

Political Makers

THE HISTORYMAKERS®

**HISTORY OF
AFRICAN AMERICANS IN POLITICS
1600S - 2023**

(Draft Copy)

DO NOT DISTRIBUTE

1600s

- **1641-Mathias de Sousa (Maryland)**, a “Molato” (mulatto) of African and European descent, is elected to the Maryland General Assembly and serves until 1642. An indentured servant who worked for Jesuit priests for four years before becoming a free man in 1638, Sousa made a living trading furs between European settlers and the Susquehannock before a court order required him to return to indentured servitude to repay a debt.¹



Mathias de Sousa

1700s

- **1789-George Washington (Virginia)** is elected the 1st president of the United States and remained in office until 1797. He owned hundreds of slaves at his Mount Vernon estate, but then freed them upon his death.

- **1797-John Adams (Massachusetts)** is elected the 2nd president of the United States and remained in office until 1801. Adams represented slaves in lawsuits for their freedom prior to the Revolutionary War and tried to keep the issue of slavery out of national politics since it was too divisive. Adams did not own slaves but may have hired slaves from slaveowners.²

- **1768-Wentworth Cheswell (Newmarket, NH)** is elected town constable of Newmarket, New Hampshire and later serves in a range of governmental positions including auditor, assessor, selectman, and Justice of the Peace. Although the census listed him as white, he was considered mulatto because his father, **Hopestill Cheswell**, was a bi-racial, free-born black man.³



Wentworth Cheswell

1800-1809

- **1801-Thomas Jefferson (Virginia)** is elected the 3rd president of the United States and remained in office until 1809. Jefferson owned more than 600 slaves and fathered six children with his slave **Sally Hemings**. He wrote about the “inferiority” of black people and slavery as a “moral depravity” and affront to personal liberty. He also drafted legislation to gradually eliminate slavery (including colonization of former slaves back to Africa).⁴

- **1809-James Madison (Virginia)** is elected the 4th president of the United States and remained in office until 1817. A slaveowner, Madison wrote the **Three-Fifths Compromise** into the constitution, which counted enslaved people as three-fifths of a person for legislative representation.⁵ He also supported gradual compensated emancipation which meant that the

enslaved person's owner would receive compensation in exchange for manumitting his slaves. This could be monetary, or it could be a period of labor, an indenture.

1810-1819

- **1817-James Monroe (Virginia)** is elected the 5th president of the United States and remained in office until 1825. He owned over 250 slaves, and he supported gradual compensated emancipation and colonization (relocating former slaves to Africa through organizations like the **American Colonization Society**), since slavery threatened to divide the nation.⁶

1820-1829

- **1825-John Quincy Adams (Massachusetts)** is elected the 6th president of the United States and remained in office until 1829. Although Adams politically opposed slavery, he benefited personally and economically from enslaved labor. As a congressman (1831-1948), he had become increasingly anti-slavery, opposing the annexation of Texas and the Mexican American War for extending slavery.⁷
- **1829-Andrew Jackson (colonial Carolinas)** is elected the 7th president of the United States and remained in office until 1837. Jackson owed his wealth to slave labor, owning 150 persons at the time of his death. As president, he opposed policies prohibiting slavery in the western territories,
- **1830-In North Carolina v. Mann (North Carolina)** the Supreme Court of North Carolina states that slave owners possess absolute authority over their slaves and cannot be convicted of the crime of battery. Judge Thomas Ruffin wrote, "The power of the master must be absolute, to render the submission of the slave perfect."⁸
- **1836-Alexander Twilight (Vermont)**, an educator and minister who graduated from **Middlebury College** in 1823, is elected to the Vermont House of Representatives, becoming one of the first African Americans elected to a state legislature.⁹ He was born to mixed-race parents (classified in government records as "not a slave," "colored," and "others free except Indians"), and his fair complexion likely obscured his African heritage. He achieved prominence as the pastor of **Brownington Congregationalist Church** and principal of the **Orleans County Grammar School** in Brownington, Vermont prior to the town electing him to the state legislature.¹⁰



Alexander Twilight

1840-1849

- **1841-William Henry Harrison (Virginia)** is elected the 9th president of the United States. However, he dies of typhoid and pneumonia on April 4, 1841, thirty-one days into his term. He had a strong pro-slavery record going back to his time as the territorial governor of Indiana.
- **1841-John Tyler (Virginia)** is elected the 10th president of the United States and remained in office until 1845. A slaveowner, he treated slavery as a states' rights issue that fell outside the reach of the federal government while at the same time calling slavery a moral evil and threat to national unity.¹¹

- **1845-James Polk (North Carolina)** is elected the 11th president of the United States and remained in office until 1849. He owned slaves and viewed slavery as a state's rights issue that would help with territorial expansion and economic growth.¹² He, however, willed his slaves free upon his death.
- **1849-Zachary Taylor (Virginia)** is elected the 12th president of the United States and remained in office until 1850. While still a slaveowner, he supported some anti-slavery measures, including limiting the spread of slavery to the new territories acquired due to the Mexican Cession.¹³
- **1845-William Alexander Leidesdorff (San Francisco, CA)** becomes the nation's first African American diplomat when he is named the U.S. Vice Consul to Mexico in 1845. Along with running a successful hotel, shipping warehouse, and steamboat (all firsts in San Francisco), he was also elected to San Francisco's first city council and its first school board in 1847. He was born in the Danish West Indies (later the U.S. Virgin Islands) to a Danish sugar planter, Alexander Leidesdorff, and a mixed-race woman, Anna Marie Sparks.¹⁴



