

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Documentary on Dr. Benjamin L. Hooks Will Air Feb. 20 on WKNO-TV

Duty of the Hour, a documentary about Memphis civil rights icon Dr. Benjamin L. Hooks, will air Monday, Feb. 20, at 7 p.m. on WKNO-TV as part of its Black History Month programming.

The documentary, produced by The Benjamin L. Hooks Institute for Social Change at the University of Memphis, is the first to explore the life of Hooks, who rose from the streets of segregated Memphis to the national stage as a civil rights activist and high-level government official. His story is an exploration of this nation's long, complex and difficult history of race. How activists, politicians and the nation addressed racial, class and other tensions of the of the late 20th century, especially during the 1960s, provide insight on how we as a nation might address today's struggles involving, race, class, ethnicity, LGBTQ and other important issues of our day.

The documentary has also aired on KCET Los Angeles and is available for viewing at <https://www.kcet.org/shows/link-voices/episodes/duty-of-the-hour>.

Now in its 20th year, the mission of The Benjamin L. Hooks Institute for Social Change is to teach, study and promote civil rights and social change. This is reflected in its programming, which includes funding faculty research and community service projects; hosting conferences, symposia, and lectures; and promoting and recognizing local and national scholarship on civil and human rights.

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Founded in 1996 by the late civil rights activist Dr. Benjamin Hooks in partnership with University officials, the Benjamin L. Hooks Institute for Social Change is an interdisciplinary center at the University of Memphis whose archives include Hooks' personal papers, housed in Special Collections. Visit www.memphis.edu/benhooks.

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