S E Y M O U R I N S T I T U T E

FOR BLACK CHURCH AND POLICY STUDIES

Press Release Urgent Call for Action in Response to Black Violence in Philadelphia

What: Citywide TenPoint Violence Reduction Town Hall

When Oct 27, 2022, 7:00 PM

Where: 6401 Ogontz Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19126

Speakers:

Contact: Reverend Eugene F. Rivers, III

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Bishop J. Louis Felton of Mt. Airy Church of God in Christ is issuing a call to Unity, Prayer and Action in response to the high levels of violence in Philadelphia. The church is hosting a Town Hall to bring together residents, activists, clergy, educators and political and other leaders to discuss the issue. A key aspect of the meeting is the introduction of the TenPoint Plan to End Black-on-Black Violence which was a essential element in the reduction of violence in Boston, Massachusetts. According to Bishop Felton: "We want to convene an honest, straightforward conversation about the future of our community and our children. We must include law enforcement, religious, civic and school leaders." Reverend Eugene F. Rivers, III, the Harvard-educated former Somersville gang member says, "The violence in Philadelphia is out of control and black church leaders and other faith and community leaders must stand up to those who are responsible for it." Rivers, the author of the nationally recognized TenPoint Plan and a successful anti-violence activist, will begin a discussion of the needs of the black community and how to adapt the TenPoint Plan to the city's circumstances.