William Alexander Leidesdorff

1850-1859

- **1850-Millard Fillmore (New York)** is elected the 13th president of the United States and remained in office until 1853. He considered slavery a states' rights issue beyond federal control and supported the **Compromise of 1850** that allowed each western territory to decide if it allowed slavery. This included the **Fugitive Slave Act** that required free states cooperate in returning escaped slaves to their owners.
- **1853-Franklin Pierce (New Hampshire)** is elected the 14th president of the United States and remained in office until 1857. He opposed the abolitionist movement as a threat to national unity. He enforced the **Fugitive Slave Act** and signed the **Kansas-Nebraska Act**, which repealed the **Missouri Compromise** and allowed the territories of Kansas and Nebraska to popularly decide if they allowed slavery.
- **1857-James Buchanan (Pennsylvania)** is elected the 15th president of the United States and remained in office until 1861. Buchanan believed the constitution protected slavery and he tried to smooth tensions between pro- and anti-slavery factions. Buchanan pressured the U.S. Supreme court to issue a comprehensive judgement in **Dred Scott v. Sanford (1857)**; the court obliged by ruling that black men and women were not and could not be citizens.¹⁵

1860-1869

- **1861-Abraham Lincoln (Kentucky)** is elected the 16th president of the United States and remained in office until 1865. While a moderate on the slavery issue, Lincoln morally opposed slavery and supported compensated emancipation and colonization. His presidential election triggered southern secession and the Civil War. Partly as a military strategy to weaken the South, Lincoln issued the **Emancipation Proclamation** declaring an end to slavery.¹⁶
- **1865-Andrew Johnson (North Carolina)** is elected the 17th president of the United States and remained in office until 1869. As a southern slaveowner, he believed the constitution supported slavery but rejected secession and remained loyal to the Union, becoming Lincoln's vice president. He also took a moderate approach to **Reconstruction**, choosing leniency with the southern states and vetoing the **Freedman's Bureau bill** and the **Civil Rights bill** that would have granted more rights to African Americans.¹⁷
- **1869-Ulysses S. Grant (Ohio)** is elected the 18th president of the United States and remained in office until 1877. He served as commanding general of the Union army and postbellum General of the Army of the United States. He also pushed to protect the civil rights of African Americans through **Reconstruction** policies—including ensuring the passage of the **Fifteenth Amendment** that granted black men the right to vote and prosecuting members of the **Ku Klux Klan**, but he also failed to adequately intervene in many southern states.¹⁸
- **1865-The Freedmen's Bureau (Washington, D.C.)** is created by Congress as a Reconstruction measure that, in part, creates more schools for blacks throughout the South, including thirteen black colleges in southern states.¹⁹
- **1864-Robert Smalls (Beaufort, South Carolina)** serves as a free black delegate to the **1864 Republican National Convention**. He escaped slavery in 1862 by commandeering the Confederate transport steamer where he was a deckhand, bringing aboard his family and twelve other slaves, and sailing to a Union blockade. He became a northern celebrity, went on speaking tours, and served in the Union Armed Forces.²⁰
- **1867-John M. Langston (Southern states)**, an abolitionist, lawyer, and politician, is appointed Inspector General of the **Freedmen's Bureau**, and he tours the postwar South speaking out in favor of educational opportunities and against segregated facilities.²¹
- **1869-Joseph H. Rainey (South Carolina)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives to complete the term of **Benjamin F. Whittemore** (who was charged with selling appointments to U.S. military academies) from South Carolina, making him the first African American to serve in the U.S.



Robert Smalls



John M. Langston

House of Representatives. He was reelected by both African American and white voters in 1873.²²

- **1869-Ebenezer D. Bassett (Haiti)** is appointed U.S. minister resident to Haiti by **President Ulysses S. Grant**, making him the first African American diplomat and the fourth ambassador to Haiti. He remained in this role for eight years through civil warfare and coups d'état in Haiti. He integrated Connecticut Normal School in 1953, befriended abolitionist **Frederick Douglas**, and recruited black soldiers to the Union Army. After the end of the Grant administration, he served as the consul general for Haiti in New York City for ten years.²³



Ebenezer D. Bassett

- **1860s-Robert Carlos De Large (Charleston, SC)** works for the **Freedman's Bureau** and helps organize the Republican Party in South Carolina. Although some records indicate he was born into slavery, he was likely the child of mixed-race parents who owned slaves and were members of the free mixed-race elite. De Large amassed a fortune working with the **Confederate Navy** during the Civil War and later donated much of his wartime earnings to the Republican Party.²⁴



Robert Carlos De Large

- **1866-Edward Garrison Walker (Massachusetts)**, an attorney, and **Charles Lewis Mitchell**, a printer and Civil War veteran, are both elected to the Massachusetts legislature, becoming the second and third African Americans elected to state legislatures.²⁵



Edward Garrison Walker



Charles Lewis Mitchell

- **1867-Joseph H. Rainey (Georgetown, SC)** becomes the Republican County chairman and, in 1868, represents Georgetown at the state constitutional convention. He served with the Confederate army for a year before escaping to Bermuda with his wife in 1862, returning to the United States after the war with wealth they acquired by establishing a barber shop and dress store.²⁶



Joseph H. Rainey

- **1867-Robert Carlos De Large (South Carolina)**, at only twenty-five-years old, chairs the platform committee at the Republican state convention in South Carolina, which issues a report calling for such changes as abolition of capital punishment, tax reform, welfare assistance, and liberal immigration laws.²⁷
- **1867-Edward Garrison Walker (Massachusetts)** switches to the Democratic Party when the Republican Party refuses to nominate him for reelection, leading to a number of African Americans in Boston to follow his lead and switch parties. His activism for racial equality results in him being

denied admission to the Georgia bar because he supposedly lacked proper “moral and mental qualifications.”²⁸

