

THE COMMITMENT

Newsletter of the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice



The Criminal Justice Solutions Organization

Volume 2, Issue 1

“COMMITTED TO JUSTICE FOR ALL”

FALL-WINTER 2019-2020

NABCJ

5-E INITIATIVE

ENRICHING

ENHANCING

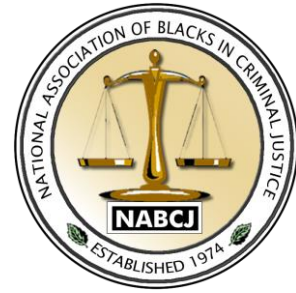
ENCOURAGING

EDUCATING

EMPOWERING

THE COMMITMENT

Newsletter of the
National Association of Blacks in Criminal
Justice (NABCJ)



National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice
NCCU – 106 Whiting Criminal Justice Building
1801 Fayetteville Street
Durham, NC 27707

Mailing Address
Post Office Box 20011-C ▪ Durham, NC 27707

Phone
919.683.1801 ▪ Toll Free: 866.846.2225
Fax: 919.683.1903
E-mail: office@nabcj.org ▪ Website: www.nabcj.org

Hours
Monday – Friday: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm EST

Communications Team
Carolyn Livingston ▪ Brittany Bailey ▪ Alvin Casimere
Dr. Alpha Omega Curry, Ph.D. ▪ Maxine Mathis
Deja Rae Sowell ▪ Cheyvonne Cyrus-Williams

DISCLAIMER

The opinions and views expressed in the articles in this newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official position or policy of the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice.

The Commitment features NABCJ events, services, and activities, Chapter Spotlights, Regional Highlights and Student Council accomplishments. We invite and encourage submission from members of original articles, book reviews, Memoria of NABCJ, NABCJ News, op-ed essays, research, and training. It may also include articles from non-members and/or reprints from other publications on specialized topics.

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**BECOME A MEMBER OF NABCJ
TODAY**

OR

**TEXT: NABCJ
TO: 55469**

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACKS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE
THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SOLUTIONS ORGANIZATION
“COMMITTED TO JUSTICE FOR ALL”**



PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

NABCJ Family

It is hard to believe that another year and a decade have ended. 2019 was filled with many high points and accomplishments reflective of the talent and spirit of NABCJ. NABCJ proudly chartered student chapter, Bowie State University and re-chartered Benedict College. We also chartered the Denton Chapter, a new adult chapter in Denton, Texas. We made history and are in the annals, **historically chartering the first high school NABCJ Chapter in the Nation - Frederick A. Douglass High School Academy of Law and Public Service** through the unyielding efforts of Oklahoma Chapter President Reginald Hines and the entire Oklahoma Chapter.

The “highs” of 2019 also came with some unexpected “lows.” NABCJ unfortunately lost and recognized earlier in the year some great pioneers of our organization. The most recent two losses were both NABCJ pioneers and NABCJ Life Members: Therone Pratter and Dr. J.B. Patterson. They were beloved individuals and their presence, contributions, commitment and service to the organization for over 30 years will be sorely missed.

Further highlights indicative of an empowering 2019 year was the successful **46th Annual Training Conference and Institute** held in Tampa, Florida, July 14th -18th, where we inaugurated and honored seventeen new lifetime members. Further, the student chapters of Langston University and Bethune-Cookman University hosted compelling and essential panel discussions and the NABCJ State Conferences of Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina and Virginia were educational, enlightening, insightful, productive and engaging. Old Dominion University NABCJ Student Chapter, through the magnificent work of Dr. Melvina Sumter and National Alliance of Faith and Justice (NAFJ) President, Addie Richburg participated in the **“Let’s Talk About Our Dream: A 400 Year Journey of Trials, Triumphs, and Trailblazing”** - the writing of a new history national education initiative commissioned through the **400 Years of African-American History Commission**. NABCJ also submitted a proposal to the 400 Year Commission to educate and provide nationally and at the university level, the accomplishments, achievements and contributions of Africans and African Americans over the past 400 years.

Family, **NABCJ 2020** is deemed to be the time to reflect, reset and refresh. Our **47th Annual Conference and Training Institute** will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana, July 16-20, 2020. The conference theme is **“Improving Criminal Justice by Using the Three R’s – Review, Restructure and Reform.”** Learn more at www.nabcj.org/conferences/47. With so many decades of dehumanizing and harmful injustices, it is time to wage the battle to reclaim our essence and embrace and promote our core principles of liberty, equal justice and due process for all. We must participate in the process of creating safer communities and the systemic transformation of living better, healthier, and more productive and prosperous lives.

I am enthusiastic with and proud of the progress NABCJ is making as a national and global organization. It is up to us, you and me, to work collectively and cooperatively to maintain and sustain the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice in this new decade, as a viable, successful national organization founded and rooted in the tradition of pride, integrity, service, professionalism and excellence.

May we continue to work together in 2020 to build paths to justice, economic and educational opportunities in the framework of our **5E Initiative ~ Educate, Enhance, Enrich, Encourage, Empower**. Let us do what we can to make each corner of the world a brighter and better place for all.

Leading by example,

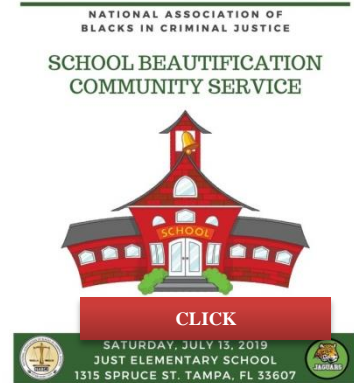
Terri McGee

Terri McGee, National President
National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice

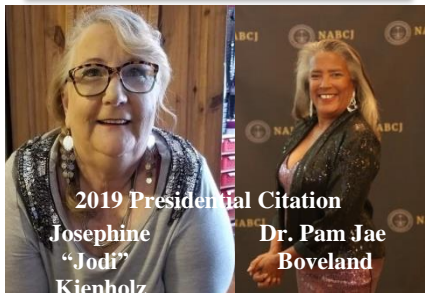




GALLERY HIGHLIGHTS



No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.



