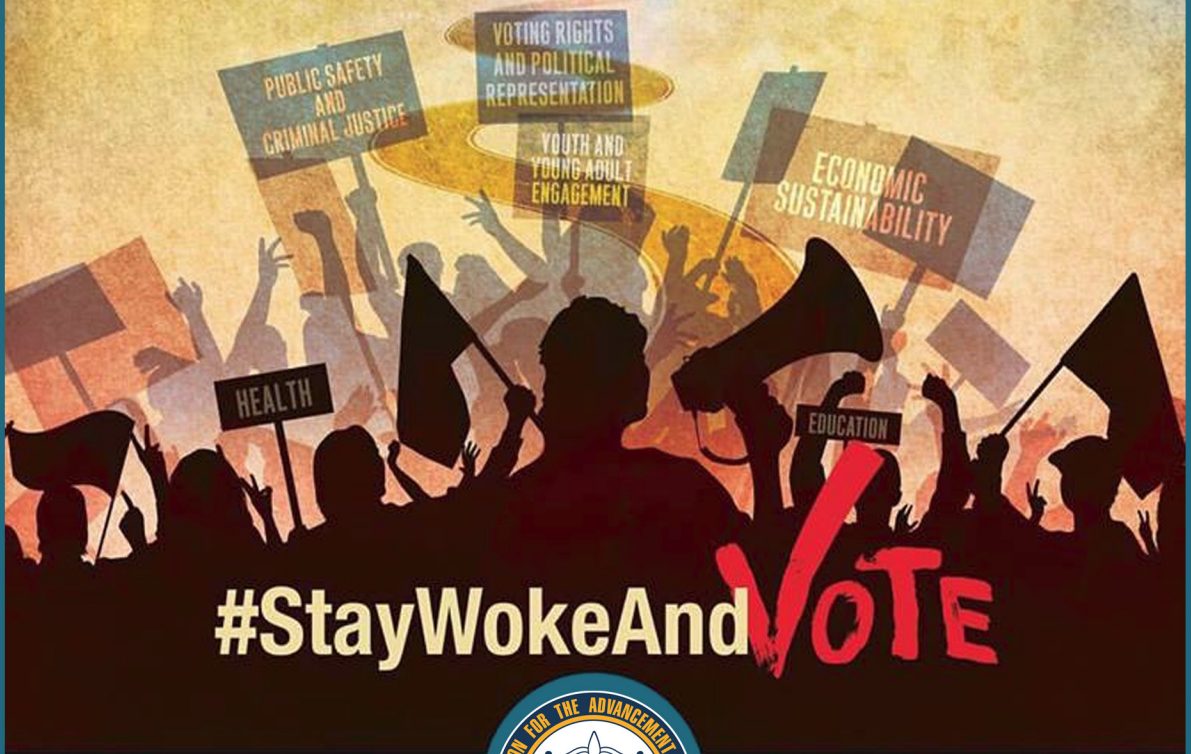


OUR || OUR LIVES || VOTES MATTER || COUNT

74TH GEORGIA NAACP CONVENTION



OCTOBER 6-8, 2016
ATHENS, GEORGIA

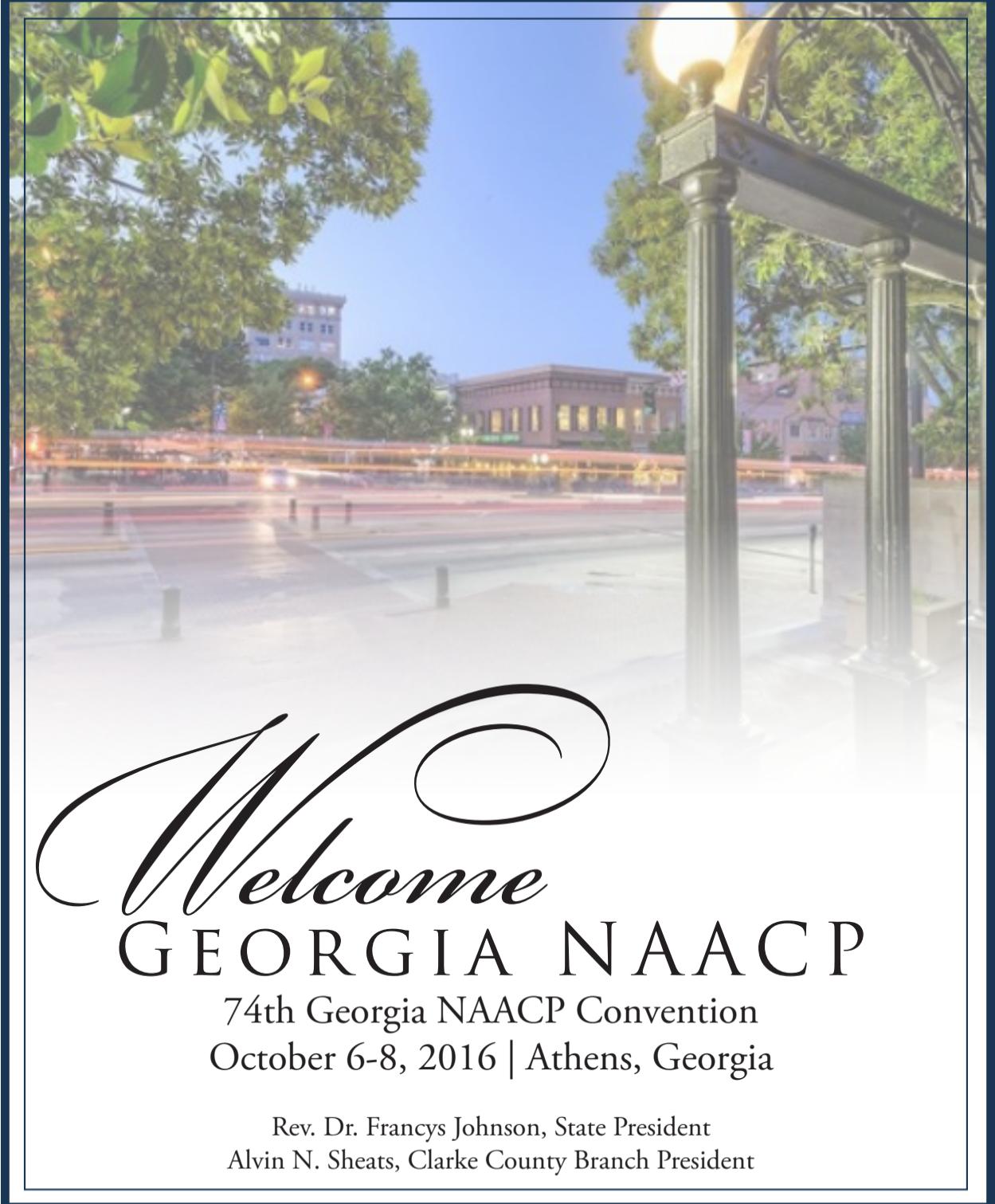


REV. DR. FRANCYS JOHNSON
STATE PRESIDENT

Our Mandate:

- 1. To avenge the atrocities of our ancestors.*
- 2. To earn the respect of future generations.*
- 3. To be transformed in the service of humanity.*





Welcome
GEORGIA NAACP

74th Georgia NAACP Convention
October 6-8, 2016 | Athens, Georgia

Rev. Dr. Francys Johnson, State President
Alvin N. Sheats, Clarke County Branch President



Cornell William Brooks
President and Chief Executive Officer

Roslyn M. Brock
Chairman, Board of Directors

GEORGIA STATE CONFERENCE

Rev. Dr. Francys Johnson, President



Delegates to this 74th Annual State Convention:

Welcome to Athens, Georgia! The Georgia NAACP convenes this week at a critical time in America's history. The upcoming November election will determine the course of the country for the next generation. We gather with the conviction that Our Lives Matter! As such, Our Votes Count!