- **1867-William H. Gray (Arkansas)** is elected to the **Arkansas Constitutional Convention** of 1868 as one of four delegates from Phillips County. Along with seven other black delegates, he supported the **Radical Republican** platform and spoke out for the rights of freedmen to education and the franchise. As “the most eloquent and forceful speaker for black rights in Arkansas,” Gray “vigorously fought against efforts of whites [in the state legislature] to limit the voting privileges of Arkansas’s black citizens.”²⁹ Gray was born in Washington, D.C. to free parents and established himself as a businessman and politician after learning parliamentary procedure while accompanying his employer, **Virginia Governor Henry A. Wise**, to congressional sessions.³⁰
- **1868-Robert B. Elliott (South Carolina)**, born in England and admitted to the South Carolina bar in 1868, serves in the state constitutional convention as a delegate from the Edgefield district. In the 1860s, he worked on the black newspaper the ***South Carolina Leader*** (later the *Missionary Record*) with fellow future congressmen **Richard H. Cain** and **Alonzo J. Ransier**.³¹
- **1868-Robert B. Elliott (South Carolina)** is elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives between 1868-1870 and 1874-1876.³²
- **1868-Aaron Alpeoria Bradley (Savannah, GA)**, after his time in jail for sedition, is elected to the Georgia senate where he proves a divisive (and sometimes confrontational) figure among both whites and African Americans (including a run in on the senate floor where Bradley produced a pistol and knife). “White factions” feared “this legally trained man” and repeatedly tried to have him convicted of criminal charges, while “most blacks respected and admired him as a fearless leader.”³³
- **1868-Josiah T. Walls (Florida)** is elected to the Florida House of Representatives from Alachua County and remained in office until 1869. He was born into slavery and forced to join the Confederate army before he was captured at Yorktown in 1862 and rose to corporal in the **United States Colored Troops**. Like many black Civil War veterans, Walls distanced himself from advocating for controversial political issues.³⁴
- **1868-Stephen Atkins Swails (South Carolina)** is elected on the Republican ticket as a state senator in the South Carolina legislature and remained in the position for ten years, from 1868 to 1878. He was among only a handful of Northern black soldiers who chose to stay and live in the South after the Civil War.³⁵
- **1868-Henrey S. Harmon (Florida)**, born in Philadelphia to parents who fled Virginia to escape slavery, is elected to serve in the Florida House of Representatives and remained in office until 1870. He avoided endorsing radical political positions or social equality in favor of focusing on technical matters to improve the administration.³⁶
- **1868-The “Original 33” (Georgia)** become the first thirty-three African Americans elected to the Georgia state legislature in 1868 during Reconstruction.³⁷ They included:



William H. Gray



Robert B. Elliott



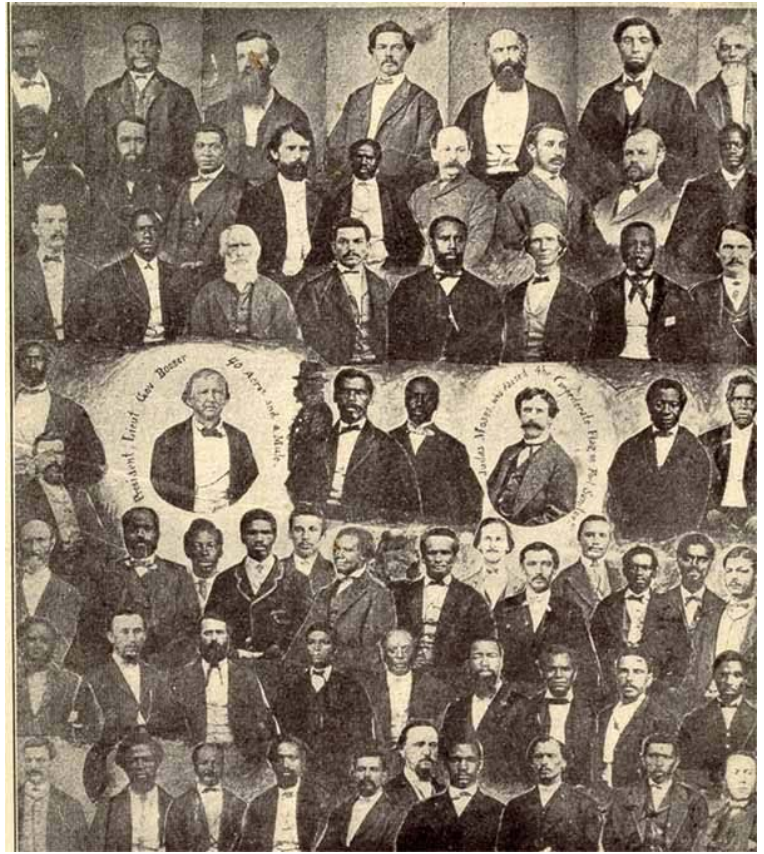
Josiah T. Walls



Stephen Atkins Swails

Representatives

Thomas M. Allen, Jasper County
Eli Barnes, Hancock County
Thomas Beard, Richmond County
Edwin Belcher, Wilkes County
Tunis Campbell Jr., McIntosh County
Malcolm Claiborn, Burke County
George H. Clower, Monroe County
Abram Colby, Greene County
John T. Costin, Talbot County
Madison Davis, Clarke County
Monday Floyd, Morgan County
F. H. Fyall, Macon County
Samuel Gardner, Warren County
William Guilford, Upson County
William A. Golden, Liberty County
William Henry Harrison, Hancock County
Ulysses L. Houston, Bryan County
Philip Joiner, Dougherty County
George Linder, Laurens County
Robert Lumpkin, Macon County
Romulus Moore, Columbia County
Peter O'Neal, Baldwin County
James Ward Porter, Chatham County
Alfred Richardson, Clarke County
James M. Simms, Chatham County
Abraham Smith, Muscogee County
Alexander Stone, Jefferson County
Henry McNeal Turner, Bibb County
John Warren, Burke County
Samuel Williams, Harris County



State Senators

Aaron Alpeoria Bradley, of Chatham, who also represented Bryan and Effingham counties.