2019 Presidential Citation
Josephine "Jodi" Kienholz
Dr. Pam Jae Boveland



NABCI Life Members



2019 Wall of Fame
"Thee" Hickman
Warren N. Cuffee, Jr.

2019 Presidential Awards



Isaac Asberry Aaron Rich



Melba V. Pearson
Deputy Director
ACLU-FL
Opening Session



Theda James
2019 Lifetime
Achievement Award



Thurgood Marshall Scholarship 2019
Nala Wyatt



President's Council Scholarship 2019
Kaitlyn S. Turner



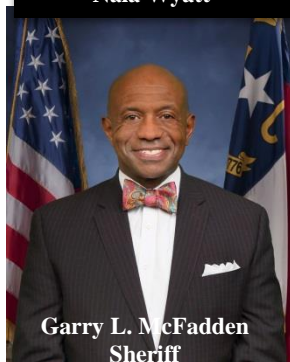
NABCI Executive BOD and Presidential Advisors



NABCI National Board of Directors



Southeast Region Federal Bureau of Prisons



Garry L. McFadden Sheriff





National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice
46th Annual Conference and Training Institute

The National Alliance of Faith and Justice
invites you to join with us along with our worship and conference family on

Sunday, July 14, 2019
Grand Hyatt Tampa *2900 Bayport Dr. * Tampa, Florida 33607
Audubon A

6:00pm Rev. Warren H. Dolphus Gospel Extravaganza
featuring
Central Florida Inside Out Band and Choir

11:00am Interfaith Worship Service
Speaker
Dr. (Pastor) Joseph L. Green
Chair
400 Years of African American History Commission
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

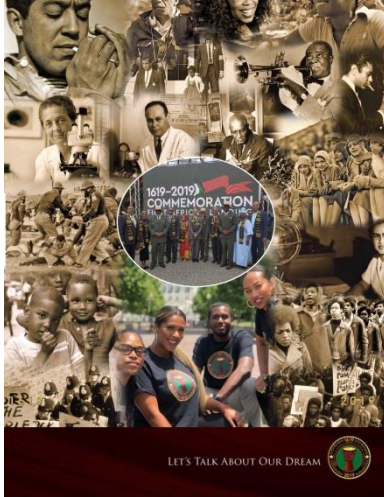
from **KILOSTO THE KINGDOM**

and legacies of
Whitley



Commemorating 400 Years of Perseverance ~ 1619 - 2019

Let's Talk About Our Dream Launch



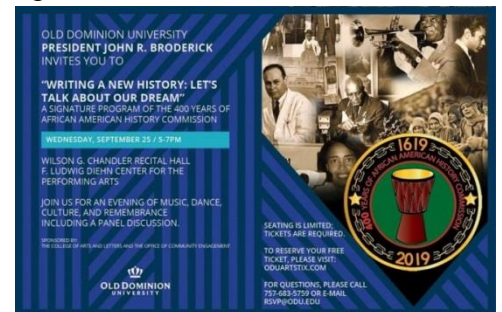
Good afternoon all,

Today marks the 62nd anniversary of the courage of 9 students to enroll and enter Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas. It also marks the launch of the Let's Talk About Our Dream 400 Commemorative Schools series, the Writing A New History national education initiative, as fostered by the 400 Years of African American History Commission in partnership with the National Alliance of Faith and Justice as presented by initial support from the Nick Cannon Foundation.

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/FMfcgxwGCGvqqzWvncFrWKzQchvhDlrL?projector=1&messagePartId=0.1>

The first of our 400 schools launch will be hosted today by Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia. Full details of the initiative and tonight's event are attached. Tonight's event at Old Dominion is presented in partnership with the ODU Chapter of the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice and is the first of 15 proposed university partnerships to be fostered by NABCJ student chapters.

NAFJ affiliates, faith, and community national and local partners are strongly encouraged to use this opportunity to identify and register their partnership schools to be one of 400 schools to be part of the national commemorative network recognized as such by the 400 Years of African American History Commission. The registration portal is now active. Please visit www.400yaahc.com to register your middle, high school or higher education institution. The template providing details of how to host a "Let's Talk About Our Dream" session at your school is fully explained in the attached booklet.



We look forward to your generous participation!!

Addie Richburg
Office of the President
National Alliance of Faith and Justice
Interim Executive Director, 400 Years of AA History Commission
P.O. Box 77075 ♦ Washington, DC 20013
(202) 661-3521 Phone ♦ (202) 478-2575 Fax
www.nafj.org



Bringing The Visions Of Our Youth To Life

Sherrill P. Lee, J.D. - Vice President

NABCJ 20/20 VISION

Visualize It and Achieve It Program

By going into under achieving schools and encouraging students to dream big and visualize their future goals:

- it will give the students an opportunity to set goals
- see those goals written out on paper
- allow for them to plan those goals
- then encourage them to reach those goals, while articulating the pathway to achievement



Critical Steps

First Step after identifying an underachieving school in your chapter's area is to approach a teacher or school administrator about having 3 sessions to conduct the program and have them pick the most appropriate students to participate.



Session One

- Finding photos and putting them on the board
- Looking up their goals and dreams through pictures
- Allowing them to discover their future right before their eyes



Session Two

- Writing their goals and dreams down so they are able to fully visualize them out.
- Discussing and encouraging their peers to strive for success.
- Allowing the youth to understand and see what their future could hold just by visualizing it out and believing that they can achieve it.



Session Three

- Celebrating their achievements and how they have reached specific goals they set out for themselves.



Bringing A Vision To Life





SPECIAL FEATURE

WHY JOIN NABCJ?

Everyone has friends and co-workers that have asked the question: Why be a member of NABCJ?

To attend the NABCJ National Training Conferences may not be the best answer.

It is our hope that we can keep the cost of our State training conferences low so that it will not be a burden for those that want to attend without agency support.

QUESTION: Why become a NABCJ member?

ANSWER: Members of NABCJ . . .

- Are part of an organization that has successful women and men who run and own their own companies, are Directors of Agencies, Deputy Directors, Branch Managers, Wardens, District Supervisors, Juvenile District Managers, Federal Attorneys and Judges, Lawyers, law enforcement officials and elected officials.
- Have direct and indirect access to powerful role models in the field of criminal justice, faith-based programs, evidence-based treatment programs, non-profits, legal services and other community based service agencies.
- Have access to role models that have been through hard times and have made it to the mountain top. (These NABCJ members are willing to share what it takes to be successful).
- Can select mentors that can help them achieve their goals and career objectives.
- Have access to national newsletters.
- Have access to National Training Conferences that provide cutting edge educational workshops.
- Have access to low cost/no cost local training and conferences that benefit them.
- Have access to decision making members that select and hire individual for high level positions.
- Have the ability to be members of local training workshop committees that they may not have with other organizations.
- Can work with decision makers to select the directions of future conference training programs.
- Have access to other likeminded professionals that do make a difference in the criminal justice field.
- Work with community organizations to educate the public.
- Work to positively impact the criminal justice systems treatment of young black males.
- Work to positively impact the availability of criminal justice system treatment programs that prepare offenders for release.
- Work to positively impact the criminal justice system treatment of female offenders as it relates to their children.
- Work to feed the hungry and needy.
- Work to positively impact the sentencing guidelines as it relates to race.
- Work to develop partnerships with businesses, faith based groups and community organizations that improve the criminal justice system outcomes.
- Work to educate our children and parents regarding criminal justice issues.
- Work to positively impact our youth and to provide them scholarships and school supplies.
- Have access to members that will be the decision makers when they are in the disciplinary actions process.
- Have access to networking opportunity at the local and national levels.
- Have access to an opportunity to work and make a difference.



QUESTION: What do you have if you are not a member of NABCJ?

ANSWER: You . . .

- ✓ May only have access to negative individuals and not people who are successful in your chosen career path.
- ✓ May only have mentors that are not able to give you any help or advice on criminal justice issues.
- ✓ Are not as involved as you may want to be in shaping your future.

I hope people will want to join an organization that was formed to provide them a voice and help them to make a difference.

