



**NEWS RELEASE**

**For immediate release**

**Contact:** Maggie Wood (she/her) | Cammy Watkins (she/her)  
Operations Coordinator  
[nfjc@inclusive-communities.org](mailto:nfjc@inclusive-communities.org)

**The National Federation of Just Communities (NFJC) Announces Appointment of  
Rene Petties-Jones as Chair of the Board**

OMAHA, Neb. (September 28, 2022): The National Federation for Just Communities (NFJC) announces the appointment of Rene Petties-Jones as Chair of its Board of Directors. Petties-Jones succeeds Moises Echeverria who served as Chairman since July 2021. Petties-Jones is the first African-American woman appointed as Chair. NFJC is a coalition of like-minded organizations working across America to bring the values of diversity, inclusion, and social justice to our schools, workplaces, and communities.

“Now is the time for action. We see folks who are tired, frustrated, discouraged, and as a Federation I am so grateful for colleagues from across the country and the world who have stepped up and are ready to support, uplift, and engage people to build community. We can't let up on the gas on social justice issues- our next generation depends on us getting it right, and I am so proud to be a part of NFJC and help lead us as we move forward, together, working towards a more equitable and inclusive society!” said Petties-Jones.

Petties-Jones is the President of the National Federation for Just Communities of Western NY Incorporated, a human relations organization that focuses on DEI issues. She is a member of the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo's Racial Equity Roundtable overseeing Racial Healing Circles for the WNY region. She currently serves on the PRSA (Public Relations Society of America) Buffalo Niagara Chapter board of directors. She also serves on the board of directors for the Northeast District PRSA as their first ever DEI Officer, and is Communications Liaison and Spotlight Chair for the National PRSA Diversity Committee. Rene has served as a member of the National PRSA Nominating committee. A proud University at Buffalo Alum, Petties-Jones has received the May C. Randazzo Outstanding Practitioner Award from PRSA Buffalo Niagara and the Women of Influence Award, Behind the Scenes, from Buffalo Business First. She is also on the Business First Power 200 Buffalo list for 2021 and 2022. Additionally, she is a Rockwood Institute Fellow, a member of the Oishei Leaders of Color Cohort 3, and an FBI Citizens Academy graduate.

Petties-Jones is a former member of the Buffalo News Diversity Advisory Board and currently sits on the Superintendent Advisory Board for the Williamsville School District, the Alberti Center for Bullying Prevention, the Editorial Advisory Board for the Buffalo Healthy Living Magazine in addition to numerous other committees and advisory boards.

###

**About The National Federation of Just Communities**

The National Federation for Just Communities is a coalition of social justice member organizations across the United States which work to overcome racism, bias, and discrimination.

*For more information on NFJC [click here](#)*