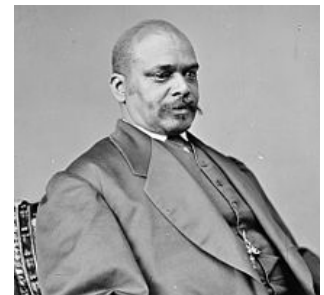
Tunis Campbell Sr., of McIntosh County, who also represented Liberty and Tattnall counties.

George Wallace, who represented Hancock, Baldwin, and Washington counties.

- **1868-The Camilla Massacre (Georgia)** results in fifteen deaths and forty injured after white police and armed citizens retaliate against African Americans leading a march to protest white legislators who expelled the “**Original 33**” black legislators from the Georgia state assembly on September 3, 1868.³⁸
- **1868-John James Smith (Massachusetts)**, a barber and Civil War veteran, is elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives in 1868, 1869, and 1872, making him the first black legislator elected to more than one term in Massachusetts.³⁹
- **1868-Oscar Dunn (Louisiana)** is elected the first African American lieutenant governor of Louisiana and serves until 1871. He was poised to become acting governor but died in 1871 before **Louisiana Governor Henry C. Warmoth** was impeached in 1872.⁴⁰
- **1868-Pickney Benton Stewart Pinchback (Louisiana)**, after serving as a member of the delegation that established a new state constitution, is elected to the Louisiana state senate and becomes the president *pro tempore*, the second highest ranking position who presides over the senate in the absence of the senate president. He was born to a white planter, **William Pinchback**, and his former slave, **Eliza Steward**, and he fought for the Union army in the Civil War.⁴¹
- **1868-Robert Carlos De Large (Charleston, SC)** is a member of the South Carolina Constitutional Convention, which revises the state’s constitution, and he advocates for Congress to purchase a million dollars of land and distribute it to the poor.⁴²
- **1868-Robert Carlos De Large (South Carolina)** is elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives and chairs the Ways and Means Committee.⁴³
- **1869-The “Original 33” (Georgia)** black legislators in the Georgia legislature petition the courts to intervene in their expulsion from political office; in *White v. Clements* (1869), the Supreme Court of Georgia rules that African Americans do not have a right to hold public office in Georgia.⁴⁴



John James Smith



Oscar Dunn



Pickney Benton Stewart Pinchback

- **1869-William H. Gray (Arkansas)** is elected as a state legislator in Arkansas and, as a delegate to the 1872 Republican National Convention, becomes the first African American to address a national presidential nominating convention while speaking in support of **President Ulysses S. Grant**.⁴⁵
- **1869-Jefferson F. Long (Georgia)** serves on the Georgia Republican Party state committee and is a leader in the Georgia Labor Convention that organizes and advocates for black agricultural workers. Born into slavery, he defied the law by learning to read and write and, after the Civil War, opened a prosperous tailor shop that helped him establish important political connections with white Republicans.⁴⁶
- **1869-Hiram R. Revels (Mississippi)** is elected to the Mississippi senate.⁴⁷
- **1869-George Lewis Ruffin (Massachusetts)** is elected to the Massachusetts legislature to represent the sixth ward (now the ninth ward) on the Republican ticket and served one term.⁴⁸
- **1869-Josiah T. Walls (Florida)** is elected to the Florida Senate as a representative from the thirteenth district and remained in office until 1871, and he is then reelected from 1877 to 1881.⁴⁹
- **1869-John R. Lynch (Mississippi)** is elected to the Mississippi legislature on the Republican ticket and serves until 1873. He was born into slavery to **Catherine White**, an enslaved woman, and **Patrick Lynch**, an Irish immigrant and overseer who attempted to buy freedom for Catherine and their three sons before his 1849 death (they gained freedom with the **Emancipation Proclamation**).⁵⁰
- **1860s-Blanche K. Bruce (Bolivar, MI)** is elected to several county positions in Bolivar County, Mississippi during the 1860s, including registrar of voters, tax assessor, sheriff, tax collector, and supervisor of education. He was born into slavery in Virginia to an enslaved woman, **Polly Bruce**, and her owner, **Pettis Perkinson**. After attending **Oberlin College** for two years and opening a school for black children in Hannibal, Missouri. He moved to Mississippi in 1868 and, in 1874, purchased a plantation where black sharecroppers labored in oppressive conditions, increasing the wealthy and social standing of the Bruce family among the black elite.⁵¹
- **1867-Oscar Dunn (New Orleans, LA)** is elected to the New Orleans City Council where he advocates for education for all children regardless of race. He was born into slavery in 1826 but was emancipated in 1832 when his formerly enslaved father purchased the freedom of his wife and children.⁵²



