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**CONTACT:** Lon Walls  
(202) 373-0663 (day)  
(301) 996-1669 (cell)

### **MOTLEY SPEAKS OUT ON SCHOOL UNREST**

**Washington, DC (October 22, 2009)** -- Anthony "Tony" Motley, Candidate for an At-Large seat on the District of Columbia's City Council in 2010 says that the firings of District teachers, counselors and support staff have led to unnecessary unrest in our schools. "The manner in which these persons were terminated was uncalled for," says Motley.

"Many of those affected by the 'Reduction in Force' were veterans in our public school system. These persons should have been afforded due process and a more respectful treatment in their termination process, if it was necessary to fire them," says Motley. Moreover, Motley questions whether or not the "RIF" was even necessary. "Why hire over 900 teachers prior to the beginning of school and then terminate over 350 six weeks into the school year? What happened to the money allocated to the budget by the City Council? Why those over a certain age, unionized, and highly credentialed the majority to be terminated?"

Candidate Motley also questions the manner in which McKinley Technological Senior High School students were treated by the police on the day of the teacher firings. "Students were pepper sprayed and arrested for expressing themselves and exercising their First Amendment Rights under the Constitution of the United States. This is totally Un-American and should not be tolerated in the Nation's Capitol," states Motley.

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**4409 South Capitol Street, SW, Washington, DC 20032**  
**(202) 373-0663 voice, (202) 373-5189 fax**  
**[www.motley2010.com](http://www.motley2010.com)**