

the

Commitment

■ DECEMBER 2017 ISSUE



The National Association
NABCJ
of Blacks in Criminal Justice

PRESIDENT
Terri McGee

VICE PRESIDENT
Sherman P. Lea, Jr.

SECRETARY
Aaron Rich

TREASURER
Anthony Wiley

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACKS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The Criminal Justice Solutions Organization

"Committed to Justice for All"



Message from the National President **TERRI MCGEE**

As 2017 comes to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the resiliency of this meritable organization, the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice (NABCJ). During the past year our nearly forty-five (45) years old organization experienced a transition that consisted of more highs than lows. NABCJ was tested as never before, yet we prevailed and meet our challenges forth rightfully and responded with a resounding, ***"Yes We Can!"*** There is an ongoing increase in new memberships and renewals of inactive and expired memberships. We welcomed a new website at www.nabcj.org and had a very productive, laudable and successful 44th Annual Conference and Training Institute in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Best Practice

NABCJ engages in the best practice of developing prevention strategies and intervention techniques that challenge and attack issues that plaque and defame our children, families and communities. We asked via an Issues/Concerns Survey and our members responded in helping to identify and prioritize issues for Action. The first issue we will address is ***Bail Reform***. Read more at:

<https://www.theroot.com/bail-reform-is-about-criminal-and-economic-justice-1818504734>

As we embark upon 2018, I encourage members to please support the national observance of **Justice Sunday™** on January 14, 2018. January of each year is also National Mentoring Month in which our partner, the National Alliance of Faith and Justice (NAFJ) encourages mentoring as a service priority. With so many obstacles facing our children, fami-

lies and communities, NABCJ will and must remain committed to deliver hope, comfort, compassion and opportunity to those who are impacted most by the criminal justice system.

45th Annual Conference & Training Institute

We are pleased to announce the 45th Annual Conference and Training Institute of the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice. The ***Honorable Congresswoman Shelia Jackson Lee***, representing the 18th District in the state of Texas, has graciously agreed to serve as our 2018 Conference and Training Institute Honorary Chairperson. This event will be held in the Space City, Houston, Texas, **July 15-19, 2018**. Our 2018 Conference theme is:

"NABCJ: Expanding Our Legacy in the 21st Century ~ Saving Our Children, Families and Communities"

With gratitude in mind, let us continue to be thankful this Holiday Season and throughout the New Year. NABCJ is grateful to have loyal members, friends, affiliates and supporters who endorse, contribute and promote the mission, purpose and objectives of our "Criminal Justice Solutions Organization - NABCJ." "Thank You!"

I wish each and every one of you reading this message Blessings, Peace and Love. We want your 2018 to be filled with determination, resolve, and prosperity.

Yours in Service,

Terri McGee

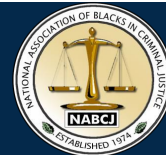
Terri McGee, National President

National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACKS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The Criminal Justice Solutions Organization

"Committed to Justice for All"



Message from the National Vice President **SHERMAN P. LEA, JR.**

Greetings NABCJ

I am honored to serve as your National Vice President of the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice (NABCJ). My responsibility to you is to work with and alongside the National President as well as the National Board of Directors and to provide general oversight to all Committees of the Board as we collectively and collaboratively work and engage in activities, programs and services that promote and enhance the vision and mission of our organization. Our goal is to ensure the administration of justice for all.

As National Vice President, I was afforded the opportunity to attend and represent NABCJ at various events, trainings, and programs, inclusive of but are not limited to: 1) NABCJ Virginia State Conference, "Moving Forward – Reaching Back" in Hampton, VA, where I promoted our 2017 conference; 2) Participant in the Opening Session of the NOBLE (National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives) 41st Annual Training Conference and Exhibition, "Rooted in Our History and Investing in Our Children" in Atlanta, GA; 3) Attended the 42nd Annual Training Institute of the American Probation and Parole Association (APPA), "Clients, Communities, Employees: Empowerment through Partnerships" in New York, NY; 4) Engaged in the conversation and discussions at the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation 47th Annual Legislative Conference ~ "And Still I Rise" and 5) Represented National President and Board of Directors at the NABCJ Ohio Chapter 30th Annual State Conference, "Criminal Justice in the 21st Century: Finding Solutions to New Challenges and Old Problems", where I promoted active engagement and participation at our **45th Annual Conference and Training Institute that will be held July 15-19, 2018 in Houston, Texas**. For more information and online registration visit:

www.nabcj.org/conferences/45

These services and activities listed herein afforded me the opportunity to promote and advocate for NABCJ and to establish, represent, and engage in ongoing and active networks and networking with other black law enforcement personnel. Noteworthy contacts established in terms of collaborative initiatives include but are not limited to NOBLE: Executive Director Dewayne Crawford, National President and Clarence E.

Cox III. Noteworthy commendation is extended to Andre Turner, NABCJ National Assistant Treasurer and NABCJ Regional Representative for the South Region for the state of Texas, was selected as the Probation Officer of the Year at the APPA Conference. Congratulations Andre!

I would be remiss if I did not also mention that as is standard for our current Executive Board and some members of the Board of Directors, twice a year we receive assignments to work onsite in our National Headquarters Office located on the campus of North Carolina Central University in Durham, NC. In September 2017 this assignment included a Strategic Planning Training Session facilitated by Mr. Walter Ridley, Advisor to the National President and Executive Director of The Ridley Group. During this session we were able to meet with Dr. Robert A. Brown, Chairman and Associate Professor, Director of Graduate Studies of the Criminal Justice Department. The discussion included the vision and future of our organization, NABCJ and our role at the university. I served as a panelist on a Criminal Justice Career Panel Discussion with fellow board members: Keith Branch, Esq., NABCJ Legal Advisor, Dr. Alpha Omega Curry, Southwest Regional Representative, Attorney Mondré Kornegay, Assistant Parliamentarian and President of the Northern Virginia Chapter of NABCJ, Mary Singleton, South Regional Representative, Dr. George Wilson, Southeast Regional Representative, NABCJ Historian and Professor in the Criminal Justice Department at NCCU planned and organized this dialogue which was supported by NCCU Assistant Professor, Dr. Darren R. Beneby.

One of the top priorities for the NABCJ, the premiere criminal justice solutions organization in the country is to advocate for the issues our members and stakeholders find important, relevant and critical to our expanding our legacy initiative. **"Bail Reform, Criminal Justice Policy, and School to Prison Pipeline"** are some issues we have prioritized and are focusing on going forward as a relevant, proactive, viable organization.

As National Vice President of NABCJ, I am committed to ensuring the administration of equal justice for African Americans and other people of color. I will continue to work to increase opportunities for citizens to better understand the functions and operations of our local, state, and federal criminal justice processes. Furthermore, I will encourage membership expansion and participation in the activities of the organization without regard to race, creed, or country of national origin. As I reflect upon the past year, our struggles, challenges and triumphs, I recognize that my duties as National Vice President not only align with the mission and vision of the NABCJ, but it also coincides with the tenants of democracy.

44th Annual Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio

“A HUGE SUCCESS”