Jefferson F. Long



Hiram R. Revels



George Lewis Ruffin



John R. Lynch

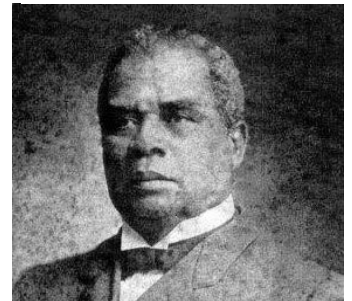


Blanche K. Bruce

- **1867-Benjamin S. Turner (Alabama)** is appointed Dallas County tax collector. Born into slavery, he earned sufficient capital as a merchant and farmer that he purchased land and established a school for freedmen in 1865.⁵³
- **1868-Pierre Caliste Landry (Donaldsonville, LA)**—a former slave, attorney, and minister—is elected mayor of Donaldsonville, Louisiana (the former state capital from 1829-1831), making him the first African American elected mayor of a U.S. town. He held office for one term then subsequently served as justice of the peace, superintendent of schools, president of the police jury, tax collector, and postmaster.⁵⁴
- **1868-Stephen Atkins Swails (Kingstree, SC)** is elected as the first African American mayor of Kingstree, South Carolina. He served in the Union Army during the Civil War and was the first African American soldier promoted to a commissioned rank; although he often passed as white, the U.S. War Department initially denied his promotion due to race.⁵⁵
- **1869-Benjamin S. Turner (Selma, AL)** is elected as Selma councilman but resigns in protest because he believes that public officials should not be paid.⁵⁶
- **1869-Hiram R. Revels (Natchez, MS)** is elected alderman in Natchez, Mississippi. He was born to a free African American father and a mother of Irish descent. He preached in both the **AME church** and the **Methodist Episcopal church** along with serving in the Union Army.⁵⁷
- **1869-Robert H. Wood (Natchez, MS)** is appointed mayor of Natchez, Mississippi, by **Governor James L. Alcorn** and is then elected mayor in 1870, making him the first African American mayor of a Mississippi city. He was born to **Susie Harris**, an African American housekeeper, and **Dr. Robert Wood**, a white doctor who was also mayor of Natchez at one time. As mayor, Robert H. Wood built the first school for African Americans in Natchez in 1871, and he worked closely with **John R. Lynch**, the black congressman who represented the area.⁵⁸
- **1869-William B. Scott (Maryville, TN)** is elected the first African American mayor of Maryville, Tennessee and serves for one year. Born free to a white mother and black father, he both ran a saddle and harness business and also, in 1865, established the *Colored Tennessean*, the first black newspaper in Tennessee. He also founded one of the first schools for blacks in east Tennessee, the **Freedman's Normal Institute**, which operated in Maryville for thirty years.⁵⁹



Benjamin S. Turner



Pierre Caliste Landry



Stephen Atkins Swails



William B. Scott

1870-1879

- **1877-Rutherford B. Hayes (Ohio)** is elected the 19th president of the United States and remained in office until 1881. A lawyer and abolitionist, he had defended runaway slaves taken to court under the **Fugitive Slave Law**. With the **Compromise of 1877**, southern Democrats agreed on Hayes' victory in the contested presidential election so long as he withdrew all federal troops from the South. This compromise and the Democrats control of the House of Representatives forced the end of Reconstruction.⁶⁰
- **1870-Jefferson F. Long (Georgia)** becomes the second African American elected to the U.S. House of Representatives where he represents Georgia, which would not elect another black representative until **Andrew Young** in 1972. While elected in 1870, complications over readmitting Georgia to the Union prevented him from begin sworn in until January 16, 1871.⁶¹
- **1870-Benjamin S. Turner (Alabama)** is elected to represent Alabama in the U.S. House of Representatives and takes his seat in 1871. He ran on a ticket supporting universal suffrage and universal amnesty, believing that political and educational rights of freedmen and clearing former Confederates of political restrictions were both necessary for repairing the destruction in Alabama.⁶²
- **1870-Robert Carlos De Large (South Carolina)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from South Carolina but is not allowed to serve his full term because his seat is declared vacant due to election fraud.⁶³
- **1870-Robert B. Elliott (South Carolina)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from South Carolina and serves from 1871 to 1874.⁶⁴
- **1870-Hiram R. Revels (Mississippi)** is elected by the Mississippi senate to finish the term of one the state's U.S. Senate seats that had been left empty since **Albert Brown** vacated it during the Civil War when the state seceded from the union, making him the first African American to serve in the U.S. Senate.⁶⁵
- **1871-Robert B. Elliott (Washington, D.C.)** gives his first speech before Congress as a U.S. representative where he challenges the **Amnesty Bill** that re-establishes the political rights of former Confederates. He soon gives another speech in support of the **Ku Klux Klan Bill** (or the **Enforcement Act of 1871**) that sought to curb their terrorist actions by allowing the president to suspend the writ of habeas corpus for white supremacy organizations.⁶⁶
- **1871-Jefferson F. Long (Washington, D.C.)** becomes the first African American representative to speak before the House of Representatives when he opposes a bill that exempts former Confederate politicians from swearing allegiance to the U.S. Constitution.⁶⁷
- **1871-Josiah T. Walls (Florida)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives to represent Florida and remained in office until 1876.⁶⁸



Robert B. Elliott



Josiah T. Walls

- **1872-John R. Lynch (Mississippi)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from the sixth district of Mississippi where he serves two terms, from 1873-1877 and from 1882-1883, making him the only African American U.S. representative for a century.⁶⁹



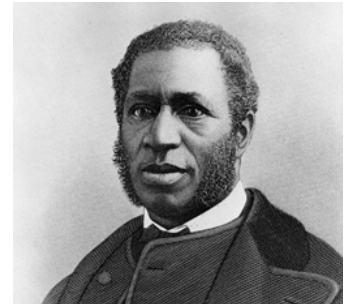
John R. Lynch

- **1873-Pickney Benton Stewart Pinchback (Louisiana)** is elected to the U.S. Senate from Louisiana but is denied his seat when the election is contested.⁷⁰



Pickney Benton Stewart Pinchback

- **1873-Richard H. Cain (South Carolina)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from South Carolina's at-large district from 1873 to 1875 and then from the second district from 1877 to 1879. He previously served in the South Carolina Senate from 1868 to 1870. Born free in Virginia to a Cherokee mother and black father, he became a minister in the **African Methodist Episcopal Church** in Missouri, Iowa, and then South Carolina. He spoke before Congress to defend the education clause of the **Civil Rights Bill of 1875**, though it did not pass. With the impending failure of Reconstruction, he encouraged African Americans to immigrate to Liberia in West Africa.⁷¹



Richard H. Cain

- **1873-Robert B. Elliott (South Carolina)**, during his second term in the U.S. House of Representatives, works to build support for **Senator Charles Sumner's** civil rights legislation—which became the poorly enforced **Civil Rights Act of 1875**—that banned discrimination in public transportation, public accommodations, and schools.⁷²



Robert B. Elliott

- **1874-Joseph H. Rainey (Washington, D.C.)** becomes the first African American to preside over the House of Representatives when he oversees a debate on managing Indian reservations for the Committee on Indian Affairs.⁷³