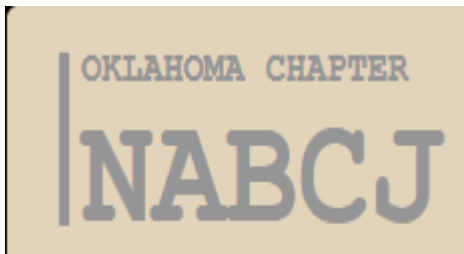
We spend \$50.00 for stuff all the time.

Spend \$50.00 to join NABCJ and make a difference.

Please add to the list above and keep this in case someone asks you this question:
“Why be a member of NABCJ?”

Please **JOIN** the **NABCJ** or **RENEW** your membership **TODAY**.

Leroy “Lester” Young, Membership Committee



NABCJ STUDENT COUNCIL AND CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

BETHUNE COOKMAN UNIVERSITY



I wanted to take a moment and share with you all the work that the NABCJ- BCU student chapter has been doing. My heart is so full right now and I am so proud of these students. Over the last two weeks, we have been hosting a toiletry drive for the homeless population of Daytona Beach. Despite the collection of many items, when NABCJ members noticed we were short in some areas they went out and purchased the necessary items out of their own pockets. This morning, we met bright and early to make sandwiches to complete the food and toiletry bags. In the span of three hours, we gave out more than 70 bags to homeless individuals from Beach side to Ridgewood. Dressed in NABCJ-BCU or Cookman t-shirts, roughly 20 students walked the streets Downtown to car honks, and passer byers shouting Go B-CU. After we handed out our last bags, we cleaned the public streets of trash and debris, collecting over 10 garbage bags. However, my proudest moments was when the NABCJ community service chair, Jamelia Gunter, stopped to hold the hand of an elder woman, praying with her after blessing her with food and hygiene items. This is Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune's legacy.

Please take a few moments to view some of the pictures from today and join me n recognizing the awesome work this group has done. This semester alone, they hosted a When They See Us Panel discussion, a Domestic Violence Awareness/Self-Defense demonstration with Daytona Beach Police Department, held a stress release Halloween game night, had two fundraisers, assisted Orange County government with a community forum, and held a membership drive that resulted in 46 new inductees. This is why I am at Bethune-Cookman.



Kideste M. Yusef, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice
Department Chair, Justice & Society Studies
Bethune Cookman University

The Bethune-Cookman University student chapter of NABCJ hosted a panel discussion entitled "When They See Us" based on the story of the five young boys who were erroneously charged and served time for the rape and assault of Trisha Meili, a Central Park jogger in 1989. The story of Kevin Richardson, Raymond Santana, Yusef Salaam, Korey Wise, and Antron McCray was recently turned into a documentary directed by Ava DuVernay and aired on Netflix. Their journey forces us to grapple with the ways in which race, class, politics, and the media impact the administration of justice in America. The featured panelists included Dr. Randy Nelson, the Director of the Master's of Science in Criminal Justice Administration program; Dr. Kideste Yusef, the Department Chair of Justice and Political Studies and the Faculty Advisor for B-CU NABCJ; Captain Bryon Williams of the Daytona Beach Police Department; and Kenuantae Storey, Vice President of Student Government Association who served as the student representative.



Several outcomes of the event were student exposure to diverse perspectives on important social issues of our time; student engagement in open, honest dialogue about the impact race and class within the criminal justice system, and student exposed to the diverse mental health needs of prisoners while in the system and after release.

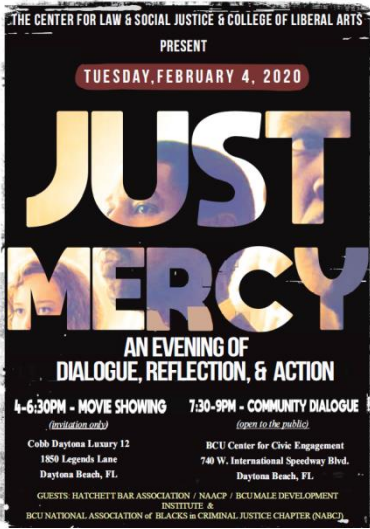


Students attending the event had this to say:

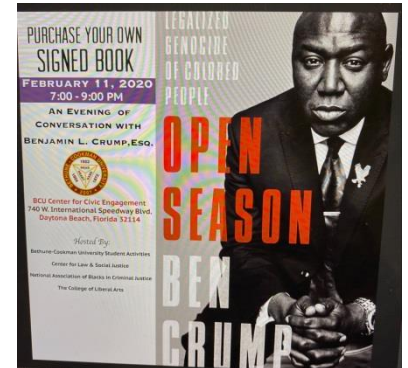
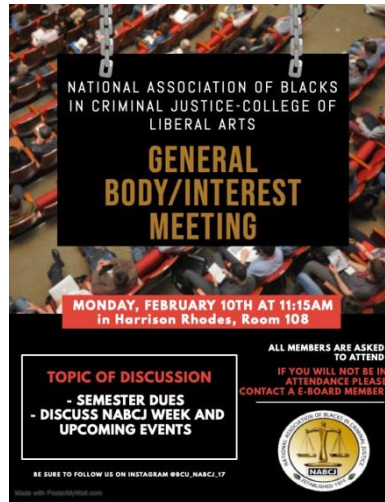
Bailey Williams, Sophomore, Criminal Justice major, Public Relations Chair of B-CU NABCJ: ***"The event was an event that needed to be done. It was about discussing the injustices in the Criminal Justice system. As a Historically Black College and University it is important for us to be exposed to these type of injustices as a way to push ourselves harder to graduate and change the image of African-Americans"***

Kiefer Jefferson-Grimes, Senior, Criminal Justice major, President of B-CU NABCJ: ***"I was impressed by the engaging debates between students and the panel, which made me hopeful for our generation."***





We just wanted to share a few pictures from our recent fundraiser, Just Mercy Film Screening and Panel, and an Open Session on Legalized Genocide of Colored People with Attorney Benjamin L. Crump, ESQ. We are busy at work with the details of our upcoming NABCJ week during Black History Month and a General Body/ Interest Meeting.



In solidarity,
 Kideste M. Yusef, Ph.D.
 Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice
 Department Chair, Justice & Society Studies
 Bethune Cookman University
 Daytona Beach, FL 32114
 (386) 481-2945

For more views: https://www.facebook.com/aaron.rich.7330/posts/1802590083217705?_tn=-R

AARON RICH SOUTHEAST REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE SPEAKS

Today, December 5, 2019, I had the privilege and honor to attend with National President [Terri McGee](#) Bethune Cookman University's induction ceremony for its newest members of the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice. My experience today with these young men and women made me a better person and I am officially an honorary Wildcat. 🐾 Photo credit [Najah Naj](#).



Langston University Oklahoma Student Chapter Program

A Positive News Event

NABCJ Oklahoma Chapter President estimated that over 200 people attended including Citizens, College Students from across the state, State Representative, a former Senator and Private Prisons.

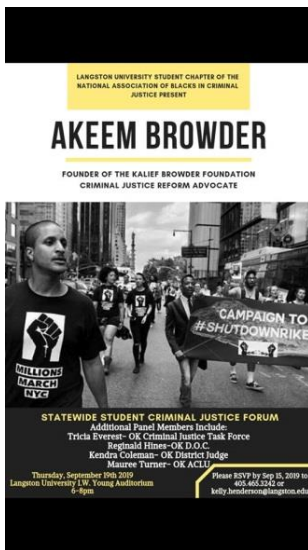
Here is the channel 6 broadcast about our student event...so proud of them.