The 44th Annual Conference and Training Institute of the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice (NABCI) was held during the period of July 22-27, 2017 at the Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza Hotel in Cincinnati, Ohio addressing the theme, “Criminal Justice in the 21st Century: New Challenges, Old Problems.” The week commenced with a **“Planting a Seed”** Community Service Project at the local Dohn Community High School, a **NABCI Scholarship Golf Scramble** for which proceeds benefit the Dr. Bennett J. Cooper Scholarship Fund, our Annual Interfaith Worship Service hosted by our affiliate, **National Alliance of Faith and Justice** (NAFJ) with NAFJ Vice President and Service Coordinator Reverend Elizabeth Thurman Shell presiding and Bishop Henry Hearn, speaker. The **Annual Reverend Warren H. Dolphus Gospel Extravaganza** featured songstress and recording artist Angela Hearn of Lancaster, CA and viewing of the documentary, **13th** followed by candid discussion and proactive relevant dialogue facilitated by **Kisha Barnes**, Senior Equal Employment Opportunity Specialist with the United States Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Prisons and **Walter Ridley**, NABCI Presidential Advisor and Executive Director of The Ridley Group. The **Opening Session** was inspired by the wisdom and powerful words of **Dr. Divine Pryor**, Executive Director of the Center for NuLeadership on Urban Solutions, an independent activist human think tank with a focus on achieving de-carceration through community development. The Annual **Justice Forum** featured panelists: **Clifton Buchanan**, AFL-CIO AFGE National Secretary, United States Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Prisons, Houston, Texas, **Harold Clarke**, Director, Virginia Department of Corrections, Richmond, Virginia, **Harvey Reed**, Director, Ohio Department of Youth Services, Columbus, Ohio, **Walter Ridley**, Executive Director, The Ridley Group, Clinton, Maryland, **Denise Robinson**, President and CEO, Alvis, Columbus, Ohio, **Dr. Terry Snow-Smith**, Executive Director, Dallas County Juvenile Justice Probation Department, Dallas, Texas, and **Luis Spencer**, Retired Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Corrections, Chelsea, Massachusetts. The forum theme, **“The Status of Criminal Justice Reform in the 21st Century: Old Problems, New Challenges”** was moderated by **Ronald Hampton** of Black Law Enforcement in America and former Director of the National Black Police Association, provided insight on the status of criminal justice reform in the United States. The **Annual Dr. Andrew Chishom Professional Development Institute** was facilitated by **Dr. Chenelle A. Jones**, providing 8-hours of training on **Re-entry: What Works Best in Prisoner Re-entry and How Can We Support Restored Citizens – Research, Practice, Policy and Implications?** More than 400 conference participants, presenters, exhibitors and staff convened and were energized with informative training and educational and experiential workshops sessions that not only provided education, knowledge and skills but were also motivational, challenging and empowering. Topics included but were not limited to: School to Prison Pipeline, Re-entry, Reducing Recidivism, Working with the Intellectually Disabled Offender, Burnout, The Importance of Black Law Enforcement Organizations, violence, drugs and crimes in our communities, digital dating abuse, public safety, creating environments of resiliency and hope, and much more. **Judge Michael John Ryan** did not disappoint as the keynote speaker for the **Annual Victoria Myers Scholarship Luncheon**. He gave a regenerative testimonial that left all present aware that one can succeed despite obstacles that seem impossible to overcome. He is the author of a self-published book titled, “The Least Likely . . . from the Housing Projects to the Courthouse.” The **Annual Thurgood Marshall Scholarship** was presented to **Miss Niyah Carpenter** of Cincinnati, Ohio and the **President’s Council Scholarship** was awarded to **Miss Jazmin Paige Tucker** of Cleveland, Ohio. The **WON (Women of NABCI)** presented **Winning Wednesday Women’s Symposium of Warriors, Wisdom, Worthy, Wealth and Wellness**, a powerful interactive session promoting **NABCI National President Terri McGee’s 5E Initiative: Educate x Enhance x Enrich x Encourage x Empower**. It also emphasized the mandate of building NABCI’s Legacy and presented the challenge and exigency of the sustainability of NABCI in the 21st Century. From the perspective of the 5E Initiative, **“Criminal Justice in the 21st Century: New Challenges, Old Problems”** was moderated by **Khameelah Shabazz**, President, Arizona Chapter NABCI. Participants included: **Anthony Willingham**, author; **Kisha Barnes**, Senior Affirmative Action Specialist; Federal Bureau of Prisons, **Donita Barnes**, Recruiter, City of Cincinnati Police Department; **Mary Bobb-Singleton**, NABCI South Region Representative, Federal Bureau of Prisons (Retired); and **Judge Tracy Hunter**, Cincinnati, Ohio.

44th Annual Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio

"A HUGE SUCCESS" continues

National Treasurer, *Anthony Wiley*, and Southwest Regional Representative and Chair of WON, *Dr. Alpha Omega Curry* facilitated the session, *"NABCI Creating and Building a Legacy in the 21st century: New Challenges, Old Problems"*. Panelists included self-determined entrepreneurs: *Charles Battle*, *Khameelah Shabazz*, *Lessie Smith* and *Anthony Willingham* who addressed the issues of accountability, fiscal responsibility and sustainability.