Joseph H. Rainey

- **1874-John R. Lynch (Washington, D.C.)** is one of seven black congressmen who testify to their personal experiences of violence and discrimination in support of the **Civil Rights Act of 1875**, which was drafted by **Senator Charles Sumner** and **John Mercer Langston** to provide for equal treatment in public accommodations and transportation (though it was poorly enforced).⁷⁴
- **1875-Blanche K. Bruce (Mississippi)** is elected to the U.S. Senate by the Mississippi legislature and remained in office until 1881, making him the second African American to serve in the upper house of Congress (after **Hiram R. Revels**) and the first to serve a full term.⁷⁵
- **1875-Robert Smalls (South Carolina)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from South Carolina where he serves three terms (1875-1879, 1882-1883, and 1884-1887). Redistricting produced a majority-black constituency (including his hometown of Beaufort where African Americans outnumbered whites seven to one) and he was elected with nearly 80 percent of the vote. He advocated for antidiscrimination laws and continued federal troops in the south.⁷⁶
- **1876-John R. Lynch (Washington, D.C.)** spends his second term in the U.S. House of Representatives defending Congressional Reconstruction in the South and speaking out against the **White League** (or the **White Man's League**), a paramilitary organization that openly terrorized freedmen and sought to overthrow Reconstruction.⁷⁷
- **1879-Blanche K. Bruce (Washington, D.C.)** becomes the first African American and only former slave to preside over the U.S. Senate. A representative from Mississippi, he was the second African American to serve in the U.S. Senate. He was a member of the black elite who had extensive experience in local government.⁷⁸
- **1871-James Milton Turner (Liberia)** is appointed U.S. minister of Liberia by **President Ulysses S. Grant** and, later, **President Rutherford B. Hayes**, remaining in office until 1878. For into slavery, he served in the Union Army and was appointed assistant superintendent of school by **Missouri Governor Thomas Fletcher**.⁷⁹
- **1877-John Mercer Langston (Haiti)** is appointed U.S. minister to Haiti by **President Rutherford B. Hayes** and remained in that role until 1885. An abolitionist and lawyer, he was elected to the U.S. House in 1888.⁸⁰
- **1870s-James Henry Piles (Mississippi)** is elected to the Mississippi state legislature and later is assistant secretary of state. He was an **Oberlin College** graduate and the first African American man admitted to the bar in Mississippi.⁸¹
- **1870-Joseph H. Rainey (South Carolina)** is elected to the South Carolina Senate and immediately chairs the finance committee.⁸²
- **1870-Robert B. Elliott (South Carolina)** is appointed the assistant adjutant general of South Carolina by Republican **Governor Robert K. Scott**, which gives him the authority to raise the state militia to protect black citizens from the **Ku Klux Klan**. He resigned from the position soon thereafter because he believed Scott was using him for political purposes.⁸³



Blanche K. Bruce



James Milton Turner



John Mercer Langston

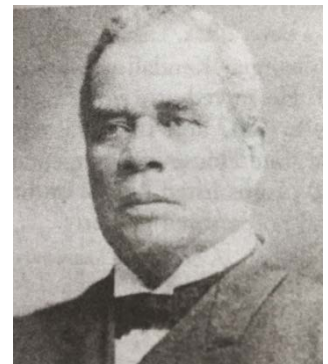
- **1871-Pickney Benton Stewart Pinchback (Louisiana)** is chosen by the state senate as the lieutenant governor of Louisiana after **Oscar Dunn** dies in office. In 1872, **Governor Henry Clay Warmouth** was impeached and Pinchback served as acting governor of Louisiana from December 9, 1872 to January 13, 1873, making him the first African American to serve as governor of any state. **John McEnery** took over as governor in January 1873. In 1890, **L. Douglas Wilder** became the first elected African American governor.⁸⁴
- **1871-Oscar Dunn (Louisiana)**, while serving as lieutenant governor of Louisiana, dies admit deep factions and rivalries within the state's Republican party, contributing to theories among contemporaries and historians that he was poisoned.⁸⁵
- **1871-Henry S. Harmon (Florida)** runs for the Florida Senate but loses to the incumbent Democrat. Harmon was described as "one of the shrewdest colored men in the state' during his run for the Florida state senate." In 1873, he is appointed chief clerk of the Florida House of Representatives.⁸⁶ He was former a state legislator who became the first African American admitted to the Florida bar in 1869.⁸⁷
- **1872-John R. Lynch (Mississippi)** becomes the first African American elected as speaker of the Mississippi House of Representatives.⁸⁸
- **1873-Hiram R. Revels (Mississippi)** briefly serves as the Mississippi secretary of state.⁸⁹
- **1873-Lewis Hayden (Massachusetts)** is elected to the Massachusetts legislature. He changed his last name from Grant to Hayden after he escaped from slavery with the help of abolitionists **Calvin Fairbanks** and **Delia Webster** (both of whom were sentenced to hard labor), and he worked with his wife **Harriet Hayden** to support the **Underground Railroad** and to challenge racial segregation on Massachusetts railroads. While in office, he supported efforts to erect a statue to **Crispus Attucks**, who was killed during the Boston Massacre.⁹⁰
- **1874-Pierre Caliste Landry (Louisiana)** is elected as a state senator for the eighth senatorial district of Louisiana, where he serves one term. All fourteen of his children—twelve with his first wife **Amanda Grigsby** and two with this second wife **Florence Simpkins**—attended college.⁹¹
- **1874-Robert B. Elliott (South Carolina)** is elected the twenty-eighth speaker of the South Carolina House of Representatives.⁹²
- **1876-Robert B. Elliott (South Carolina)** is elected the attorney general of South Carolina but is forced out of office the next year when federal troops withdraw from the state.⁹³
- **1877-Stephen Atkins Swails (South Carolina)** leaves political office after federal troops withdraw from the South and a white mob attempts to assassinate him. He then moved to Washington, D.C. and utilized his connections to find work in the U.S. Postal Service and the U.S. Treasury Department.⁹⁴
- **1876-George Lewis Ruffin (Boston, MA)** serves on the Boston Common Council (city council) from 1876 to 1877, making him the first African