These are troubling times, the NAACP is fighting old battles we thought we had already won under warriors like the Reverend Ralph Mark Gilbert of Savannah; the Reverend Julius Casear Hope of Macon; Vernon Jordan and Robert Flanagan of Atlanta; Walter Butler of Madison and even victories under Edward DuBose of Columbus. In these critical times, the Georgia NAACP convenes to prepare our professional staff and volunteer powerful leadership with the necessary strategies of achieving political, educational, social and economic equality and eliminating race prejudice.

Organizational Excellence | Our Watch

Although the history of the Georgia NAACP is rich; we must continue serve this present age. The membership, branches, college chapters, prison units and youth councils demand a State Conference that is committed to a culture of quality in its programming and accountability in its operations. We must continue to build our capacity by developing and effectively training our volunteer leaders; strengthening our professional management team to ensure sound business practices; building collaborations with public and private sector allies; and effectively utilizing technology to communicate with our units and partners.

Working together we can continue making measurable improvements in our Operations, Unit and Customer Service, and Programming. Working together we can continue building an organizational culture that at its core is ethical, transparent, and accountable. Working together we can continue enhancing communication and exploring innovative collaboration with colleges/universities; foundations; and other grassroots organizations.

Our Witness | Advancing Our Interests

The world watches America at this critical juncture of our history. In the debate on LGBTQ rights, immigration policy, environmental justice, criminal justice reform, economic development and education; we must not be silent, still or sleep. We will be heard! As National Chair Roslyn Brock often says, "courage will not skip this generation." When the history books are written about this time, it must say again that the NAACP organized, rallied and fought back the forces seeking to bind our destiny.

Delivering Results | Our Work

Results matter and we must engage at the local, county and state level to secure our civil and human rights precinct by precinct; in local boards of education, town councils, city hall and county commissions. We are a grassroots organization - so let's network, learn all we can over these three days, share best practices and celebrate and then get back to work!

I remain,

Rev. Dr. Francys Johnson
President and Diamond Life Member





NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

4805 MT. HOPE DRIVE • BALTIMORE, MD 21215-3297 • (410) 580-5777

Cornell William Brooks
President & Chief Executive Officer

October 6, 2016

GEORGIA STATE CONFERENCE NAACP

Greetings,

It is my honor to congratulate and commend you on the occasion of your 74th Annual State Convention, "Our Lives Matter, Our Votes Count." When the history is written of the opening chapter of the 21st century, our beloved NAACP will be prominent by the eloquence of example. All across the length and breadth of our nation, NAACP conferences, branches, chapters, and youth councils are literally defining justice by word and deed.



The right to vote is a civic sacrament that has been desecrated in the temple of our democracy. In the wake of the *Shelby vs. Holder* Supreme Court decision, the NAACP leads the fight against voter suppression in the community, in the courts, on the briefs, and in the streets. NAACP members marched over a thousand miles from Selma to D.C., to protect the right to vote during *America's Journey for Justice*. The NAACP led what *The Nation* magazine called "the most important protest of the 2016 election," where a record number of people were arrested at the United States Capitol to protect the right to vote. Over the years, we have not only mobilized millions to vote, we have also moved multitudes in state legislatures and congress to vote for our agenda.

Amidst this uneven economic recovery, the NAACP has partnered with financial institutions to encourage small business development, financial empowerment, and homeownership. The NAACP is also partnering to develop new tools like Social Covenant Bonds to promote employment and procurement to increase economic empowerment. The NAACP has long been the standard-bearer for both educational excellence and equality. Having successfully advocated for Every Student Succeeds Act, we continue to advocate for the effective implementation of the legislation. We continue to dismantle and ultimately destroy the preschool-to-prison pipeline.

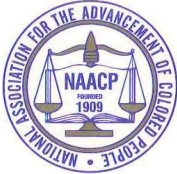
We commend so much brave work being done to end the era of mass incarceration. From ban the box to bail reform to sentencing reform, the NAACP is leading in state capitals and in the nation's capital. Having done so much, we are inspired to do all that remains to be done. During our convention, thousands of you took an American Pledge to Preserve and Protect Our Lives. We thank you for all that you are doing to ensure all candidates take this pledge. Predatory policing and racial profiling end the day we make that pledge real.

You may have gathered to break bread, share grace and fellowship over a meal on a special occasion, but a state convention is more than a ceremonial occasion. It is a rededication ceremony. As great as our history is, the greatest history of the NAACP is yet to be written, and you are yet writing it. This occasion is a moment for us to celebrate and imagine ... our own greatness.

Yours in justice,

Cornell William Brooks
President and CEO





NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
4805 MT. HOPE DRIVE • BALTIMORE, MD 21215-3297 • (410) 580-5777

ROSLYN M. BROCK
Chairman, National Board of Directors



Dear Friends,

I am delighted to extend greetings and words of appreciation to the Georgia State Conference for your 74th Annual State Convention, *"Our Lives Matter, Our Votes Count"* on October 6-8, 2016. Thank you for the very important work you do to ensure that we continue the sacrificial commitment of generations of activists who came before us.

For more than a century, in the face of challenges great and small, the heroic work of the NAACP has prevailed. Today, although there are still many challenges, we have a multigenerational group of leaders, volunteers, and partners across this nation; a mighty group determined to turn the helm of justice towards equality for all mankind; and we will prevail.

In the face of oppression, where stand-your-ground laws have stood their ground; where the threat of capital punishment is still all too prevalent; where equal educational opportunities are not yet equal; we will prevail. Where more and more states are trying to assault and restrict the right to vote; where the critical need for police reform is concealed, while the lives of our next generation hang in the balance; we will prevail.

The survival of our republic depends on our success. Our agenda is essential and encompasses the fundamental building blocks of a decent and thriving society. All people need living wage jobs, affordable quality health care, excellent schools, a clean environment, safe neighborhoods, and a truly fair justice system.

Half-hearted measures are not sufficient for the crises of our time, but the work of the NAACP has never been done half-heartedly. We are challenged, yet inspired to replicate the resolve of the brave men and women who laid the foundation upon which we stand. We will work heart and soul, thriving in unity and honoring the legacy of those who have suffered, bled, and died for the cause of justice and equality.

Congratulations and thank you for your leadership, your dedicated service, your commitment and sacrifices. Courage Must Not Skip This Generation; We Must Prevail.

Roslyn M. Brock, Chairman
NAACP National Board of Directors

www.naacp.org

004-105-028



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

Alvin N. Sheats | President, Clarke County Branch
P. O. Box 82522 | Athens, GA 30608-2522
Email: naacpclarke@gmail.com | Phone: 706-254-5815



As we say in the Navy... Ahoy there and welcome aboard!!!

Greetings in the Name of all that is Good!!!

One for the Father! One for the Son! One for the Holy Spirit!

This is truly a day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it. It gives me joy unspeakable to have this opportunity to welcome everyone to the 74th Georgia NAACP Annual State Convention and Civil Rights Conference!!! We thank you for finding it not robbery to take time out of

your schedule and show support to the longest standing civil rights organization in this United States of America. Athens Clarke County Unit 5180 proudly host and welcomes you.

We sincerely hope you receive overflowing blessings to inspire you in celebrating this annual event. I am truly blessed to be here with you. While serving our country in Kuwait / Iraq, I realized, we have so much to celebrate and be thankful for here in America. However, keeping in mind that we have come a long ways and still have some long ways to go in search of total equality, let us keep our President Frances Johnson and his Family in our prayers as well as all who pick up the blood stained banner for justice.