The *Annual Dr. Bennett Cooper Awards Banquet* was attended by Dr. Coopers Family and included the following awards, citations and new life members:

NABCI National Awards

Chairman Award
Hazel Willis (TX)

Chairman Emeritus Award
Malcolm L. Taylor (VA)

Jonathan Jasper Wright Award
Dr. Michele Reynolds (OH)

Mary Church Terrell Award
Dr. Chenelle A. Jones (OH)

Medgar Evers Award
Judge Carol Scott Berry (AZ)

William Hastie Award
Rob Jeffreys (OH)

Lifetime Achievement Award
Dr. Alpha Omega Curry

Presidential Award
Rose Brown
Louvenia Milteer

Presidential Citations
Jessica Carter
Xavier Perry

NABCI Wall of Fame
Jimmy Bell
Dr. Reginald A. Wilkinson

New Life Members
Shaneaka Dodson
Jazma Parker
Dr. Terry Snow Smith

The NABCI 44th Annual Conference and Training Institute concluded at the Annual Business Meeting Breakfast where presentations of monetary donations made to the NABCI Empty Plate Community Service Project were awarded to the local Salvation Army, and the Student Chapters in collaboration with the Talbert House in Cincinnati, Ohio made a donation to *Dohn Community High School*, a small,



personalized, non-traditional school, committed to serving educationally at-risk students in a safe, orderly environment by developing the basic academic, career, and social skills needed to pursue options following graduation.

The colors were retired by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections Color Guard, thus bringing to a close the 44th Annual Conference and Training Institute of the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice.

~ NABCI - Job Well Done! ~

What can we do **TO BE SAFE?**

Lester Young, NABCJ-Oklahoma Chapter

I have a 40 year background in law enforcement and corrections and I want to find additional ways to protect my family, the Church, those I love and those at work. In view of current events it is important that every American is aware of their surroundings at all times. Disaster can happen anywhere at any time even while riding your bike, shopping in the mall and/or just worshipping in church. I would encourage NABCJ members and their families to be vigilant and look for things that just don't belong or don't look right. When we venture out we need to be very aware that we now live in a "what if" kind of world. We have to be keenly aware of our surroundings and imagine various scenarios and develop a plan of action to escape "what if" volatile situations. Identify possible exits just in case there is a major emergency.

When we are walking down the street and/or engaged in one's daily work activities it is extremely important to develop some response options in the event you or someone you love is attacked. NABCJ members who are active thinking individuals are more likely to survive an unexpected violent incident.

Evildoers, Jihadist, haters of America, and people who have an intense hatred of government have started to look for what are being called soft targets. A soft target is any place that is likely not to have armed individuals present in the immediate setting. Settings such as malls, big box stores, movie theaters, churches, walking on a street, business offices and schools are some of the places that are considered to be soft

targets. Any place where participants are not armed is considered to be a soft target. Bad people tend to not attack any area where they believe folks in attendance are armed and can defend themselves. This is not always the case so be alert even when armed officials are present.

Being prepared and alert at all times will lessen the possibility of an individual becoming a victim. NABCJ Members and Family please trust your instincts but verify their validity. If something doesn't look right report it. My prayer is that you are safe and may God protect us all.



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Think Safe, Act Safe, Be Safe

Our Youth Need more help from NABCJ

Aaron Rich
Central Florida NABCJ

The genesis of NABCJ was a historic conference on "Blacks and the Criminal Justice System" hosted by Dr. Charles Owens at the University of Alabama in February of 1974. At the meeting, Dr. Bennett Cooper, then Director of the State of Ohio's Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, called for the creation of a permanent national organization that would focus on the goal of achieving equal justice for Blacks and other minorities. According to our Mission Statement, the



purpose of NABCJ is to serve the needs of African Americans and people of color at all levels, including nonprofessionals, paraprofessionals, and professionals. It further states, we are to act upon the needs, concerns, and contributions of African Americans and other people of color as they relate to the administration of equal justice. In fact, Dr. Cooper was the first African American Director in the State of Ohio and the only African American Director at the time of NABCJ's inception and wanted to create an Avenue for more Criminal Justice Professionals. I also believe that his motivation was if we can be incarcerated, we could be decision makers. If we can be incarcer-

ated, we can be employed in the area of Criminal Justice. As we have evolved and have grown more intellectually, we have to attack this Criminal Justice beast from more than the aspect of being the overseer, we must utilize our local chapters to affect the School to Prison Pipeline. We must make mentoring a pillar of our local chapters. We cannot save everyone but we can save someone and those that we make our careers off of should not be the young people of color without role models.