<https://youtu.be/ZBRFJYW-ZJW>

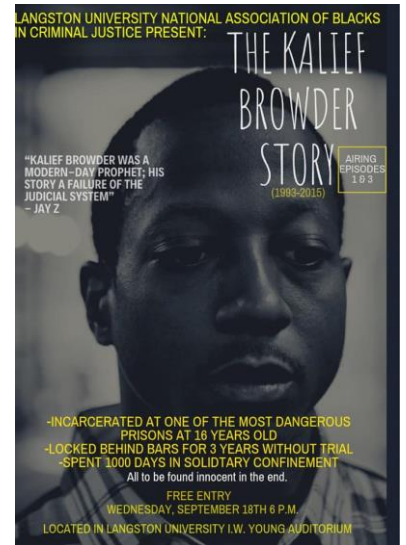
THIS VIDEO IS NOT AVAILABLE? PLEASE CHECK FOR CORRECT LINK

Enjoy.

Kelly Henderson



Random fact: LANGSTON UNIVERSITY has the largest NABCJ chapter (National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice) of any college/university in America. They were also the first college/university in America to have a chapter.



FOLLOW US on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100030037609989>

OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY

See the articles below, capturing ODU-NABCJ members, participation in the “*Let’s Talk About Our Dream,*” program on September 25th, 2019.



TO: Bry, Frank & Mrs. Farmer

JOB WELL DONE!

Across Campus - A Photo Essay

Old Dominion University hosted a 400 Years of African American History Commission event on Sept. 25. "Writing A New History: Let's Talk About Our Dream" was the commission's first of 400 planned stops at public/private educational facilities across the country. ODU is designated as an institutional ambassador of African American history by the commission.



Photo Chuck Thomas/ODU

[Full Story](#)

The link below scrolls across all pictures in which ODU member, Davona Johnson is a dancer with the African Student Association.

<https://www.odu.edu/about/odu-publications/insideodu/2019/10/03/feature2>

More Views at: <https://www.facebook.com/melvina.sumter.5/posts/1274595446038819>

"Writing A New History: Let's Talk About Our Dream"

By Joe Garvey

At Old Dominion University's inaugural event commemorating the first African landing in Virginia on Wednesday, sophomore Bry Johnson related the story Colin Kaepernick, who sacrificed his NFL career in pursuit of racial and social justice.



"Now he's a social justice advocate," she said. "He has the Courageous Advocate Award from the ACLU. He is constantly appearing on the TV, magazines and even has millions of dollars in endorsements from Nike right now, even though he's not an NFL football player. Their slogan as of today is 'You have to believe in something even if that means sacrificing everything you have.'"

The theme of the evening was "Writing A New History: Let's Talk About Our Dream." ODU is the first institution of higher education in the nation to host a "Writing A New History" event.

"As reflected in recent essays in the New York Times, the enslavement of African Americans has touched nearly every aspect of contemporary life in the United States and remains the most painful and searing episode in our nation's history," ODU President John R. Broderick said. "However, in spite of suffering and injustices, with resolute spirit, strong will, determination and resiliency, the first Africans and their descendants have continually fought for human dignity, equality and social justice. As a result, they have made significant - if often unacknowledged - contributions to establish what the United States is today."

Johnson, along with fellow student, for more information
https://www.odu.edu/news/2019/9/400th_anniversary_e#.XZnpkPZFyUm

Inside ODU - <https://www.odu.edu/about/odu-publications/insideodu>



Melvina Sumter, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice
Director - Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity
African American and African Studies Major and Minor



NABCJ CHAPTERS IN THE NEWS

MIDWEST REGION

32ND Annual NABCJ Ohio Chapter Conference

The 32nd Annual Ohio Chapter Conference was held October 20-22, 2019 at the Holiday Inn in Fairborn, Ohio. Chapter Conference Co-Chairs were Carmen Nelson and Shelbie Smith from the Dayton Affiliate. There were 249 persons in attendance participating in 19 workshops over the three-day event.

The Ohio Chapter was delighted to welcome National President Terri McGee from the Great State of Texas and other national board members to include Vice-President Sherman Lea, Secretary Vernise Robinson, Mid-West Representative Angelica Brewer and Immediate Past President Carlyle Holder. Ohio rolled out the scarlet and grey and welcomed our wonderful leaders to the Buckeye State.

The conference kicked-off on Sunday evening with an Ohio Chapter Meeting. The President's Reception that followed was a festive event with food, music, fellowship, games and a painting and party event. There were over 100 people in attendance to honor outgoing President Marva Allen.



Opening Session on Monday morning proved to be powerful and enlightening with our dynamic Keynote Speaker Adrian Jones, a former gang member who has dedicated his life to saving young men and women from walking in his footsteps. Other speakers included the Mayor of Fairborn Paul Keller, Department of Youth Services (DYS) Director Ryan Gies, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction Director and NABCJ Life Member Annette Chambers-Smith.

The Justice Forum panelists to include Clifton Duckson, Coach Powell, Katrina Ransom and Dr. Anthony Wilson kept the audience engaged with discussions regarding mass shootings and the impact on the City of Dayton and national community. The forum was moderated by Warden Brandeshawn Harris. Monday afternoon was full of energy with thought provoking workshops.

The Dayton Affiliate hosted a "Dayton Strong" event to honor the recent shooting victims of the Dayton mass shooting. NABCJ members displayed pride in their African Heritage with a fashion show, amazing artwork created by offenders and the best music by DJ Freddie G. The Dayton Affiliate raised \$184.00 to benefit members of the Dayton Community who were impacted by the mass shooting.

Tuesday's kick-off was just as powerful with informative workshops. The Dr. Bennett J. Cooper Luncheon honored the legacy of Dr. Copper by blessing several wonderful students with educational scholarships. We also honored the legacy of Dr. Reginald A. Wilkinson with awarding the Second Chance Scholarship to our Keynote Speaker and graduate of the Ohio State University, Adrian Jones.



As the conference came to a close the gavel was exchanged welcoming our new incoming President Staci G. Freeman who with a standing ovation, shared her goals of **S.O.A.R.** (**S**erve, **O**bey our bylaws, policies and procedures, **A**ccountable to the membership and **R**esponsive to the needs of our chapter, organization and community.)

