

## Ben Jealous resigns as NAACP president

Written by Freddie Allen, NNPA Washington Correspondent  
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WASHINGTON (NNPA) – Five years ago, Benjamin Jealous, president and CEO of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, made two promises. The first was to the NAACP to help the organization get to the next level, revitalizing the mission and the relevancy of the storied civil rights group for the 21st century and old and new battles ahead. The second promise was to his then 3-year-old daughter that he would return to being a full-time daddy in five years. He says now is the time to keep that second promise.

“Leadership involves knowing when to step up, and when to step down,” Jealous said Monday on a telephone call with reporters.

Looking back at his accomplishments, he mentioned how the annual revenue of the NAACP doubled from \$23 million in 2007 to \$46 million in 2012. Donors also increased from 16,000 to 132,000 over the same period. According to Jealous, the NAACP has more activists online (1.3 million) and on mobile devices (more than 430,000) than any other civil rights organization.

“We’re not just more powerful and more effective and larger, we are also financially solvent and more sustainable,” Jealous said with pride.

And many activists agree.

Ron Daniels, president of the Institute of the Black World 21st Century, a group that works to build economic social and political power in Black communities, said that Jealous energized the NAACP by bringing a lot of young talented and gifted people on board.

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