Your truly,

Alvin N. Sheats

Alvin N. Sheats, President
Clarke County NAACP Unit 5180



THE GAMECHANGERS

An Agenda for the 21st Century

For more than a century the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has worked to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination. Inspired by the force and commitment of The Call of 1909, which denounced the growing oppression of people of color and mobilized thousands to work to bring this discrimination to an end, the NAACP seeks to establish a strategic direction as it embarks on developing The New Call for the 21st Century.

In the fall of 2011, the NAACP launched a process to develop its strategic direction and plan, creating a powerful vision for the future, and setting organizational goals that would focus its work for the 21st Century. The five NAACP Game Changers below address the major areas of inequality facing African Americans that are the focus of the NAACP's work.

Economic Sustainability - A chance to live the American Dream for all

Every person will have equal opportunity to achieve economic success, sustainability, and financial security.

Education - A free, high-quality, public education for all

Every child will receive a free, high quality, equitably-funded, public pre-K and K-12 education followed by diverse opportunities for accessible, affordable vocational or university education.

Health - Health equality for all Americans including a healthy life and high-quality health care

Everyone will have equal access to affordable, high-quality health care, and racially disparate health outcomes will end.

Public Safety and Criminal Justice - Equitable dispensation of justice for all

Disproportionate incarceration, racially motivated policing strategies, and racially biased, discriminatory, and mandatory minimum sentencing will end. Incarceration will be greatly reduced and communities will be safer. The death penalty will be abolished at the state and federal level, as well as in the military.

Voting Rights and Political Representation - Protect and enhance voting rights and fair representation

Every American will have free, open, equal, and protected access to the vote and fair representation at all levels of the political process. By protecting democracy, enhancing equity, and increasing democratic participation and civic engagement, African Americans will be proportionally elected to political office

Expanding Youth and Young Adult Engagement - An informed and engaged citizenry

The NAACP will expand the presence of youth consciousness in every aspect of the Association. Units are encouraged to give significant attention to expanding engagement with key age demographic (1979 and after). Young adult engagement in policy research, development and advocacy on all levels. The NAACP will take measured steps to enhance capacity of local units to recruit, engage, train and retain young adults. The NAACP will explore innovative approaches to young adult membership and program engagement.



2016-2017 STATE LEADERSHIP TEAM DIRECTORY

OFFICERS

President	Rev. Dr. Francys Johnson
First Vice President	Phyllis Blake
Second Vice President	Jeriene Grimes
Third Vice President	Rev. William Flippin, Jr.
Secretary	Tonza S. Thomas
Assistant Secretary	Graylan Quarterman
Treasurer	Beverly Hudley
Assistant Treasurer	Eloise W. Johnson
Georgia National Board Member	Rev. Edward O. DuBose
Members At-Large	Deane Bonner / Robert Hudley / Larry Locky
Parliamentarian	Renata Newbill-Jallow, Esq.

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Administrative Assistant for State Conference Affairs	Toi Hines
Media and Marketing Specialist	Brandon Thompson

YOUTH & COLLEGE DIVISION OFFICERS

President	Antonia Maurice Brantley
1st Vice President	Darius D. Jackson
Secretary	Ashley Lester
Assistant Secretary	Steve Green, II
Treasurer	Jamar Boyd II
Advisor/Youth Works Chair	Sharvon Green

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

ACT-SO	Toi Hines
Armed Services and Veterans Affairs	John C. Littles / Ebonique McClinnahan
Communications/Press Policy	Constance Wallace
Community Coordination	Rev. Dr. Jane Page
Criminal Justice	Mawuli Davis, Esq./ Gerald Griggs, Esq.
Economic Development	Dr. Greg Brock
Education	Dr. Robert G. Bryant / Jameelah Coes
Freedom Fund	Mary Ross
Health & Wellness	Nettie Jackson / Dr. Beulah Nash-Teachey / Dr. John Marshall
Housing	Alvie Coes



2016-2017 STATE LEADERSHIP TEAM DIRECTORY

Labor & Industry

India Sims

Legal Redress

Renata Newbill-Jallow, Esq.

Membership

Pearl H. Brown / Rev. David Walker

Political Action

Vivian Moore

Religious Affairs & Social Justice

Rev. Rutha Jackson / Rev. Paul Shepherd

Women in the NAACP

Dr. Meca Williams-Johnson

DISTRICT COORDINATORS

District 1

Richard Shinhoster / Graylan Quarterman

District 2

Membrish Brown / Rev. Richard Jessie

District 3

Earnest Ward / James Stocks

District 4

Karen James

District 5

Rev. Lee Franklin

District 6

VACANT

District 7

Johnny Smith

District 8

John Battle / Stephanie King

District 9

VACANT

District 10

Robin Hill / Rev. Lance Pitts

District 11

VACANT

District 12

Carlos Brown / Rev. Dr. Eddie Ball

District 13

Eugene Edwards / Tanya LeFluer

District 14

Antoine Simmons

AD-HOC COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Personnel

Karen James

By-Laws

John Battle

Time and Place

Canary Whitfield

Rules

Robert Hudley

Credentials

Ashley Lester

Resolutions

Rev. Rutha Jackson

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Moral Monday Coalition

Rev. Jeffrey Benoit / Kevin Moran

Sexual Abuse Task Force

Ebony Harvey / Jesse Williard

Confederacy Task Force

John Evans / Richard Rose / John Battle



LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

Written by: James Weldon Johnson | Arrangement by: John Rosamond Johnson

*Lift every voice and sing
Till earth and heaven ring
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
let our rejoicing rise,
high as the list'ning skies, let it resound loud as the rolling sea
sing a song full of faith that the dark past has taught us,
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on till victory is won.*

*Stony the road we trod,
bitter the chast'ning rod,
felt in the day that hope unborn had died;
yet with a steady beat,
have not our weary feet,
come to the place on which our fathers sighed?
we have come over a way that with tears has been watered,
we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our star is cast.*

*God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
thou who has brought us thus far on the way;
thou who has by thy might,
led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray
lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee,
lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee,
shadowed beneath the hand,
may we forever stand,
true to our God,
True to our native land.*



74TH GEORGIA NAACP CONVENTION

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS - OCTOBER 6-8, 2016

THURSDAY **OCTOBER 6**

11:00 AM - 11:45 AM

UGA Arch
US-78 BUS
Athens, GA 30602

PRESS CONFERENCE

NOON – 5:00 PM

First AME Church
521 N. Hull Street
Athens, GA 30601

**GENERAL OFFICE
CONVENTION REGISTRATION
NAACP BOUTIQUE & EXHIBITS**

NOON - 5:00 PM

First AME Church
521 N. Hull Street
Athens, GA 30601

MEMBERSHIP LAYDOWN

NOON - 1:45 PM

First AME Church
521 N. Hull Street
Athens, GA 30601
Fellowship Hall

FAITH AND VALUES LUNCHEON

Leaders representing the major faith and religious movements in Georgia will break bread; review this past year's pertinent issues; and hear a message from the Rev. Dr. R. L. White, Senior Pastor of Atlanta's Mount Ephraim Baptist Church.