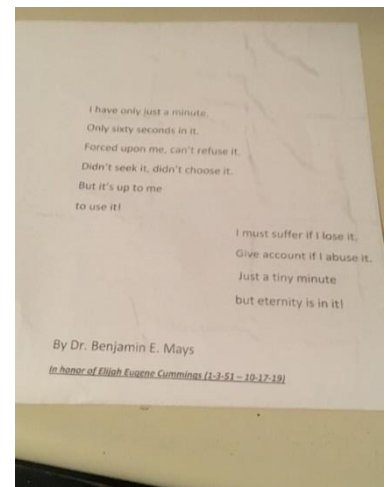
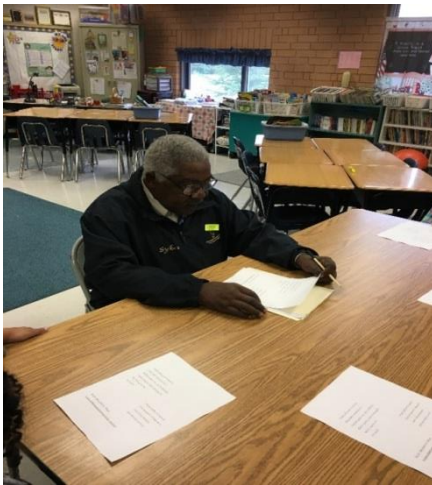
Please check out the 1st Edition under the SOAR administration of the Ohio Chapter Quarterly Newsletter, "**Focal Point**" at <https://www.facebook.com/OhioNABCJ/>. Learn more about Ohio Chapter Events, Training, Meetings, how to become a member and much more at www.ohionabcj.org.

NORTHEAST REGION

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA NABCJ CHAPTER

VIRGINIA (RICHMOND CHAPTER) ADOPTS GREENSVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Member, **Robert Sykes** (who was recently awarded his 50th Year Career Certificate by the Department of Corrections) shared a poem by Dr. Benjamin Mays in honor of Representative, Elijah Cummings with the 4th Graders. The 4th Graders were inspired and very engaged to include asking questions.



President Sharon Burgess and NABCJ Member Tameca Woodlev enjoyed giving back to the Pre-Schoolers!



VIRGINIA (RICHMOND CHAPTER) CELEBRATES ITS MEMBERS SUCCESS



Richmond NABCJ Congratulates **Chrishana Frye** on her graduating from Virginia Department of Corrections Corridors Program.

Richmond NABCJ Awarded **\$1,000 Scholarship** to **Shalaine Sykes**, daughter of member, Robert Sykes. Shalaine is attending NABCJ Student Chapter, Virginia State University.



Richmond NABCJ Congratulates **Malcolm Taylor** on his retirement from Virginia Department of Corrections after 30 Years!!



SOUTH REGION

OKLAHOMA CHAPTER

Reginald Hines (reggie25@sbcglobal.net), President, NABCJ Oklahoma Chapter shared a post from KFOR.com

OKC school first high school in nation to become NABCJ chapter

by: [Hicham Raache](#)

Posted: Dec 17, 2019 / 03:46 PM CST / Updated: Dec 17, 2019 / 03:46 PM CST

OKLAHOMA CITY (KFOR) – An Oklahoma City high school will become the first high school in the nation to form a chapter of the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice.



The National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice’s Oklahoma Chapter will formally recognize Frederick A. Douglass High School as the first-ever high school in the country to form a NABCJ chapter during a historic installation ceremony.

The ceremony will be held at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18 in the high school’s Courtroom, chartering the Frederick A. Douglass Academy of Law and Public Safety Chapter of the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice.

“We had more than enough students with a keen interest in the organization and we are excited that the state NABCJ chapter will install our students as officers and members of this historic student chapter. NABCJ is a perfect pairing for our Academy of Law and Public Safety,” said Mauri Hubbard, Coordinator of the Academy of Law and Public Safety.

The Academy enables students to explore areas of law and public safety so they can make informed post-secondary education choices.

Through the academy, students study career-specific curricula, participate in work-based learning experiences and develop relationships with law and public safety professionals.

“Students work closely with local professionals to further their career-specific knowledge and professional personas. Notably, students and professors from the Oklahoma City University School of Law mentor students for mock trial competitions. Local, state, and federal law and public safety officers and officials serve as speakers and mentors for academy students,” the news release states.

Around 70 students will be sworn in, and they’re all excited, said Rozia McKinney-Foster with NABCJ.

“It means being associated formally with professionals in the area of study that they’re engaged in. They’re studying public safety and law, and they will learn a lot about the system that they are studying from these professionals,” McKinney-Foster said. “They can learn a lot about the justice part of the system from these folks who worked inside the system.”

The NABCJ, multi-ethnic, non-profit, nonpartisan organization, was created in 1974 and has since made a goal of achieving equal justice for blacks and other minorities and improve the justice system, according to the news release.

NABCJ members include criminal justice professionals such as those in law, law enforcement, institutional and community corrections, courts, social services, academia, religious and other community-based interests as well as criminal justice students and community leaders.

“I’ve come to realize personally, that NABCJ members live up to the organization’s purpose. For them, ‘criminal justice is more than just a career; it is a commitment to a fundamental aspect of our democracy: justice.’ This is a tremendous opportunity for our amazing students,” said D’Andre Foster, an Academy teacher.

Photo credit: Parents of Frederick A. Douglass High School FB page
<https://kfor.com/news/okc-school-first-high-school-in-nation-to-become-nabcj-chapter/>

Oklahoma Chapter NABCJ



THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACKS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE PRESENTS

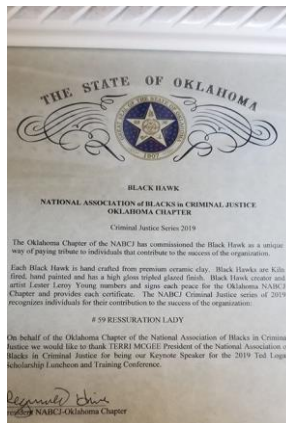
RIGHT NOW IS THE RIGHT TIME:

JUSTICE REINVESTMENT

10.29.19
8:30am-4pm

Metro Technology Centers
Preparing for Life

Business Conference Center
1900 Springlake Drive
Oklahoma City, OK 73111





SOUTHEAST REGION

SOUTH CAROLINA CHAPTER

26th Annual State Conference of South Carolina NABCJ

<https://www.facebook.com/terri.mcgee.779/posts/3662881947058954>



Benedict College Students



**South Carolina State University
Students and Advisors**



**President Terri McGee and
VP Sherman P. Lea, Jr.**



**Ron Grate, President McGee
and Curly Sellers**



**Opening Speaker Antjuan Seawright
CBS/CBSN Political Commentator**



**Benedict College Students and
Advisor**



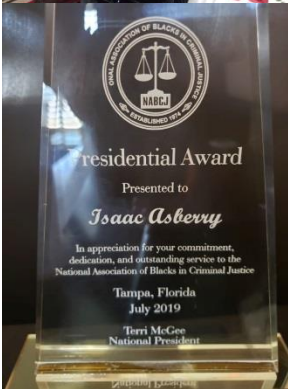
**Dr. George P. Wilson, Sr., President McGee
and VP Sherman P. Lea, Jr.**

For more views click this link

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=3663562066990942&set=pcb.3663563073657508&type=3&theater>

SOUTHWEST REGION

HIGH DESERT VICTORVILLE-COMPTON CHAPTER



Attorney Carl Douglas, NABCJ Life Member, hugs Black Lives Matter leader Dr. Melina Abdullah after all criminal charges against her were dismissed (Courtesy Photo)



F.B.I CRIME TABLE 67 (2017) United States

	WRITES	BLACKS
MURDER/MANSLAUGHTER	524	45.3
RAPE	74.9	23.9
ROBBERY *****	47.0	17.7
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	72.0	28.0
BURGLARY	72.0	28.0
UNLAWFUL WEAPON	68.0	26.7
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	68.0	26.7
VIOLENT CRIME	75.2	22.5
PROPERTY CRIME	68.9	29.2
OTHER RESULTS	64.9	27.8
FORGERY/COUNTERFEITING	64.0	33.9
FRAUD	61.2	31.3
EMBEZZLEMENT	62.7	35.8
STOLEN PROPERTY	64.8	31.4
VANDALISM	73.2	24.9
WEAPONS	69.7	27.4
PROSTITUTION	58.6	32.8
SEX OFFENSES	78.0	21.5
DRUG ABUSE	72.5	25.7
GAMBLING	66.5	31.9

BUT WHO GETS LOCKED UP?
next time someone spews this lie.
Google these charts for every year.
DO YOUR RESEARCH!