An 1874 Thomas Nast political cartoon shows the White League working with the Klu Klux Klan to terrorize Southern African



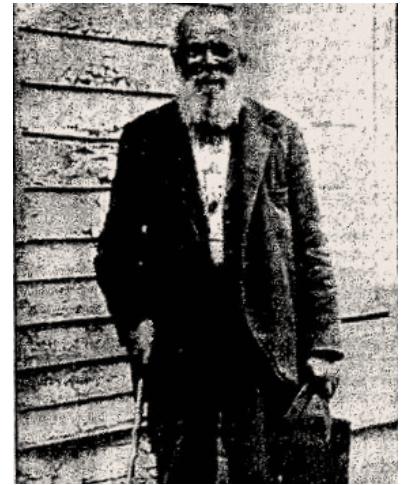
Lewis Hayden



Pierre Caliste Landry

American in this role. He was the son of free blacks and an early black graduate of **Harvard Law School**.⁹⁵

- **1878-Edward "Ned" Sherman (Cleveland, NY)** is the first African American mayor elected in the state of New York when he begins his one-year term in Cleveland, New York. A barber and mule driver active in local politics, he did not campaign for the post but won by twenty votes after the previous mayor, **Albert A. Yale**, resigned in response to anti-Catholic sentiment.⁹⁶



Edward "Ned" Sherman

1880-1889

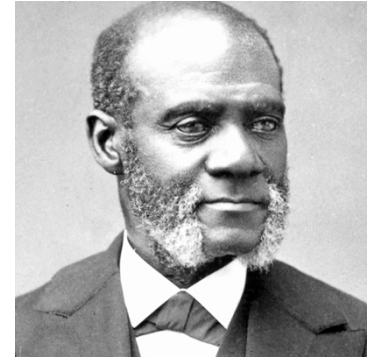
- **1881-James Garfield (Ohio)** is elected the 20th president of the United States and remained in office until 1881. As a congressman, he had supported the **Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments**. As president, he supported equal rights for black Americans, proposing government-funded education and appointing African Americans to prominent federal positions (including **Frederick Douglas** as the District of Columbia recorder of deeds and **Blanche Bruce** as the register of the treasury). An assassin shot Garfield in July and he died in September 1881.⁹⁷
- **1881-Chester Arthur (Ohio)** is elected the 21st president of the United States and remained in office until 1885. Coming from an abolitionist family, Arthur used his law degree to successfully represent a black woman removed from a whites-only streetcar in **Jennings v. Third Ave. R.R. Co. (1854)**, effectively desegregating New York streetcars. The strength of the southern Democratic Party prevented President Arthur from passing meaningful civil rights legislation.⁹⁸
- **1885-Grover Cleveland (New Jersey)** is elected the 22nd president of the United States and remained in office until 1889. He viewed Reconstruction as a failure and did not use federal power to enforce southern compliance with the **Fifteenth Amendment**.
- **1889-Benjamin Harrison (Ohio)** is elected the 23rd president of the United States and remained in office until 1893. He endorsed civil rights legislation like the **Federal Elections Bill (or Lodge Bill) (1890)** that would have given the federal government power to monitor black voting rights in the South, but these initiatives lacked sufficient congressional approval and failed.
- **1880-Blanche K. Bruce (Chicago, IL)** becomes the first African American to win any votes for national office from a major party's nominating convention when he receives eight votes for vice president at the **Republican National Convention** in Chicago, Illinois.⁹⁹
- **1881-Blanche K. Bruce (Washington, D.C.)** is the first African American appointed the register of the U.S. Treasury (his signature appeared on all of the nation's paper currency) by **President James Garfield (1881-1885)** and, later, by **President William McKinley (1897-1898)**.¹⁰⁰
- **1888-John M. Langston (Virginia and Washington, D.C.)** runs as an Independent to represent south-central Virginia in the U.S. House of Representatives at the urging of a citizen's committee composed of both white and black local political leaders. Racial tensions divided the election and Langston contested the results for eighteen months with the support of a biracial team of lawyers. He was ultimately declared the winner and served the remaining six months of his term.¹⁰¹
- **1889-Henry Cheatham (North Carolina)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from North Carolina's second district, and he remained in office



Henry Cheatham

until 1893. He was born into slavery in North Carolina and later earned an A.B. degree in 1882 from Shaw University Normal School (North Carolina's first college for African Americans) before becoming a teacher and principal. He primarily worked behind the scenes and focused on committee work.¹⁰²

- **1881-Henry Highland Garnet (Liberia)** is appointed U.S. minister resident to Liberia by **President James A. Garfield**, but he dies of malaria within two months of his arrival in Africa. He escaped slavery on the Underground Railroad with his parents in 1824 and, later, became a minister and abolitionist. He was the first African American to speak in the Capitol Building when he preached a sermon in the U.S. House of Representatives in 1865.¹⁰³



Henry Highland Garnet

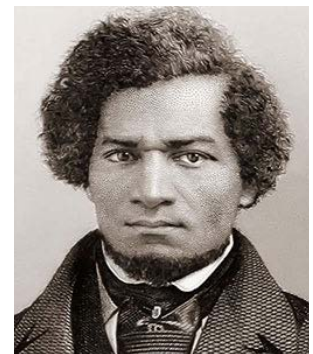


This 1872 illustration depicts early African American U.S. legislators Robert C. De Large, Jefferson F. Long, H.R. Revels, Benj. S. Turner, Josiah T. Walls, Joseph H. Rainey, and R. Brown Elliot



