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**General Motors top Leader Kevin W. Williams to serve as Keynote Speaker for the  
Opening Convocation at Talladega College**



**Talladega, Alabama** – Talladega College today announced Mr. Kevin W. Williams will serve as its keynote speaker during its **Opening Convocation on Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017.**

Williams, who served most recently as the Board Chairman, President and Managing Director of General Motors (GM) of Canada Ltd. was responsible for leading all General Motors operations in Canada. Throughout his more than 30-year career with General Motors, Williams has held a number of senior roles including that of Chairman, President and Managing Director of GM de Mexico and GM North America Vice President of Quality. Williams served as a member of the GM North America Strategy Board from May 2003 through June 2009. It is this type of leadership that Talladega College

President Dr. Billy C. Hawkins says will inspire his students to continue to strive for greatness.

“Every student at Talladega College is here because they desire to do great things” said Hawkins. “We must constantly provide great examples that will inspire them to push forward toward those leadership roles. Hearing the story of Kevin Williams and his accomplishments will be demonstrative of just how far they can go once they leave this great institution.”

Williams earned a bachelor's degree in business management from Tennessee State University in 1983, and a master's degree in business administration from Central Michigan University in 1989. In 2002, Williams completed the General Motors Senior Executive Development Program.

He is currently Vice Chairman and board member of the United Negro College Fund Foundation and Trustee of the Tennessee State University Foundation. He was previously the Chairman of General Motors Canada Limited, the GM African Ancestry Network, and S.A.E.- A World In Motion. He was also a Trustee of Genesys Health Systems of Michigan from May 2009 thru June 2012. Williams has been married for 30 years to Arlene Pope Williams and resides in Nashville, TN. They have two daughters, Alisa Williams (26) a graduate of Yale University, now residing in San Francisco, CA, and working in Finance/Private Equity, and Kaylyn Williams (23), a 5th year student at Yale University completing her Master's Degree, majoring in political science with a concentration in urban and health policy.



**About Talladega College**

The oldest private Historically Black College in Alabama, Talladega College was founded in 1867 by two former slaves, William Savery and Thomas Tarrant. The College has an aggressive tradition of bringing the world to Talladega. Home of the Hale Woodruff Amistad Murals, the murals are on a nationwide tour where it is estimated to be seen by over a half million people and has received rave reviews from the New York Times. For more information, visit [www.talladega.edu](http://www.talladega.edu).