PRESIDING:

Reverend Rutha M. Jackson, Co-Chair
Religious Affairs & Social Justice Committee
Georgia State Conference, NAACP
Pastor, Grace Temple International Worship Center
President, Houston County Branch, NAACP
Warner Robins, Georgia

SPEAKER:

Rev. Dr. R. L. White, Senior Pastor
Mt. Ephraim Baptist Church
Atlanta, Georgia

2:00 PM - 3:15 PM

First AME Church
521 N. Hull Street
Athens, GA 30601
Fellowship Hall

**RELIGIOUS LEADERS ROUNDTABLE
OUR FAITH MATTERS/OUR VOTE COUNTS:
A DISCUSSION ON THE ENGAGED CHURCH**

An ecumenical round table will explore the civil rights and social justice efforts within our respective work and broader questions of the responsibility of an Engaged Church moderated by Rev. William Flippin, Jr.



74TH GEORGIA NAACP CONVENTION

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS - OCTOBER 6-8, 2016

MODERATOR:

Rev. William Flippin, Jr., Third Vice President
Georgia NAACP
Pastor, Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Atlanta, Georgia

PARTICIPANTS:

Rev. Allison Eskildsen
Unitarian University Fellowship of Athens
Athens, Georgia

Rev. Abraham Mosley
Mount Pleasant Baptist Church
Athens, Georgia

Rev. Claude R. James
First AME Church
Athens, Georgia

Rev. Larry Fort
New Freedom Christian Church, Inc.
Athens, Georgia

Rev. Sharon M. Miller
Christian Worship Center
Athens, Georgia

Rev. Mark Harper
Covenant Presbyterian Church
Athens, Georgia

Rev. Tracy L. Boles
Timothy Baptist Church
Athens, Georgia
Rev. Dr. Winfred Hope
Ebenezer Baptist Church West
Athens, Georgia



74TH GEORGIA NAACP CONVENTION

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS - OCTOBER 6-8, 2016

7:00 PM

First AME Church
521 N. Hull Street
Athens, GA 30601
Sanctuary

RALPH MARK GILBERT COMMUNITY MASS MEETING “HEALING OUR NATION”

A power packed night of praise, worship, and reflections on where we are in the quests for a just society. Elected, civic and community leaders will give remarks and the Rev. Lee May, CEO of Dekalb County will deliver the Ralph Mark Gilbert Lecture.

PRESIDING:

Reverend Rutha M. Jackson, Co-Chair
Religious Affairs & Social Justice Committee
Georgia State Conference, NAACP
Pastor, Grace Temple International Worship Center
President, Houston County Branch, NAACP
Warner Robins, Georgia

SPECIAL REMARKS:

Dr. Francys Johnson, State President
Georgia NAACP
Statesboro, Georgia

RALPH MARK GILBERT LECTURE:

Rev. Lee May, CEO
DeKalb County
Atlanta, Georgia

FRIDAY OCTOBER 7

7:30 AM - 8:45 AM

Holiday Inn
197 E. Broad Street
Athens, GA 30601
Georgian Ballroom

ARMED SERVICES & VETERAN AFFAIRS BREAKFAST

The NAACP has long drawn its leadership from those who have defended this nation through the armed forces. This breakfast aims to honor both veterans and active military personnel along with highlighting the state and federal resources designated for this community. The Hon. Frank McClary, Mayor of Andrews, South Carolina will give the morning talk.

PRESIDING:

Edwards Darmon, Member
State Armed Services and Veteran Affairs Committee
Atlanta, Georgia



74TH GEORGIA NAACP CONVENTION

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS - OCTOBER 6-8, 2016

Ebonique McClinnahan, Co-Chair
Armed Services and Veterans Affairs
Augusta Branch NAACP
Augusta, Georgia

SPEAKER:
The Hon. Frank McCleary
Mayor of Andrews, South Carolina

**GENERAL OFFICE
CONVENTION REGISTRATION
NAACP BOUTIQUE & EXHIBITS**

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Holiday Inn
197 E. Broad Street
Athens, GA 30601

OPENING PLENARY SESSION

PRESIDING:
Dr. Francys Johnson, President
Georgia NAACP
Statesboro, Georgia

RECORDING:
Tonza S. Thomas, Secretary
Georgia NAACP
President, Columbus Branch, NAACP
Columbus, Georgia

10:00 AM – 11:45 AM
Holiday Inn
197 E. Broad Street
Athens, GA 30601
Athena Room I

**POLITICAL PARTICIPATION DISCUSSION:
“OUR RIGHTS MATTER/OUR VOTES COUNT”
THE GOOD, BAD & UGLY - A REVIEW OF POST SHELBY
VOTING RIGHTS**

This panel features leading lawyers and activist among others discussing the struggle to protect and expand the right to vote.

MODERATOR:
Helen Butler, Executive Director
The People's Agenda Coalition
Atlanta, Georgia



74TH GEORGIA NAACP CONVENTION

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS - OCTOBER 6-8, 2016

PANELISTS:

Julie Houk, Senior Special Counsel
Voting Rights Project, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law
Washington, DC

Kyle C. Barry, Policy Counsel
NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc.
Washington, D.C.

Jerry Wilson, Attorney at Law
Redan, Georgia

WALTER C. BUTLER, JR. MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON

PRESIDING:

Pearl H. Brown, President
Bulloch County Branch
Statesboro, Georgia

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

The Hon. Michael L. Thurmond
Butler Wooten Cheeley & Peak LLP
Atlanta, Georgia

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT TRAINING

PRESENTER:

Charles Snow, National Civic Engagement Consultant
NAACP National Office
Baltimore, Maryland

VOTER EMPOWERMENT SESSION CALL BANKING

PRESENTER:

Demetrius Fisher, Civic Engagement Coordinator
Georgia NAACP
Atlanta, Georgia

NOON – 1:45 PM

Holiday Inn
197 E. Broad Street
Athens, GA 30601
Georgian Ballroom

2:00 PM – 3:15 PM

Holiday Inn
197 E. Broad Street
Athens, GA 30601
University Room

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

Holiday Inn
197 E. Broad Street
Athens, GA 30601
Athena I



74TH GEORGIA NAACP CONVENTION

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS - OCTOBER 6-8, 2016

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Morton Theater
195 W. Washington St
Athens, GA 30601

LIFE THE GRIOT AND FRIENDS (TICKETED EVENT)

The Georgia NAACP joins Life the Griot along with several of his friends to bring you a live show packed with poetry and music. All proceeds benefit Chess and Community's youth group, the Classic City Knights, as they journey to Ethiopia during the summer of 2017. While there, the Knights will visit many historical sites of global and cultural significance, engage in a chess tournament with local students, and develop a sustainable service learning project together with the guidance of program directors and community stakeholders.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 8

7:30 AM – 8:45 AM

Holiday Inn
197 E. Broad Street
Athens, GA 30601
Georgian Ballroom

W.I.N. BREAKFAST & DISCUSSION

This breakfast aims to highlight the integral role of women in the historical and contemporary pursuit of social justice through the NAACP. Business Law expert and social justice advocate Dr. Dawn Bennett Alexander will give the morning talk.

PRESIDING:

Dr. Meca Williams-Johnson, WIN Chair
Georgia NAACP
Statesboro, Georgia

SPEAKER:

Dr. Dawn D. Bennett Alexander, Associate Professor
Terry College of Business
University of Georgia
Athens, Georgia

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

GENERAL OFFICE CONVENTION REGISTRATION NAACP BOUTIQUE & EXHIBITS

9:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Holiday Inn
197 E. Broad Street
Athens, GA 30601
Athena I

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND LEGAL REDRESS: OUR LIVES MATTER | THE DEMAND FOR POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY

In the wake of the continued killings of unarmed African Americans by police and the apparent absence of accountability; experts will discuss bold policy solutions aimed at eliminating this threat to domestic tranquility and improve community relations with law enforcement.