SOUTHWEST REGION SUPPORT RESOURCES

NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund
National Headquarters
212.965.2200
Washington, DC Office
202.682.1300
Website: <https://www.naacpldf.org>

National Center for Elder Abuse
Website: <https://ncea.acl.gov>
<https://elderjustice.acl.gov>
"All people regardless of age or ability deserve justice."

National Child Abuse Hotline
1.800.4-A-CHILD (TDD)
1.800.422.4453
Website: www.childhelp.org
24-hours, 7-days (365 days/year)
Provides help for children, adult survivors of abuse and parents

National Domestic Violence Hotline
1.800.799.7233
1.800.787.3224 TTY
Website: www.thehotline.org
24-hours, 7-days (365 days/year)
Provides help for relationship abuse as well as help to victims and survivors of domestic violence

National Federal Employee Assistance Program
OPM (Office of Personnel Management)
800.222.0364 | 888.262.7848 TTY
VOLUNTARY - CONFIDENTIAL
Provides help for employees and family members facing challenges that impact work etc performance outcome.

National Hotline for Elder Abuse
US Helpline and Hotlines for Suspected Elder Abuse and Neglect
1.800.677.1116
Website: <https://victimconnect.org>
Monday through Friday: 9:00am - 8:00pm EST

National Human Trafficking Hotline
1.888.373.7888
Website: www.HumanTraffickingHotline.org
FREE - CONFIDENTIAL - 24-hours, 7-days (365 days/year)
Get help - find services - report a tip - Learn about your options

National Substance Abuse Helpline
1.800.662.HELP
1.800.662.4357
Website: www.samhsa.gov
FREE - CONFIDENTIAL -

24-hours, 7-days (365 days/year)
Provides referrals to local treatment facilities, support groups and community based organizations

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
1.800.273.8255
Website: www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org
FREE - CONFIDENTIAL - 24-hours, 7-days (365 days/year)
Provides support for people in distress, intervention, prevention and crisis resources

National Veterans Crisis Hotline
1.800.273.8255 Press 1
Website: www.veteranscrisisline.net

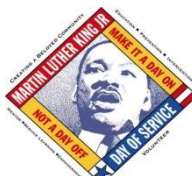
Veterans Free Mental Health/Depression Hotline
877.997.8990 - 888.505.0409
Website: www.nowmentalhealth.com

USA JOBS - The Federal Government
Website: <https://www.usajobs.gov>
USAJOBS serves as a **Help Center** for individuals seeking employment in the federal sector, that includes individuals with a disability, veterans, students and graduates.

Networking,
Collaborating and
Supporting families in
distress, single moms,
the homeless and
students at risk.



Governor Gavin Newsom grants pardon to Susan Burton, who assists women returning to society after prison.



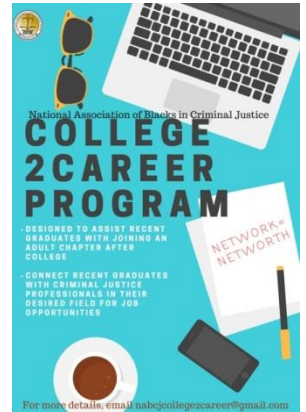
GREATER LOS ANGELES
MLK DAY TO SEASON OF SERVICE COALITION



AmazonSmile - Shop at www.smile.amazon.com. Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile **Tax-Deductible** purchases to NABCJ. **Select and bookmark NABCJ as your charity of choice.** To register click <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/52-1164624>

NABCJ LINX2FUNDS FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGNS

The Smart & Better Way To Raise Funds



Are you looking for a simple and affordable solution that will help you communicate with your customers, employees or contacts instantly? How would you like all the confusion taken out of mobile marketing and everything on one easy to use web-based program?

"If a church isn't using TextAlertz they are missing an tremendous opportunity for outreach and education. Our parishioners really appreciate the additional information we are able to provide them."
— Pastor Richardson, Columbus, OH

"I was scared to try something new at first, but now I don't know what I would do without TextAlertz. I can send out mobile coupons and every time I send a blast I see an immediate spike in business. There are no more slow days, because all I have to do is send out a special offer and my customers come out when they wouldn't have thought of us otherwise."
— Cheryl G. Just One Bite Cafe

Enjoy These Great Features

- Easy to use mobile app
- Collect tithes and offerings via our mobile fundraising module
- Build mobile websites perfect for your business or organization
- Be notified whenever a new contact is added to your database of customers, clients or members through either a text or email.
- Run campaigns that engage your customers through our voting and data collection capabilities, plus hold contests where your contacts can text in with the opportunity to WIN!
- Set it and forget it with our auto-responder and built in scheduling system.

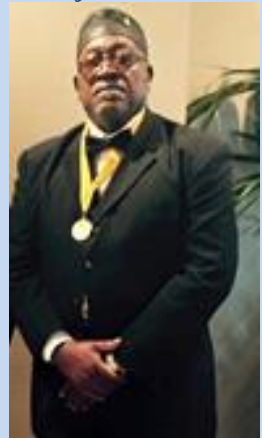
TextAlertz Advantage
Turn those slow days into record breaking ones and see how your business grows! Let TextAlertz show you how we are the solution you have been looking for.

For More Information:
NABCJ LINX2FUNDS TextAlertz Campaign
<https://tinyurl.com/TEXTALERTZNABCJ>
E-mail: nabjlinx2funds@gmail.com
Website: www.nabj.org/resources/textalertz
Phone: 919.683.1801

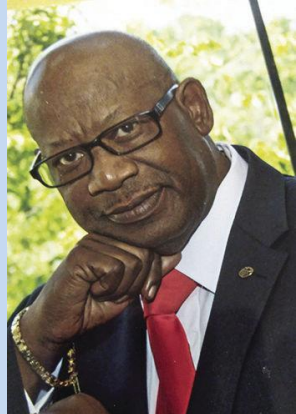
Learn More at
→

Gone But Not Forgotten

Dr. JB Patterson



Therone Pratter



W.O.N. Slide
Presentation above :
Courtesy of Dr.
Sylvia Sharps and
Brother Len Johnson .



Congressional Black Caucus FOUNDATION

ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE
September 16-20, 2020 ~ Washington, DC

Official Early Bird registration for the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's 2020 Annual Legislative Conference is pending COVID-19 (Coronavirus) status updates.

