I am heartened to hear that the story of Till Mobley, in all of its horrors and tragedy, will be told through the naming of a National Monument in his honor. This designation counters the many voices and efforts that are attempting to erase painful parts of American history. The discomfiture and denial to tell stories of Black pain and trauma only serves to bury the wound, never allowing us to reconcile.

The Emmett Till and Mamie Till-Mobley National Monument is a long overdue recognition of how devasting lynching is to Black communities. This National Monument can serve as a heralder of truth in the hopes that we never again revisit the sins of racially motivated violence.

Rev. Dr. Roosevelt C. Walker, Jr. President United Baptist State Convention of Illinois