74TH GEORGIA NAACP CONVENTION

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS - OCTOBER 6-8, 2016

MODERATOR:

Dr. Saba Jallow, Director
Center for Africana Studies
Georgia Southern University
Statesboro, Georgia

PANELISTS:

Gerald Griggs, Co-Chair
State Criminal Justice Committee
Atlanta Branch NAACP
Atlanta, Georgia

Kurt Erskin, First Assistant United States Attorney
Northern District of Georgia
Atlanta, Georgia

10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

EDUCATION: OUR VOTES COUNT | THE CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTION ON OSD

A conversation on Education assessing the pro's and con's of Georgia's proposed Opportunity School District in quest to secure high-quality public education for all of Georgia's children.

MODERATOR:

Jemellah Coes, Co-Chair
State Education Committee
2014 Georgia Teacher of the Year
Athens, Georgia

PANELISTS:

Verdaillia Turner, President
Georgia

Sid Chapman, President
Georgia Association of Educators

Broderick Flanigan, Memeber
Advisory Council for Clarke County Schools
Athens, Georgia

Annette Edwards, Board Member
Henry County Board of Educators
Henry County NAACP
Stockbridge, Georgia



74TH GEORGIA NAACP CONVENTION

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS - OCTOBER 6-8, 2016

NOON – 1:45 PM

Holiday Inn
197 E. Broad Street
Athens, GA 30601
Georgian Ballroom

80TH ANNIVERSARY YOUTH & COLLEGE LUNCHEON

The NAACP Youth and College Division is marking its 80th anniversary. Its membership of people 21 years old and younger has grown to about 70,000 in some 700 youth councils and high school and college units across the country. Delegates will celebrate the occasion and hear updates on the Georgia NAACP's legislative agenda. Social Justice Activist Alethea Bonello will give Luncheon Special Address.

PRESIDING:

Kaj Gumbs, Political Action Chair
Georgia Youth and College Division
Morehouse College
Atlanta, Georgia

SPECIAL TRIBUTE IN DANCE:

New Dawn Dance Ministry
Brooks County Branch
Quitman, Georgia

SPEAKER:

Alethea Bonello, Social Justice Activist
Atlanta, Georgia

2:00 PM - 2:50 PM

The Classic Center
300 N. Thomas Street
Athens, GA 30601
Pantheon I

LEGAL REDRESS: OUR VOTES COUNT

A review of the NAACP's Voter Protection Plan conducted by Anson Asaka, Deputy General Counsel, NAACP.

PRESIDING:

Renata Newbill-Jallow, Legal Redress Committee Chair
Georgia NAACP
Statesboro, Georgia

PRESENTER:

Anson Asaka, Esq.
NAACP Associate General Counsel
Baltimore, Maryland



74TH GEORGIA NAACP CONVENTION

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS - OCTOBER 6-8, 2016

3:00 PM - 3:50 PM

The Classic Center
300 N. Thomas Street
Athens, GA 30601
Pantheon I

ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY: OUR DOLLARS MATTER

According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, blatant acts of housing discrimination faced by people of color continue to decline, yet more subtle forms of housing denial stubbornly persist. Learn about strategies from private and government sector to close the gap.

PRESIDING:

Alvie Coes, Member
State Economic Sustainability Committee
Statesboro, Georgia

PRESENTERS:

Martha Jackson & Teresa Hardy
DeKalb County Branch
Decatur, Georgia

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

The Classic Center
300 N. Thomas Street
Athens, GA 30601
Pantheon I

FINAL PLENARY SESSION

PRESIDING:

Dr. Francys Johnson, President
Georgia NAACP
Statesboro, Georgia

RECORDING:

Tonza S. Thomas, Secretary
Georgia NAACP
President, Columbus Branch, NAACP
Columbus, Georgia

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

The Classic Center
300 N. Thomas Street
Athens, GA 30601
Pantheon I & II

74th ANNUAL FREEDOM FUND GALA

The Georgia NAACP will close the Convention with a Gala featuring live music honoring Georgia's rich contribution to soul, blues and jazz and awards at the Classic Center. U.S. Congressman Hank Johnson will deliver the Gala Keynote Address.

SPEAKER:

Honorable Hank Johnson, (D) GA
US House of Representatives
Atlanta, Georgia



HISTORY OF THE GEORGIA NAACP

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) has had an unbroken presence in Georgia since 1917. The Georgia NAACP maintains a network of branches throughout Georgia, from cities to small rural counties. The Georgia NAACP has been the most effective and consistent advocates for African American civil rights in Georgia. Since the late 1950s Atlanta has hosted the Southeast Regional headquarters of NAACP. Youth branches of the NAACP in Georgia have nurtured many future leaders of various major civil rights organizations, and the state has provided many native sons and daughters to the national leadership over the NAACP's long history.



Early Years

In February 1909 future NAACP organizers issued “The Call,” a statement protesting lawlessness against Negroes, and began forming the Committee on the Negro. By 1910 the organization had adopted the name National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and had begun publication of a monthly journal, *The Crisis*, under editor W. E. B. Du Bois. Extensive organization in the North and Midwest and development of antilynching legislation characterized the NAACP's first seven years. Its organizers shifted focus to the South when they began to see the difficulty of accomplishing legislative goals without southern politicians' support. The leadership of Jacksonville, Florida, native James Weldon Johnson as executive secretary brought attention to the importance of serving the largest part of the African American population, which resided in the South.

Beginning in January 1917 and up until June 1920, branches were organized in communities around Georgia, including Albany, Americus, Athens, Atlanta, Augusta, Brunswick, Columbus, Cordele, Dublin, Macon, Milledgeville, Rome, Savannah, Thomasville, Valdosta, and Waycross. Many of the earliest branch

members came from the professional class of physicians, dentists, businessmen, teachers, and ministers. Established black newspapers in Atlanta, Rome, and Savannah carried NAACP news releases, and these cities hosted successful early locals that focused primarily on educational improvements.

In most black schools in Georgia's cities and towns, teachers were expected to teach twice the number of students per day as those in the white schools. In two separate shifts, one in the morning and early afternoon and one from afternoon into the evening, these overworked and underpaid black educators taught shortened lessons to two sets of large classes. Efforts for elimination of these “double sessions” and the addition of seventh grade and above in African American schools provided an early focus for branches in Georgia's cities.

The War Years

During World War I (1917-18), when many men and women left their communities for military service, shortages of laborers and domestic workers occurred. Black men and women who were self-employed or homemakers were under extreme pressure to work for whites. Many southern communities passed local laws that required all black people to work outside of their own households. Black communities organized to protest these “work or fight laws,” and their efforts often led to the formation of NAACP branches. Destitute farmers and other rural laborers found it difficult to form branches of the association because of the requirement that fifty people pay one dollar each to receive a charter. Threats of violence against local activists also made organization in rural counties almost impossible at this early stage.



HISTORY OF THE GEORGIA NAACP



In the immediate post–World War I years, Atlanta served as a refuge for black Georgians who fled from oppressive violence and peonage in rural parts of the state, and the NAACP branch in the capital often provided refugees legal and financial assistance. But after the national NAACP held its 1920 annual conference in Atlanta, the publicity it received triggered a backlash that hurt the Atlanta branch and virtually paralyzed most branches throughout the state for the next two decades. Only five branches—at Fort Valley, Griffin, Hawkinsville, Monroe, and Newnan—formed during the 1920s.