**REGISTER TO VOTE
THEN VOTE
YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE**

2019 NABCJ National Award Recipients

FRANKIE HILL CHAIRMAN'S AWARD

This award is given to the individual who has demonstrated leadership, dedication and contributions to NABCJ at the chapter or regional level.



EDDIE L. PEARSON CHAIRMAN EMERITUS AWARD

This award is given to an individual who has demonstrated sustained commitment and unselfish dedication to the advancement of the goals and objectives of NABCJ by ensuring representation of minorities as policy makers, and developers of Criminal Justice Programs and Research.



MICHAEL RANDLE JONATHAN JASPER WRIGHT AWARD

This award is for leadership at the regional and state level in the area of criminal justice. The award is presented to an individual who has affected change in policy or is serving as a conduit of change. The award is named after the first African American elected to the bench of the Supreme Court of South Carolina.



KEMBA SMITH-PRADIA MARY CHURCH TERRELL AWARD



This award is for activism and positive change in the field of criminal justice at the city and state level. Awarded to the individual who has initiated positive change on a local level

through establishing relationships and programs in corporation with courts, assemblies, churches and councils. The award is named after the freedom fighter, community leader, and church reformer whose efforts helped pave the way for full citizenship for African Americans in this country.



MEDGAR EVERS AWARD EDYTHE JOPPY

This award is given to the individual who has demonstrated unselfish ideals of fair play by developing, policies, enforcing regulations and ensuring that all persons including those who are institutionalize receive equal justice under the law. This award is named after the slain civil rights leader whose struggles for equal justice ended with his making the ultimate and supreme sacrifice.



OWENS-BELL AWARD ALFREDA SHINNS

This award is given to the individual for outstanding chapter development and leadership by organizing a new chapter, increasing the membership of a current chapter or creating mechanisms for the recruitment of members, and the development of chapter programs and activities. The award is named after Dr. Charles Owens and Jimmie Bell, two of NABCJ's Founders.



JUSTICE CHERI BEASLEY WILLIAM H. HASTIE AWARD

This award is for national leadership in the field of criminal justice and presented to the individual who has affected change in policy, or has excelled in a leadership role nationally in the criminal justice area. The award is named after the first African American appointed to the bench in 1937 by President Franklin Roosevelt.



*National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice
~ The Criminal Justice Solutions Organization ~*

2019 New Life Members



Mack Bailey



*Annette
Chambers-Smith*



Dee Gillis



Cathy Gooding



Rob Jeffreys



*Pastor
Frederick Lamar*



Sasaum Lane



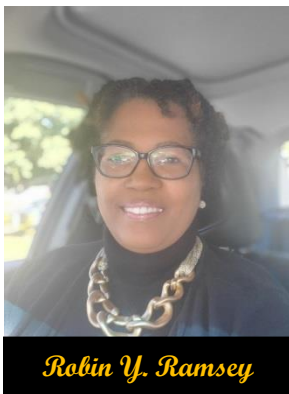
*Dr. Jacquelin W.
Maxwell*



Fiti Mumuni



Larome Myrick



Robin Y. Ramsey



*Jerline
Sommerville-Hicks*



Dr. Wanda Suber



*Fabiitha D.
Timmons-Fletcher*



Anthony Wilson



CONGRATULATIONS
and thank you

**Welcome to your NABCJ Family
Life Membership Team**

The Commitment

Newsletter of the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice

Call for Articles

TIME SENSITIVE

All Articles for inclusion in the SUMMER 2020 Edition of *THE COMMITMENT* in WORD format, single space, double space between paragraphs. Font: Times Roman. Pitch: 12-point. Display ads are to be SUBMITTED CAMERA READY in pdf, jpg, gif, or tiff files only. Display ads must be in proper format and size. Maximum dimensions are noted herein:

Full Page: 8" x 10" ½ Page: 8" x 4.75" or 3.75" x 10"

¼ Page: 3.75" x 4.75" 1/8 Page: 1.75" x 4.5"

Please send articles and display ads via e-mail to:

nabcjcommunications@gmail.com or mail to:

NABCJ, Post Office Box 20011-C, Durham, NC 27707



The Criminal Justice Solutions Organization
COMMITTED TO JUSTICE FOR ALL

SUBMISSION DUE DATE

11:59 PM, MONDAY, JUNE 1ST, 2020

NABCJ Officers, including Regional Representatives, members of the Board of Directors, Standing and Ad Hoc Committee Chairs, Past Presidents, Chapter Presidents, members, students and advisors, are all encouraged to submit articles, past/current/upcoming events, activities, research, training and/or op-ed/commentary. Submissions by non-members and or criminal justice, law enforcement and corrections officials, staff and other professionals may submit for consideration and inclusion guest editorials, special features or calls to action supporting the mission and objectives of NABCJ.



VOTE FOR JUSTICE

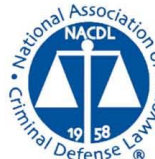
OUR PARTNERS



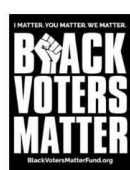
BURIED ALIVE



MISSIONLAUNCH



UBER



VOTE FOR JUSTICE



www.voteforjustice.us

JUSTICE LOOKS LIKE ...

www.nabci.org



SAVE THE DATE

July 12-16, 2020

47th Annual Conference and Training Institute

Royal Sonesta New Orleans

300 Bourbon Street

New Orleans, LA 70130

2020 Conference & Training Institute Theme:
"NABCJ Improving Criminal Justice by Using the Three 'R's' - Review, Restructure and Reform"

Come Join Us in the Big Easy!



**For more information, please visit our website:
www.nabcj.org**



A Few Tourist Attractions

- African American Museum
- Amistad Research Center
- Aquarium of the Americas
- Audubon Zoo
- Backstreet Cultural Museum
- Black Collegian Magazine
- Blaine Kern's Mardi Gras World
- HBCUs: Xavier, Dillard and Southern University at New Orleans
- New Orleans Historic Voodoo Museum
- New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation
- New Orleans Museum of Art
- Preservation Jazz Hall
- Williams Research Center
- William Ransom Hogan Jazz Archive

Register TODAY: <https://nabcj.org/conferences/47>

NABCJ MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

I. NABCJ Lifetime Members Only Benefits

- A. Gold Medallion
- B. Lifetime Membership Card
- C. Lifetime Membership Certificate
- D. Lifetime Membership Lapel Pin
- E. One (1) National Conference Registration Certificate for one-time use only. Certificate is forfeited if not used in a two (2) year period
- F. Lifetime Member Reception at the Annual National Conference and Training Institute
- G. Lifetime Member Annual Group Photo at the Annual National Conference and Training Institute
- H. Reserved seating at the Annual Dr. Bennett Cooper Awards Banquet held during the Annual National Conference and Training Institute
- I. All NABCJ Life Members are listed on the NABCJ Website at www.nabcj.org
- J. The names of all NABCJ Life Members are listed in the Annual Conference and Training Institute Program Book

II. Affiliate/Agency Members Only Benefits

- A. The Affiliate/Agency fee is \$300 annually and will be reviewed on an annual basis by the Board of Directors.
- B. Pre-registration prices for the NABCJ National Training Institute are extended until July 1st, for any agency that has at least 10 participants registered for the Training Institute/Conference.
- C. Any agency that would like specific training (mandatory state or federal training) for their attendees may request such during the Call for Workshops timeframe typically from August 1 through December 31st of each year.
- D. Any agency that would like to feature an article about the work they are doing in the criminal justice field may submit it to nabcjcommunications@gmail.com during the Call for Articles for the NABCJ Newsletter, *THE COMMITMENT*.
- E. Networking opportunities for the agency leadership with its counterparts nationally and internationally.