What our kids need most is not more help from Washington, but community action and mentors to step up and be the example. In cities like Chicago, Washington, D. C. and New Orleans there are over 600 senseless deaths per year and there has not been a national plan of action to curtail this violence. If 600 die a year in a major city, there is at least another 600 incarcerated for such heinous acts. There are another 300 youth that are left fatherless due to death or incarceration. NABCJ can make a difference in this area and as our youth go, so does our future. Too many young people make it all the way through their teens without having a single caring adult. Our chapters need to find these youth, have them at our monthly meetings to see how to conduct business and stay with them until their graduation. If we want to change the world, we must start with a single child. On behalf of President McGee, I challenge every chapter to reach out directly to its local school and adopt that school.

With NABCJ's support, our youth can have the opportunity to become leaders, teachers, scientist and future correctional policy-makers and professionals. Do we as an organization have the commitment to carry on the legacy of our founders?

NABCI: Expanding Our Legacy and Building Sustainability Part I

LINX2FUNDS

~ A Smarter and A Better Way to Raise Funds ~

&

AMAZON SMILE

We invite each of you to transform your everyday activities towards a greater impact in our local communities and our world at large. Now, it's easier than ever to support the *National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice (NABCI)*, save money, live a better life and build your legacy!

At the *National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice* we understand that you have essential financial obligations. And as much as you want to support us, each dollar can only go so far. Now there's a way for you to stretch your dollar and support us without sacrifice.

We have launched an innovative program called *LINX2FUNDS* that offers life-enhancing products as well as a wide variety of money-saving preserving services you are currently using every day. Now, when you purchase these products and services through *NABCI*, we earn money and you gain access to exclusive savings.

Here's how it works. We have partnered with a company, 5LINX, with an A+ rating with the Better Business Bureau and

who has been an honoree and recognized by Inc. 500/5000 as one of the fastest growing companies for nine years running—to offer you health, wellness and essential everyday products and services. The wellness products will help you live a better life. The essential everyday products and services will bring you savings for services you are using every day and also support *NABCI* without you ever writing a check to us.

Let the *National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice (NABCI)* offer you quality products and services—most of which you're already paying for every month. At the same time, you can easily provide us with much needed support.

Please contact us at 919.683.1801 or 716.830.7803 or send us an e-mail at: nabclinx2funds@gmail.com for more details. We look forward to sharing more information with you on this fundraising program that will help you and support our campaign to build and sustain *NABCI*.

Learn more about our current and ongoing LINX2FUNDS

Fundraising Campaigns: Credit Restoration, Oxygen for optimal health and wellness and IPTV ~ "TeeVee" On-Demand Television, the newest wealth trends:

www.chromacreditrestoration.com/L1186699

www.oxzgen.5linx.com/?RIN=L1186699

www.teevee.tv/L1186699

P.S. When you think of the support you could provide every time you pay a monthly bill, it's truly amazing. Please give us a call to learn more or visit our special web page listed below. Let us be your "One-Stop Shop" for home services, business services and health and wellness products and services that include but are not limited to merchant processing/payment solutions, mobile marketing, healthcare, identity theft protection, internet, cable, home security and residential and commercial energy savings.

Visit us at: www.tinyurl.com/nabcsavesumoney

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National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice

ATTN: LINX2FUNDS PROGRAM

NCCU ♦ Post Office Box 20011-C ♦ Durham, NC 27707

919.683.1801 ♦ 716.830.7803 ♦ 773.495.6936 ♦ 919.683.1903 Fax

Website: www.nabci.org | E-mail: nabclinx2funds@gmail.com

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Your DONATIONS will benefit the NABCJ 5E Initiative
Programs ~ Services ~ Training



On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com) select National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice (NABCJ) as your charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. YOU get the same Amazon selection while NABCJ gets a charitable donation of .5% of your purchase of tens of millions of eligible items. We will remember your selection and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation to NABCJ. Thanking you in advance for your support.