The NAACP’s official organ, *The Crisis*, dubbed Georgia the “Empire State of Lynching” because of the state’s horrifying record of racial vigilantism. Walter White of Atlanta became a field secretary for the national office immediately after helping to organize the Atlanta branch in 1917, and in 1930 he became executive secretary of the national NAACP in New York. His work to solve the lynching problem through legal means and his ties to the Atlanta community helped the NAACP to

remain steadfast in Georgia during the 1930s and 1940s, when it lost many branches in the southern states because of suppression by law and intimidation by force. A. T. Walden, Georgia’s most prominent black lawyer and later the cofounder of the Atlanta Negro Voters League, served as president of Atlanta’s NAACP branch from 1924 to 1936. Branches in Augusta, Savannah, and other cities in Georgia survived with varying degrees of success until the next growth period of the organization after World War II (1941-45).

1945 to 2000s

NAACP Georgia branch numbers swelled to fifty-five in the year immediately after World War II. The demise of the white-only primary in Georgia (*King v. Chapman et al.*, 1945) gave impetus to statewide voter-registration campaigns. Many whites reacted with violence and hostility to black registration and voting. This volatile political climate prevented rapid progress on voting rights and over time caused the number of NAACP branches to shrink to less than twenty in the early 1950s. State and local leadership under Governor Herman Talmadge was extremely hostile toward the organization, and violence and economic reprisals against NAACP members were common.

The dominant Georgia branches in the 1950s were in Savannah and Atlanta. The Reverend Ralph Mark Gilbert was president of the Savannah branch during this period and became the first leader of the Georgia State Conference of NAACP Branches. He inspired a new form of protest, in Savannah and elsewhere in the state, that departed from the strictly legalistic approach espoused by the national board. After the 1954 U.S. Supreme Court *Brown v. Board of Education* decision, which declared the concept of separate but equal schools unconstitutional, new rounds of civil rights activity began. In 1955 W. W. Law of Savannah became the leader of the state organization and was reelected for eight terms. In 1961 the NAACP’s Southeast regional director, Ruby Hurley, hired as Georgia field director the Atlanta native Vernon Jordan, who later became executive director of the National Urban League. Another notable leader was Earl T. Shinhoster, who served as director of the southeast region office in Atlanta for seventeen years.

In the 1960s hostility from white Georgia politicians against the NAACP hindered the organization’s growth. Other civil rights organizations came to play a new and complementary role in the African American freedom



HISTORY OF THE GEORGIA NAACP

struggle. The direct action protest of other civil rights groups in the 1960s afforded many youth members and admirers of the NAACP opportunities for leadership and activism.

An influential group that formed its headquarters in Atlanta was the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). Activist Ella Baker called together black southern ministers in 1957 to organize an umbrella group to coordinate the efforts of existing local organizations in urban areas of the South. SCLC's charismatic leaders, the most famous of whom was Martin Luther King Jr., helped motivate the masses of black people to participate in marches, boycotts, and other direct protests at the local and even state and national levels. The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) was a southern organization committed to a nonviolent but direct approach to protesting discrimination. They targeted the most strife-torn areas of the South and lived in communities, helping to educate black people about their rights and to cultivate indigenous leadership. One of the areas in which SNCC worked diligently to protest discrimination was in southwest Georgia around Albany.

CORE, or the Congress of Racial Equality, formed in Chicago in 1942 as an interracial organization focused on social justice. Its methods were strictly nonviolent, and its leadership style was democratic. In the 1960s it sponsored numerous projects in the South to test discriminatory laws that clearly represented conflicts between federal and state statutes, such as the segregation of interstate buses and bus stations.

All of these groups increased pressure on local, state, and federal government to recognize racial equality. The pro-NAACP lawyers in Georgia, including Atlantan Donald Hollowell, remained very involved in the legal aspects of promoting anti-discrimination laws, while branch members throughout the state stayed directly engaged in protest and organization. The passage of the Civil Rights Act (1964) and Voting Rights Act (1965) eliminated legal discrimination in the public sphere.

Many black Georgians joined the NAACP in the years after Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination in 1968. Robert Flanagan of Atlanta, the state's field director in those years, reported a new sense of fearlessness and activism, especially in the smaller towns around the state. Promotion of black voter registration, despite continued intimidation by county registrars in the state, became the focus of NAACP activity. Flanagan went on to become the president of the state conference of branches and to oversee the gradual growth of the organization and the number of black voters registered in the 1970s. The number of black elected officials in Georgia has increased steadily since that period.

The NAACP Today

More recently the NAACP has focused on discrimination in the private sector, especially where it hinders economic opportunities for minorities. The NAACP branches follow and support the strategic initiatives established by the national board through membership dues and participation in activities at the state and local level. Many of these initiatives are handled by the NAACP legal department, which seeks to press cases, especially class actions, that have broad significance in mitigating discrimination in private businesses and corporations. Voter registration continues to be an important emphasis for the NAACP at the local, state, and national levels. In addition, each local branch provides a contact point for complaints of racial discrimination at the local level, which can then be investigated by the field and branch services of the national organization if necessary.



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GEORGIA NAACP ALLIED PARTNERS



SPLC
Southern Poverty
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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH



REV. DR. FRANCYS JOHNSON

State President, Georgia NAACP

Combining a passion for helping people through law, education, and faith; Francys Johnson is called to serve this present age. He is the State President of the Georgia NAACP having been elected in October 2013 as the youngest person to hold that office.

As a committed servant-leader, Johnson has served in ordained ministry for eighteen years. He is the Senior Minister at the Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist Church in Pembroke, Georgia and the Magnolia Missionary Baptist Church in Statesboro, Georgia.

Johnson is in private practice with The Johnson Firm P.C. Attorneys and Counselors of Law in Statesboro, Georgia. He practices criminal and civil law in all State and Federal Courts in Georgia.

Johnson is a Diamond Life Member and has worked for the NAACP in a variety of capacities including State Legal Redress Director; State Executive Director; and Southeast Regional Director. As Southeast Regional Director, Johnson was the chief manager of the NAACP's public policy agenda and administrative activities in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. Today, he is a recognized thought-leader having testified before Congress; lecturing across the country and writing on the concepts of race, measuring equity, and understandings of power in public policy.

As a result of his work with the NAACP, Johnson went to work for America's premier health advocacy organizations, the American Heart Association and the American Stroke Association as the Vice President of Cultural Health Initiatives. There Johnson developed effective strategies to overcome the social injustices of racial, ethnic and gender health disparities and strengthen diversity within its operations.

A graduate of Georgia Southern University and The University of Georgia, Johnson has served on the Political Science and Criminal Justice faculties at Georgia Southern University and Savannah State University teaching courses on Race and the Law; Constitutional Law; and the Civil Rights Movement. He is married to Dr. Meca Renee Williams, an educational psychologist and tenured professor at Georgia Southern University. They have three sons, Thurgood Marshall Joshua; Langston Hughes Elijah and the late Frederick Douglass Caleb.



BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH



REV. LEE MAY

Interim Chief Executive Officer of DeKalb County
Atlanta, Georgia

Lee May was appointed Interim Chief Executive Officer of DeKalb County by Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal on July 17, 2013 to administer the county's \$1.2 billion annual budget. As the youngest person to sit in the highest executive seat of the third largest and most populous county in the State of Georgia, May has promoted progress and movement through collaboration with the local school district, responsive public safety, community beautification initiatives, empowerment of youth and children, engaged economic development and business growth,

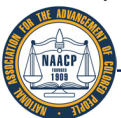
and enhanced government efficiency.

Immediately prior to his executive appointment, May served as the Presiding Officer of the Board of Commissioners, Chairman of the Budget & Finance Committee, and a member on the Public Safety and General Safety Committee. Voters first chose May in July 2006 in a special election to fill the seat vacated by (then Commissioner) Congressman Hank Johnson. He has since been re-elected twice by an overwhelming majority.