III. NABCJ Membership Benefits (All Members)

- A. NABCJ Membership Welcome Packet
 - a. Membership Card
 - b. New Membership Welcome Letter
 - c. NABCJ Brochure
 - d. Save-the-Date card, when applicable
 - e. NABCJ Lapel Pin
 - f. NABCJ Member Certificate (student's only)
- B. NABCJ serves the needs of African Americans and people of color at all levels.
- C. 100% of your membership investment fee goes to support the mission, purpose, vision and objectives of NABCJ.
- D. As a NABCJ member, sharing and pooling our knowledge, skills, talent, financial resources and goods and services for the common public benefit of family and community participants, we are better able to achieve our goal of building and sustaining NABCJ as a viable Community Cooperative Economic Enterprise.
- E. **AmazonSmile** - Shop at smile.amazon.com. Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile **Tax-Deductible** purchases to NABCJ. **Select and bookmark NABCJ as your charity of choice.** To register click <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/52-1164624>
- F. **Discounts** – Receive discounts on Special Events and registration fees at the Annual Conference and Training Institute.
- G. **Enterprise Car Rental** - Discount on car rentals at Enterprise Rent-A-Car at www.enterprise.com, 800.261.7331.
- H. **Giving Tuesday** - Your membership in NABCJ provides you an opportunity to give back to the NABCJ, a 501(c) (3) organization and to support your community with your time, talent, service, resources, support, finance, estate planning and legacy building. Donations received at: <https://shop.nabcj.org/products/giving-tuesday>
- I. **LINX2Funds Health and Wellness eRewards.shop** - Save money on essential health and wellness products you use every day at our eRewards.shop website: <https://erewards.shop/L1186699P>
- J. **LINX2Funds One-Stop-Shop** - Discounts and savings on essential products and residential and commercial services that you use every day, including travel and tourism, airfares, entertainment, sporting events and more. As a 501(c) (3), NABCJ earns a commission on each purchase you make - A Better and Smarter Way to Raise Money. Learn more and start shopping and saving at: <http://www.tinyurl.com/nabcjsavesumoney>
- K. **NABCJ Mart** - Shop at NABCJ Mart, our online store located at: <https://shop.nabcj.org> to purchase membership as well as personalized and customized collections and apparel.
- L. **Join the NABCJ Family.** Get connected to a world-wide community of criminal justice professionals, paraprofessionals and students in a Collaborative Community Network.
- M. **BECOME A MEMBER TODAY! TEXT: NABCJ TO: 55469**



WELCOME & THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING & SUSTAINING NABCJ



National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice

"THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SOLUTIONS ORGANIZATION"

"COMMITTED TO JUSTICE FOR ALL"

DATE: _____

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Or you can apply ONLINE at: www.nabcj.org/membership
Or TEXT: NABCJ TO: 55469

Please Type or Print Legibly:

Type of Application: New Renewal

Title: Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. <input type="checkbox"/>		Name: _____	
Position/Occupation of Employment _____			
Agency of Employment _____			
Mailing Address _____			
City _____	State _____	Zip _____	Country _____
Cell Phone _____	Home Phone () _____	Work Phone () _____	Fax () _____
Home E-mail Address _____		Work E-mail Address _____	
OPT IN SMS/Text Messages? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO			

Please Tell Us About Yourself

Month and Day of Birth: _____	Age Range: <input type="checkbox"/> 18-25 <input type="checkbox"/> 26-35 <input type="checkbox"/> 36-49 <input type="checkbox"/> 50-65 <input type="checkbox"/> 66+
Are you employed by <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Local Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Non-profit <input type="checkbox"/> Private Sector <input type="checkbox"/> Retired <input type="checkbox"/>	
Self-employed <input type="checkbox"/> State Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____	
Are you a veteran? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Are you retired military? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Branch: <input type="checkbox"/> Army <input type="checkbox"/> Airforce <input type="checkbox"/> Coast Guard <input type="checkbox"/> Marines <input type="checkbox"/> Navy	National Guard <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
	Reserves <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Are you a member of a NABCJ Chapter? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	If YES, Chapter Name? _____ If NO, Choose? _____
Are you currently a full-time student? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	If YES, what College/University? _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate <input type="checkbox"/> High School <input type="checkbox"/> Other	Major: _____ Expected Year of Graduation: _____

♦ MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS CAN BE FOUND AT: WWW.NABCJ.ORG/BENEFITS ♦

Type of Application: <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	Recruited/Referred to NABCJ by: _____
Type of Membership: <input type="checkbox"/> Active-\$50 <input type="checkbox"/> *Full-time Student-\$15 * See Note at Bottom of Page	
<input type="checkbox"/> Agency/Affiliate-\$300 <input type="checkbox"/> Associate-\$Varies-active at local chapter. Not entitled to vote on national issues/elections.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime-\$1000 – Installments available (Call for information: 919.683.1801)**Total Life Member fees go to National**	

Member Type	Amount	Online	TOTAL
Adult <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	\$50.00	\$52.00	
Student <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	\$15.00	\$16.00	
Agency Affiliates <input type="checkbox"/> New	\$300.00	\$309.00	
Agency Affiliates <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	\$300.00	\$309.00	
Life Member <input type="checkbox"/> New	\$1000.00	\$1035.00	
Life Member Installment Plan	\$1000.00	Specify	

*Call 919.683.1801 to set-up installment payments

TOTAL ENCLOSED

Send application and check or money order payable to: Your local NABCJ Chapter or National Office

Payment Method: Check <input type="checkbox"/> Check #:	MO/TC <input type="checkbox"/> MO/TC #:	Purchase Order: <input type="checkbox"/> PO #:
Credit Card: <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MC <input type="checkbox"/> Discover	CC #:	Expiration Date: CVV:
Printed Name as it appears on Credit Card: _____	Signature: _____	



♦ Returned Checks will be charged a \$35.00 processing fee ♦
♦ Online payments with credit card will be charged a 3% processing fee ♦

Submit to: NABCJ-National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice –NCCU – P.O. Box 20011-C –Durham, NC 27707

* Note: *Undergraduate Students Applying for Membership must be enrolled full-time (12 credit hours per semester) Graduate Students (9 Credit hours per semester) and cannot be employed full-time to qualify for Student Membership. Student must send proof of current enrollment by submitting an unofficial transcript, or a copy of their registration receipt. Membership will not be processed without verification.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	DATE RCVD:	RCVD BY:	DATE PROCESSED:
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OUR SPONSORS AND AFFILIATES



James E. Shoparé, Founder



<p>National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice NCCU 106 Whiting Criminal Justice Building 1801 Fayetteville Street Post Office Box 20011-C Durham, NC 27707</p>		<p>PLACE US POSTAGE HERE</p>
<p>ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED</p>		