NEWS ADVISORY Luther Strange Alabama Attorney General



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AG TO SPEAK AT UNVEILING CEREMONY FOR CIVIL RIGHTS MURAL AT WELLS FARGO BANK AT UAB FRIDAY MORNING

(MONTGOMERY) – Attorney General Luther Strange will speak at a special ceremony to be held for the unveiling of a civil rights mural provided through the Wells Fargo Community Mural Program. The event will be held <u>tomorrow</u>, <u>Friday</u>, <u>February 21</u>, at the Wells Fargo Bank at UAB Medical Center, 316 18th Street South, in <u>Birmingham</u>. The ceremony begins at 10:30 a.m. and Attorney General Strange is <u>scheduled to speak at 10:50 a.m.</u>

The mural's images are highlights of Birmingham's involvement in the civil rights movement during the 1950s and 1960s, according to information provided by Wells Fargo. It is one of three flagship murals that will honor the American civil rights movement, with the others also installed this week in Montgomery and in Memphis.

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News Release

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Heroes and world-changing events in Birmingham come to life in one of three outdoor history murals, the first of their kind, unveiled in the Mid-South during Black History Month

Mural unveiled with help of great-grandson of Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth; Wells Fargo gives \$7,500 to Birmingham Civil Rights Institute

BIRMINGHAM, **Feb. 25**, **2014** – To bring pivotal moments in Civil Rights history to life and to remember heroes and heroines in Birmingham, Wells Fargo has made a lasting gift to the city: an outdoor history mural depicting struggles and triumphs on the road to racial equality.

Unveiled Feb. 2121 in one of the "ground zero" cities in the Civil Rights movement, the Birmingham mural includes an image of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in the city jail, from which he wrote "Letter from Birmingham Jail"; an image of an original painting of the "four little girls" who died in the bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church; and photos of heroic acts by others including Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth, for whom the city's airport is named.

The mural is 34 feet wide and 6 feet tall. It includes 18 images and is outside the Wells Fargo bank store at 316 18th Street South near the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Birmingham is one of three cities being honored during Black History Month with Wells Fargo's first outdoor murals in the Mid-South. Others were unveiled the same week in Montgomery and Memphis. All three cities are home to monumental moments of violence and strife in Civil Rights history.

Alabama Attorney General Luther Strange, Congressman Spencer Bachus, and Dr. Lawrence Pijeaux, president of the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, were among the speakers. Nearly 100 guests attended and the UAB jazz combo provided entertainment.

Rev. Shuttlesworth "would want to continue the fight for equality and justice" To look forward as well as commemorate the past, Wells Fargo invited Jarred Bester, a 19-year-old sophomore at UAB, to represent his family at the unveiling.

"If my great-grandfather were here today, he would be honored at the recognition of his work," Bester said. "He would also want to continue the fight for equality and justice not just for African-Americans but for all people."

Said Leigh Collier, Wells Fargo Mid-South regional president, "This mural is our gift for Birmingham to contemplate and remember. But we also want you to salute young people like Jarred who represent the heroes of the future. We have come so far – but the work of fighting for equality is never done."

Birmingham Civil Rights Institute receives \$7,500

To mark the occasion, Wells Fargo made a \$7,500 gift to the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute.

"As we commemorate Civil Rights history in Birmingham through this mural, it seemed natural to support the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute," said George Trible, Wells Fargo area president for Birmingham. "We are proud to support this organization that helps us remember those who fought for justice."

Helping to represent the institute was another exemplary young person, Miaya Webster, a 17-year-old junior at the Alabama School of Fine Arts. A poet, youth leader and community volunteer, she was recognized by the institute for outstanding community service in 2013.

Montgomery mural depicts Rosa Parks; Birmingham's recalls "four little girls" The new Wells Fargo mural is the 35th in Alabama. Across the nation Wells Fargo has custom murals in some 2,000 locations.

Every mural is a unique graphically-designed photo collage, printed on a variety of materials and incorporated into many different settings. Each mural is historically accurate and developed with local historians, libraries and museums.

Images for the Birmingham mural came from the Birmingham Public Library, the Birmingham News, The Withers Family Trust, Corbis and the Library of Congress.

The outdoor mural in Montgomery, unveiled on Feb. 20, is near the Capitol. It features images of Rosa Parks, who sparked the Montgomery Bus Boycott; Dr. King and his wife Coretta, who lived at the Dexter Parsonage during the years of the boycott (the parsonage is also pictured); and Rev. Ralph David Abernathy, who led the first meeting for the boycott. Also included are photos from the Selma to Montgomery marches and Congressman John Lewis when he chaired the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee and helped lead the marches.

In Memphis, the outdoor mural is on Claybrook Avenue and was unveiled Feb. 18. It features leaders like Ida B. Wells, W. C. Handy, and Dr. King. The mural also highlights local institutions like the Beale Street Church and the Stax Records Studio, alongside iconic images of the Memphis 13, who integrated the city's schools in 1961, and the Sanitation Workers' Strike of 1968 – in which Dr. King marched before his assassination in 1968.

About Wells Fargo

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members, Wells Fargo serves one in three households in the United States. Wells Fargo & Company was ranked No. 25 on *Fortune's* 2013 rankings of America's largest corporations. Wells Fargo's vision is to satisfy all our customers' financial needs and help them succeed financially. Wells Fargo perspectives are also available at blogs.wellsfargo.com. In 2012, the Company invested \$315.8 million in grants to 19,500 nonprofits, and team members contributed more than 1.5 million volunteer hours around the country. For more information, please visit: www.wellsfargo.com/about/csr.

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