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Robert M. Franklin
President

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Dear Fellow Morehouse Alumni:

Every leader serves for a season and for a reason. My season as president of Morehouse College began five years ago when I was honored to be named the 10th president of our alma mater. My reason for leading this remarkable institution has been to fulfill the Board of Trustees' charge to restore and reenergize the intellectual and moral dimensions of the College's mission and mystique.

Now, having achieved these goals through my vision and our collective efforts to bring about a Morehouse Renaissance and after much thought and prayerful reflection, I have decided to step down as president at the end of my appointment term, effective June 30, 2012. Although I have enjoyed the privilege of serving this great college, and we have witnessed many great successes, I am looking forward to the next chapter of my professional life.

For my part, I will go on to pursue my passion for teaching and being more directly involved in the moral and intellectual development of students. Among my immediate activities will be to serve as Scholar-in-Residence at Stanford University's Martin Luther King Jr. Institute. I am honored that the Morehouse Board has voted to name me President Emeritus and Distinguished Professor of Social Ethics, leaving open the possibility of my returning to Morehouse to teach. I will be speaking in greater detail about my decision tomorrow at 10: 00 a.m. To listen, dial (877) 865-3522 and enter Pass Code 749778.

For its part, Morehouse will continue its nearly 150-year track record of excellence in educating African American men. It will continue its pursuit of greatness as one of the nation's premier institutions of higher education. To ensure this happens, the Board has already initiated a rigorous search and selection process for my successor, who will lead the College through its next phase, including our planned capital campaign.

As a Morehouse Man, my tenure as president has been one of the most meaningful experiences of my life. Like me, you know first-hand the value of a Morehouse education and have a personal stake in its future success. During this presidential transition, your commitment to the College will be more important than ever before. I ask, and indeed I already know, that you will show my successor the same generous support you have shown me, and that you will continue to do all you can do to be steadfast, honest and true to our Dear Old Morehouse.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Franklin