May serves on various national and local associations, including National Association of Counties (NACo) Chair of the Next Generation, Vice Chair of the Community and Economic Development Steering Committee, and member of the Large Urban County Caucus (LUCC). He is also a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

As both an elected official and a member of the clergy, May has superbly built a bridge between faith and politics in his latest work, "My God, My Politics: A Discussion on Faith and Politics." In this book, May uses his personal experiences in both worlds to bring clarity for the layperson, telling them that their faith, in fact, can and should inform their politics. May tells us that, "People of faith have every right to inject their faith into the political discourse of this nation."

May, the son of a pastor, is a graduate from Emory University's Candler School of Theology holding a Masters of Divinity Degree, and a Bachelor of Science degree from the historic Clark Atlanta University. He is married to his college sweetheart, Robin, and is a proud father of two beautiful daughters: Ryann Kimberly and Reagan Leanne.



BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH



REV. DR. R. L. WHITE

Senior Minister, Mt. Ephraim Baptist Church
Atlanta, Georgia

Dr. R. L. White, Jr. is one who adheres to the voice of the Lord; and because of this, he is the successful Pastor and Founder of the Mount Ephraim Baptist Church. The word “Ephraim” means doubly fruitful and truly Mount Ephraim has been doubly blessed through the administration and leadership of Dr. White. He is an anointed, spirit-filled servant for the Lord who relentlessly works to spread God’s word across the country and abroad.

Pastor White strongly believes that one can never learn enough. He graduated (with honors) in May of 1996 from the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC), earning a Doctorate of Ministry Degree.

Other academic achievements include: a Master of Divinity Degree from the Morehouse School of Religion at ITC in 1987, an Associate Degree at Atlanta Junior College and a Bachelor of Ministry Degree from Luther Rice Seminary.

Pastor R. L. White is a nationally acclaimed gospel artist who co-produced several musical projects, including, “I Shall Not Be Moved”, - which was among the top 40 albums to make the National Gospel Billboard chart, “Hold On And Don’t Let Go” -which was recorded during Mount Ephraim’s Silver Anniversary celebration. Additional recordings include: Blest Be the Tie (1991), Change Me (2001), Angels Charge Over Me (2003), “Moving to A New Address (2006), It has Been Worth It All (2012), and Power to Overcome (2014). His most recent recording, Jesus, I’ll Never Forget will be released in the Fall of 2016.

Pastor White travels extensively to different states conducting revivals and religious meetings. In August of 1992, the city officials of Macon, Georgia set aside a special day in honor of Dr. White and declared a “Rev. R. L. White Day”. He was honored with a key to the city of Macon along with many other prestigious awards and honors. He continues to be humble as he allows the Lord to use him in the up building of His kingdom.

Dr. White is married to Mrs. Lorraine Jacques White. Together, they have traveled throughout the United States as well as Egypt, France, England, Germany, Canada, The Holy Land, South America, The Virgin Island, Ghana, West Africa, The Bahamas, Aviano, Italy and Shape, Belgium. The ministry continues to grow as Dr. White reaches out to the world via the media, on radio and on television. Mount Ephraim established a school in Ghana, West Africa in 2004. There is also a church and hospital under construction.



BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH



HONORABLE FRANK MCCLARY

Mayor, Andrews, South Carolina

Mayor Frank McClary, a retired United States Army Colonel, is a native of Andrews, South Carolina. He is a 1986 graduate of Benedict College where he earned a bachelor of science degree in criminal justice and distinguished military honors from the Benedict Army ROTC program. Upon graduation from Benedict College, Mayor McClary led a distinguished military career in the United States Army and retired after 29 years of honorable service to our country. His illustrious military career consisted of multiple assignments to foreign countries (Kosovo, Korea, Kuwait, Iraq, England) and throughout the United States, to include two tours in the Pentagon, Washington, DC. He planned, served, and led

combat operations with more than 20 foreign countries throughout his career. His most memorable moments in the military are training and transitioning civilians to become career soldiers, leading soldiers in combat, and most important, returning soldiers home to their loved ones.

Mayor McClary's military education includes the Infantry Officer's Basic and Advance Courses, Command and General Staff College, and Army's Senior Service College where he earned a Master's Degree in Strategic Studies.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit (3rd award), Bronze Star with Valor, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (4th award), Joint Service Accommodation Medal, Army Accommodation Medal (4th award), the Army Achievement Medal (4th Award). The Combat Infantryman's Badge (2nd award), Expert Infantryman's Badge, Parachutist Badge, Department of Defense Staff Badge, and the Department of the Army Staff Badge.

Mayor McClary officially retired from the Army on August 1, 2015, immediately began his campaign, and was elected Mayor of Andrews, SC on November 3, 2015. His commitment to serve extends from his birthplace to foreign land and back to Andrews, SC. This is evident in his tireless efforts to have a positive impact on lives in and outside the boundaries of Andrews's community. He currently serves a mentor at Rosemary Middle School, as a member on Helping Hands advisory board, a board member of the Welding Associates, and finally, he's a proud member Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Mayor McClary is married to Danisha McClary, an attorney and a retired military officer. He and his family reside in Andrews, South Carolina, where they continue a life of service to their community.



BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH



HON. MICHAEL THURMOND

Attorney and Noted Historian
Athens, Georgia

Michael L. Thurmond is an attorney at Butler Wooten Cheeley & Peak LLP, a nationally known civil trial practice that has four times set the record civil jury verdict in the State of Georgia and also obtained for its client the largest collected judgment in U.S. history. He has distinguished himself as an attorney, author, lecturer and public servant. Thurmond served as the interim superintendent of the DeKalb County School District, the third largest district in the state of Georgia from 2013-2015. The district serves nearly 99,000 students with over 13,400 employees. Thurmond was the Democratic Party's nominee for

United States Senate in 2010.

Thurmond was raised as a sharecropper's son in Clarke County, Georgia. He graduated Cum Laude with a B.A. in Philosophy and Religion from Paine College and later earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of South Carolina School of Law. He also completed the Political Executives program at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

In 1986, he became the first African-American elected to the Georgia General Assembly from Clarke County since Reconstruction. During his legislative tenure, Thurmond authored major legislation that has provided more than \$250 million in tax relief to Georgia's senior citizens and working families.

Following his legislative service, Thurmond was called upon to lead the state Division of Family and Children's Services and direct Georgia's historic transition from welfare to work. He created the innovative Work First program, which helped over 90,000 welfare-dependent Georgia families move from dependence into the workforce.

In 1997, Thurmond became a distinguished lecturer at the University of Georgia's Carl Vinson Institute of Government. The following year in November, he was elected Georgia Labor Commissioner, becoming the first non-incumbent African American to be elected to statewide office in Georgia.

During his three terms as commissioner, the Georgia Labor Department underwent a major transformation in customer service and efficiency. His Georgia Works program has earned national praise and bi-partisan support. President Barack Obama based part of the American Jobs Act after the Georgia Works model. However, Thurmond's most gratifying accomplishment as a public official was the construction of a \$20 million school for young people with disabilities at the historic Roosevelt Institute in Warm Springs, Georgia.



BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH



DR. DAWN D. BENNETT ALEXANDER

Associate Professor of Legal Studies
University of Georgia's Terry College of Business
Athens, Georgia

Dawn D. Bennett-Alexander, tenured associate professor of Legal Studies at the University of Georgia's Terry College of Business, and founder of Practical Diversity, a diversity consulting business, is a cum laude graduate of the Howard University School of Law and a magna cum laude graduate of the Federal City College (now the University of the District of Columbia), both in Washington, DC. She is licensed to practice law in DC and six federal jurisdictions.

