

Know all Men by these presents, that I  
John McDowell of the City of Annapolis in the State  
of Maryland do hereby manumit enfranchise and  
set free my Negro Man Joseph Williams and I release  
him from that Slavery, in which by the laws of the  
Country, he was born and hath hitherto lived, and I  
do by these presents, declare that I hold him no  
longer as a Slave, but relinquish all the property  
rights and ~~claims~~ title in and over him the said  
Joseph Williams, which the laws of the aforesaid  
State permitted and authorized me to exercise, as  
the master and owner of the said Joseph Williams  
In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand  
and Seal, this eighth day of April in the year  
of our Lord eighteen hundred and seven

Test  
Joseph Evans }  
William Marfield } John McDowell

on the back of the foregoing was thus endorsed to wit  
Anne Arundel County

Be it remembered that on the  
eighth day of April in the year eighteen hundred  
and seven personally appeared before me one of the  
Justices of the Peace for said County, the aforesaid  
John McDowell and acknowledged the above  
instrument of writing whereby the aforesaid Joseph  
Williams is manumitted, to be his act and deed  
In witness whereof the day and year aforesaid, I  
have hereunto set my hand

Recorded the 11<sup>th</sup> of August 1807. Joseph Sands