Dallas Chapter on the *Move*



The Dallas Chapter of The National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice would like to extend greetings to all our NABCIJ members and supporters. Returning from a very successful 44th conference and training in Ohio, the Dallas Chapter has truly embraced the theme of “Criminal Justice in the 21st Century: New Challenges, Old Problems”. We have embraced this theme by engaging in events within our city, helped to revive a student chapter, increase membership and scheduled a number of volunteer opportunities.

The Dallas Chapter supported the City of Dallas in its efforts to get “The Cite and Release” program up and running within the city. The City of Dallas “Site and Release Program” enables Law Enforcement to release a subject after being contacted and detained for a Misdemeanor Offense rather than requiring them to be formally arrested and booked into the County Jail. This

process allows for Law Enforcement to remain engaged in the community to handle more serious criminal matters.

On November 2, 2017, the Dallas Chapter traveled to Texas College and held a Criminal Justice workshop with 50 students in an effort to help develop the NABCIJ student chapter at the college. Eleven students officially joined the student chapter that day. The Dallas Chapter will be hosting 15 students from Texas College on November 28th, to further immerse them into the Criminal Justice System by providing a Q&A Session that will include a panel of Judges, Administrators, and Probation Officers. The day will conclude with a tour of the Dallas County Crime Lab.



Recruiting has gone well for our chapter and we have added several new members to our ranks since returning from the National Conference.

We also have coordinated with the City of Dallas Community Courts for our annual “Keep Dallas Warm” project. Our local NABCIJ chapter will help to collect new hats, gloves, and blankets to be distributed to the homeless and disadvantaged citizens of Dallas County that are identified by the Community Court and their programs. The Dallas Chapter will continue serving the community by completing community service projects through local nonprofit agencies such as: The Stew Pot Food Pantry, North Texas Food Bank and The Ark of Hope.

The Dallas Chapter is also gearing up to assist the Houston Chapter in hosting another successful 45th Conference and Training.

As you can see, The Dallas Chapter has hit the ground running and we are excited about the future direction of Criminal Justice reform and transformation and we are proud to continue to advocate for change in the Criminal Justice System.

Regards,

Etho T. Pugh, Sr.
President, Dallas Chapter

30th ANNUAL OHIO State Conference

On October 15-17, 2017, the Cleveland Affiliate, Ohio Chapter, National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice (NABCI) welcomed the 30th Annual Ohio State Conference to the beautiful city of Beachwood, Ohio. The theme for the conference was “Criminal Justice in the 21st Century: Finding Solutions to New Challenges and Old Problems.”

The Presidential Reception was a time of acknowledgement and thanks to State President Garey Burt’s commitment and loyalty to the Ohio Chapter. President Burt honored all the affiliate chairs, executive board members and co-conference chairs. He also presented the presidential awards to several chapter and national members. A special thanks was given to the Cleveland Affiliate for hosting the state conference.



The conference opened with a songstress and a praise dance that infused a sense of historical pride to the Negro National Anthem. This was followed by State President Garey Burt,

ODRC Contract Monitor being presented with a proclamation by Beachwood Chief of Police, Gary R. Haba. President Burt encouraged everyone to remember the mission of NABCI and by continuing to work together, we can achieve our goals.

Warden Kimberly Clipper (Lorain Correctional Institution) served as the Mistress of Ceremonies and Tonya Ellis, Assistant Regional Administrator, Adult Parole Authority (APA) Cleveland Region, and Lucretia Kelly, Operational Compliance Manager, (Northeast Reintegration Center) served as Co-Chairmen for the conference.

Over 15 workshops were offered during the two-day conference. They covered a multitude of relevant issues in the workplace today, including Gender Responsiveness, Corrections Fatigue, Managing a Muslim Population, Human Trafficking, Intelligent Leadership and Addiction Treatment, to name a few. Attendees had the opportunity to network, discuss best practices and take valuable information back to their respective organizations and work sites.