Prior to coming to UGA in January of 1988, Dr. Bennett-Alexander taught Business and Employment Law for five and one-half years at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville, Florida. Before teaching, she worked in legal capacities in Washington, DC at the Federal Labor Relations Authority litigating federal sector labor law cases; the White House Domestic Council, serving as assistant to the Associate Director and General Counsel of the Council; the D.C. Court of Appeals, the highest court in DC, as law clerk to the Honorable Julia Cooper Mack; and at the Federal Trade Commission's Antitrust Division, the U.S. Department of Justice, and the Antioch School of Law. Bennett-Alexander served as a special master (labor arbitrator) for the Florida Public Employees Relations Commission from 1985-1991.

Dr. Bennett-Alexander publishes extensively in the Employment Law area with particular emphasis on gender and race issues. Her articles have appeared in sources such as the American Business Law Journal, The Labor Law Journal, the Women's Rights Law Reporter, Wisconsin Women's Law Review, the Personnel Administrator, and others. In July 1994 she published for Irwin Publishing Co. a first-of-its-kind Employment Law textbook, Employment Law for Business, that established the discipline in colleges of business. It is now in its ninth edition and remains the leading text of its kind in the country. In addition, she also co-authored The Legal, Ethical and Regulatory Environment of Business in a Diverse Society published by McGraw-Hill Publishing Company in 2011, and The Legal, Ethical and Regulatory Environment of Business published in 1995 by South-Western Publishing Company.

Dr. Bennett-Alexander has conducted diversity and Employment Law seminars for the public and private sector since 1985, has been featured in radio programs across the country, and quoted in the national media including The Wall Street Journal, USA Today, Fortune magazine, Georgia Trend, the Houston Chronicle, the Atlanta Journal and Constitution and many other newspapers. After conducting numerous seminars and presentations on multiculturalism and gender issues, she co-founded BJD Consulting in early 1993, specializing in awareness, sensitivity and training in issues of diversity, particularly race, gender, sexual harassment and affinity orientation. In 1998, Dr. Bennett-Alexander formed Practical Diversity consulting firm, to specialize in taking workplace diversity from theory to practice.

She dedicates much of her work to her Ancestors, 3 daughters and her 2 grandchildren.



BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH



ALETHEA BONELLO

Social Justice Activist
Atlanta, Georgia

Bonello graduated Stetson University in social science and earned her graduate degree in public administration from Georgia State University in 2006. She was a member of the 2008 inaugural class of Leadership Stetson.

In 1998, Bonello joined the NAACP national staff following her graduation from Stetson and has served in many leadership positions

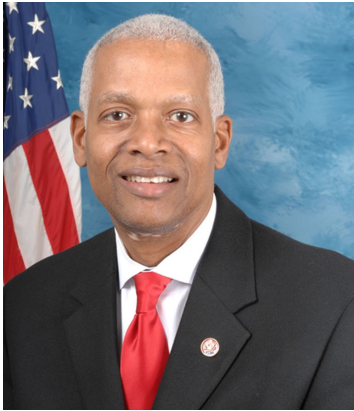
in the Southeast Region.

She is the recipient of many awards, including the Juanita Jackson Mitchell Award, Gloster B. Current Award, first place in Poetry at the National ACT-SO competition, and the Young Women in NAACP Award. She was bestowed with the Torch of Peace Award from Georgia State University in 2006 and was named one of 10 Outstanding Young People of Atlanta in 2006. In 2012, she received a commendation from the Georgia General Assembly for her work in civil rights.

Currently as the Southeast Region field director of NAACP, Bonello is implementing multi-faceted advocacy campaigns on key issues, training and mobilizing units, members and stakeholders to advance the association's strategic goals and objectives for the seven-state region, while also pursuing her doctoral degree at Oxford Graduate School, in social research and the integration of religion and society.



BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH



HON. HANK JOHNSON (D-GA)

US House of Representatives
Atlanta, Georgia

Now completing his fifth term in the U.S. House of Representatives from Georgia's Fourth Congressional District – which encompasses parts of DeKalb, Gwinnett and Newton counties and all of Rockdale County – Congressman Hank Johnson has distinguished himself as a substantive, effective lawmaker and a leading national progressive voice.

Named one of the most effective Democrats in Congress by a University of Virginia and University of Vanderbilt study, Rep. Johnson has proven his ability to get things done.

From his seat on the House Judiciary Committee and as ranking member of the subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law, Rep. Johnson has introduced, co-sponsored and passed legislation to level the playing field for everyday Americans. His bills that protect consumers and citizens' civil liberties include the Arbitration Fairness Act (AFA) and the Stop Militarizing Law Enforcement Act.

As a champion for digital inclusion and an open Internet, Rep. Johnson has pushed to empower low-income and minority communities through digital rights, broadband access, and equality of opportunity online.

A member of the House Armed Services Committee, Rep. Johnson became a leading national voice for the demilitarization of local law enforcement agencies in 2014 after police donned camouflage tactical gear and climbed aboard heavily armored vehicles to confront peaceful protestors in the streets of Ferguson, Missouri, in the aftermath of the shooting death of an unarmed teenager. To help restore trust between law enforcement and the communities they serve, he filed the Police Accountability Act and the Grand Jury Reform Act in the wake of police shooting deaths of unarmed black men across the country.

In 2010, Rep. Johnson was a member of the prosecution team in the impeachment trial of New Orleans U.S. District Judge G. Thomas Porteous Jr., resulting in the first impeachment and conviction of a federal judge in more than two decades. In 2016, Rep. Johnson earned an honorary doctorate from his beloved alma mater Clark Atlanta University.

Prior to taking his seat in Congress in 2006, Rep. Johnson practiced criminal defense law in Georgia for twenty-seven (27) years. He served twelve (12) years as a magistrate judge, and five (5) years as a county commissioner.

Rep. Johnson is married to DeKalb County Commissioner Mereda Davis Johnson and has two adult children.



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**“Our Lives Matter
and Our Votes Count”.**



**Congratulations to
Rev. Dr. Francys Johnson,
and the 74th Annual Georgia
NAACP State Convention
& Civil Rights Conference**

**The Athens-Clarke County
Branch NAACP #5180**





We are proud to sponsor the

NAACP STATE CONFERENCE





MISSION

The mission of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination.

VISION STATEMENT

The vision of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is to ensure a society in which all individuals have equal rights without discrimination based on race.

OBJECTIVES

The following statement of objectives is found on the first page of the NAACP Constitution - the principal objectives of the Association shall be:

- To ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of all citizens
- To achieve equality of rights and eliminate race prejudice among the citizens of the United States
- To remove all barriers of racial discrimination through democratic processes
- To seek enactment and enforcement of federal, state, and local laws securing civil rights
- To inform the public of the adverse effects of racial discrimination and to seek its elimination
- To educate persons as to their constitutional rights and to take all lawful action to secure the exercise thereof, and to take any other lawful action in furtherance of these objectives, consistent with the NAACP's Articles of Incorporation and this Constitution.

Founded in 1909, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization. Its half-million adult and youth members throughout the United States and the world are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities, conducting voter mobilization and monitoring equal opportunity in the public and private sectors.

The Georgia NAACP has had an unbroken presence in Georgia since 1917. The Georgia NAACP maintains a network of branches throughout Georgia, from cities to small rural counties. The Georgia NAACP has been the most effective and consistent advocates for civil and human rights in Georgia. Since the late 1950s Atlanta has hosted the Southeast Regional headquarters of NAACP. Youth branches of the NAACP in Georgia have nurtured many future leaders of various major civil rights organizations, and the state has provided many native sons and daughters to the national leadership over the NAACP's long history.