American Male” — From the Presbytery of Pittsburgh.

Recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the following comment on Overture 64 (Business Item #10-03) On Taking Specific Action to Address the Worsening Plight of the African American Male” — From the Presbytery of Pittsburgh.

Comment:

African American males face serious challenges and encounter discrimination in many facets of their lives, due to institutional racism in North America. The gap between African Americans and white Americans is wide in employment, income, wealth and health.

This overture asks that the 222nd General Assembly (2016) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to take specific action to address and improve the worsening plight of the African American male, and it urges the church to provide “real leadership in the challenge of race.”

The challenge for this overture is funding. The overture reads, “Five million dollars is requested to fulfill this overture, \$1,000,000 per city. Realizing that the proposed actions require a financial investment, Pittsburgh Presbytery overtures the General Assembly to access the Hawkins-Buchanan Fund for Racial Justice for at least a portion, if not all, of the five million dollars anticipated to be necessary to support this overture. The Fund for Racial Justice and Reconciliation is a permanent endowment fund established to support ministries of racial justice, reconciliation and healing in church and society.”

The Hawkins-Buchanan Fund at year-end 2015 totaled \$129,311.19. The fund restriction requires the fund to reach \$1M, and after this amount is reached, then the Presbyterian Mission Agency can use interest off of the principal.

Since the fund has not yet reached the \$1M amount, the Presbyterian Mission Agency is unable to utilize this fund. To date, the fund is being reinvested until it reaches the \$1M threshold.

Link to Overture - <https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/6349>