The Honorable Judge Michael J. Ryan, Juvenile Division, Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas, opened the morning session with an inspirational message of hope describing how his life began and how he continued to persevere and rise to become the youngest African American in Cuyahoga County elected as a judge. Katrice Williams, Policy Advocate, ACLU of Ohio enlightened the audience with information regarding voting rights and Terry A. Webb, Assistant Professor, Counseling, Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C) reminded the scholarship students that education holds the key to their future. He put great emphasis on college; and even when he didn't



have a place to come home on breaks, he believed remaining in school and furthering his education was his only escape. The highlight of our conference was awarding several deserving students throughout the State of Ohio with scholarships toward their college education at the Dr. Bennett J. Cooper Scholarship Luncheon.

The Cleveland Affiliate hosted a Halloween Costume Party for Affiliate Night with several prizes going to the most creative male and female costumes.

There were several vendors in attendance showcasing a wide spectrum of products. The conference attracted more than 200 attendees who were enriched by the workshops and networking aimed



at “Finding Solutions to New Challenges and Old Problems.”

THE SOUTH CAROLINA CHAPTER 24TH ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE



On Friday, December 1, 2017, the South Carolina Chapter of the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice held its 24th Annual Training Conference. The theme for this conference was “Breaking Barriers: Building Bridges for the 21st Century.” The conference was well attended by Criminal Justice professionals, law enforcement professionals, and community leaders from across the State and beyond.



Also, in attendance were the South Carolina State University NABCI Student Chapter

The training track included topics such as,

- ◆ Integrity of Correctional Workers
- ◆ Suicide Prevention
- ◆ Building Stronger Communities
- ◆ Financial Literacy.

This conference also presented an opportunity for Exhibitors and Vendors to display their products and services.



and the Benedict College Criminal Justice Students. The special guest luncheon speakers was Mr. Ricky Barr, South Carolina Centers for Fathers and Families.



We would like to send a special thanks to Ms. Terri McGee, National President of the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice, for her attendance and continued support of the South Carolina Chapter.

Website: <https://scnabcj.org>

Oppression/Expression of African Americans in 2017

The Flag and National Anthem

As an African American, you must revisit the history timeline -- from the creation of the American flag, the composition of the National Anthem, and the discontinuance of slavery. How, as ancestors of former slaves, did the acceptance of the flag and the National Anthem play a roll in the oppression of African Americans in 2017? This is the question that historians continue to research. We may never completely answer this question, but we may shed light on a closer resolution of unification from something called "history." History will make you reflect, and prevent Americans from repeating past discretions. However, in 2017, African Americans are again feeling the squeeze of "Oppression."

On June 14, 1777, in order to establish an official flag for the new nation, the Continental Congress passed the first Flag Act: "Resolved, that the flag of the United States be made of thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new Constellation."

The First Amendment of the United States Constitution protects the right to freedom of religion and freedom of expression from government interference. It prohibits any laws that establish a national religion, impede the free exercise of religion, abridge the freedom of speech, infringe upon the freedom of the press, interfere with the right to peaceably assemble, or prohibit citizens from petitioning for a governmental redress of grievances. It was adopted into the Bill of Rights in 1791. The Supreme Court interprets the extent of the protection afforded to these rights. The First Amendment has been interpreted by the Court as applying to the entire federal government even though it is only expressly applicable to Congress. Furthermore, the Court has interpreted the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment as protecting the rights in the First Amendment from interference by state governments. (Excerpts from the Legal Information Institute)

Flag Act of January 13, 1794 - provided for 15 stripes and 15 stars after May 1795.

Flag Act of April 4, 1818 - provided for 13 stripes and one star for each state, to be added to the flag on the 4th of July following the admission of each new state, signed by President Monroe.

On September 22 1862, Abraham Lincoln issued his preliminary Emancipation Proclamation, in which he declared that as of January 1, 1863, all slaves in states in rebellion against the Union "shall be then, thence forward, and forever free." To commemorate the occasion, we invite you to consider some surprising facts about Lincoln's views on slavery, and the complex process that led him to issue the document he later called "the central act of my administration, and the greatest event of the 19th century." In 1892, Francis Bellamy created what was known as the Bellamy salute. It started with the hand outstretched toward the flag, palm down, and ended with the palm up. Because of the similarity between the Bellamy salute and the Nazi salute, which was adopted in Germany

later, the US Congress stipulated that the hand-over-the-heart gesture as the salute to be rendered by civilians during the Pledge of Allegiance and the national anthem in the US would be the salute to replace the Bellamy salute.

Executive Order of President Taft dated June 24, 1912 - established proportions of the flag and provided for arrangement of the stars in six horizontal rows of eight each, a single point of each star to be upward.

Removal of the Bellamy salute occurred on December 22, 1942, when Congress amended the Flag Code language first passed into law on June 22, 1942.

In 1943, the U.S. Supreme Court held in *West Virginia State Board of Education v. Barnette*, that forcing a student to recite the Pledge of Allegiance, then punishing them if they did not, violated First Amendment rights to free speech and the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. •

Executive Order of President Eisenhower dated January 3, 1959 - provided for the arrangement of the stars in seven rows of seven stars each, staggered horizontally and vertically.

Executive Order of President Eisenhower dated August 21, 1959 - provided for the arrangement of the stars in nine rows of stars staggered horizontally and eleven rows of stars staggered vertically.

Attached to bills passed in Congress in 2008 and then in 2009 (Section 301(b)(1) of title 36, United States Code), language was included which authorized all active duty military personnel and all veterans in civilian clothes to render a proper hand salute during the raising and lowering of the flag, when the colors are presented, and during the National Anthem.

The National Anthem, "The Star-Spangled Banner", written in 1814 by Francis Scott Key, is usually sung with the first two stanzas. It is sung at such a high pitch, the words are so skewed; it is hard to interpret the contents. However, if you were to sing all four stanzas, at an audible pace, it would leave you to question why it is considered a national song when the third stanza speaks of abolishing the slaves. How can a song written by a slave owner during slavery time reflect the land of the free and the home of the brave? One would speculate that the song would only represent the free Americans. Here is the song printed for your evaluation.

. "The Star-Spangled Banner"

Written in 1814 by Francis Scott Key

O say can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there;
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

On the shore dimly seen through the mists of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected now shines in the stream:
'Tis the star-spangled banner, O long may it wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion,
A home and a country, should leave us no more?
Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps' pollution.
No refuge could save the hireling and slave
From the terror of flight, or the gloom of the grave:
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave,
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

O thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation.
Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the Heav'n rescued land
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation!
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto: '[In God is our trust.](#)'
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave! ¹

In the aftermath of the Trayvon Martin's killing, an awakening of the Black Lives Matter Movement and the continuation of fear arose by African American males. The fear stimulated from past experiences of our ancestors. The experiences of walking while Black, talking while Black and wanting a better life while Black, is the fear of all African Americans. The fear, whether real or felt, is considered the Oppression of African Americans in 2017.

Oppression of African Americans in 2017

If you've never been stopped for being Black in a neighborhood you live in, Stand

If you've never been feared because of the build of your body, Stand

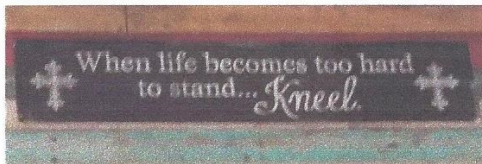
If you've never been mistaken for the guy that just robbed a store, Stand

If you've never been perceived as threatening, Stand

**If you've never been denied a job because of the style of your hair or your fashion choice,
Stand**

**If you've never had to talk to your son about how to address a police officer when he stops
you so that you can make it home alive, Stand**

Until you can say NO and STAND, we KNEEL



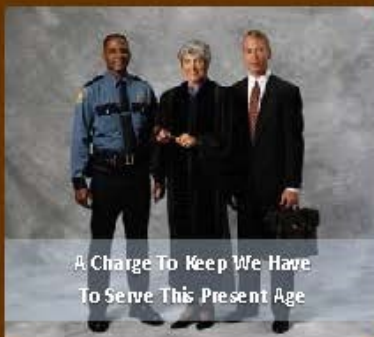
Commentary by

Mary Bobb-Singleton

South Region Representative



January 14, 2018



A Charge To Keep We Have
To Serve This Present Age



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Fax: 919.683.1903
Toll Free: 866.846.2225

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Monday - Friday

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