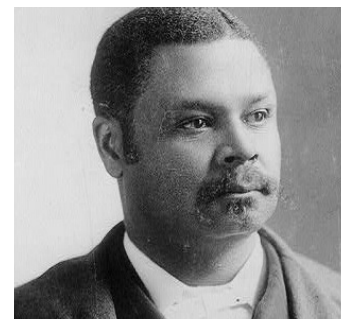
John E. W. Thompson

- **885-John E. W. Thompson (Haiti and Santo Domingo)** is appointed U.S. minister resident to Haiti and U.S. chargé d'affaires to Santo Domingo by **President Grover Cleveland**, and he remained in both posts until 1889. He graduated from Yale Medical School in 1883, and he was recommended for the diplomatic post by Yale faculty, several prominent Catholic bishops in New York and Delaware, and **New York City Mayor A. S. Hewitt**. He managed a diplomatic crisis wherein a Haitian gunboat seized an American passenger ship, *Haytian Republic*.¹⁰⁴



Frederick Douglass

- **1889-Frederick Douglass (Haiti and Santo Domingo)** is appointed U.S. consul-general of Haiti and charge d'affaires to Santo Domingo by **President Benjamin Harrison**, and he remained in office until 1891. After escaping from slavery in 1838, he became a renowned abolitionist, social reformer, writer, orator, and statesman.¹⁰⁵

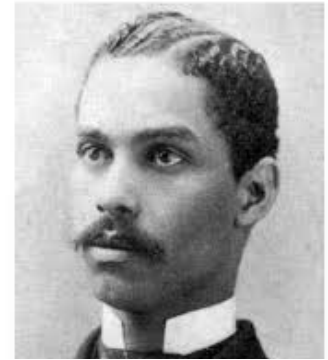


George Henry White

- **1880-George Henry White (North Carolina)** is elected to the North Carolina house of representatives for one term and serves as a delegate to the **Republican National Convention**. He focused on legislation to secure funding for opening four black normal schools and providing training for black teachers.¹⁰⁶
- **1883-Edward Garrison Walker (Massachusetts)**, a trained lawyer and representative in the state legislature, is nominated for a judgeship by **Governor Benjamin F. Butler**. Republicans refused to ratify Walker because he switched to

the Democratic Party in 1867, instead giving the judgeship to Republican lawyer **George L. Ruffin**.¹⁰⁷

- **1884-John R. Lynch (Mississippi)** became the first African American to chair a political party's national convention after future president **Theodore Roosevelt** nominated him as a temporary chair for the **1884 Republican National Convention**. He then served as a member of the Republican National Committee for Mississippi from 1884 to 1889.¹⁰⁸
- **Mid-1880s?-Edwin Archer Randolph (Virginia)** serves in both houses of the Virginia legislature.¹⁰⁹
- **1881-Edwin Archer Randolph (Richmond, VA)**, a newspaper editor and the first black graduate of Yale Law School (1880), is elected to the common council in Richmond, Virginia and serves until 1883.¹¹⁰
- **1884-Edwin Archer Randolph** serves on the board of alderman in Richmond, Virginia from 1884 until 1886.¹¹¹
- **1886-George Henry White (Tarboro, NC)** is elected solicitor and prosecuting attorney in Tarboro, North Carolina, a district with a large black majority. In 1888 and 1890, he wanted to run for national office but deferred to his brother-in-law **Henry Cheatham** who was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from 1889 to 1893.¹¹²
- **1888-Edward Duplex (Wheatland, CA)** is appointed mayor of Wheatland, California by the Wheatland Board of Trustees, making him the first African American mayor of a predominantly white town and of a town in the West. After moving to California during the Gold Rush in 1854, Duplex and his family **established Duplex's Hairdressing and Shaving Saloon**, which became a center for political and social activity.¹¹³



Edwin Archer Randolph
(1850-unknown)

1890-1899

- **1893-Grover Cleveland (New Jersey)** is elected the 24th president of the United States and remained in office until 1897. He undermined black voting rights by campaigning against the **Federal Elections Bill (or Lodge Bill)** and repealing the **Enforcement Act of 1871**, which had ensured federal oversight of local electoral processes.
- **1897-William McKinley (Ohio)** is elected the 25th president of the United States and remained in office until 1901. Although he spoke out against lynching while governor of Ohio, he failed as president to address racialized violence, civil rights, or voting rights.¹¹⁴
- **1896-Plessy v. Ferguson (Louisiana)** begins when Homer Plessy intentionally violates a Louisiana law that requires black and white passengers to ride in separate train cars. After Plessy lost the initial trial and state appeal, the U.S. Supreme Court held that segregation based on race in public services remained legal. Also known as the "separate but equal" doctrine. After *Plessy*, southern law schools in South Carolina and Maryland that had once enrolled black students banned their admission.¹¹⁵
 - **1896-Edward Garrison Walker (Massachusetts)** receives the nomination for the U.S. presidency by the Negro Party, "a short-lived third-party movement."¹¹⁶

- **1890-John M. Langston (Washington, D.C.)**, a representative from Virginia, delivers his first speech before Congress where he emphasizes blacks' citizenship rights and condemns the Democratic Party's efforts to restrict black freedom. The next day, he asked the U.S. attorney general to send the House paperwork documenting all lawsuits related to voting rights and the disenfranchisement of southern freedmen.¹¹⁷

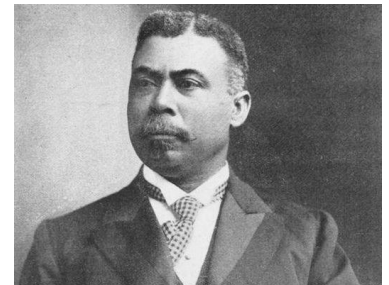
- **1892-Edward A. Johnson (North Carolina)**, prominent in local and state politics, serves as a delegate to the **Republican National Convention** in 1892 and 1896. Born into slavery in North Carolina, he graduated from **Atlanta University** in 1879, worked as a principal and teacher, and wrote the first textbook (*A School History of the Negro Race in America*) by a black author approved for use in North Carolina public schools. He earned a law degree from **Shaw University** in 1891, practiced law, and helped found the **National Bar Association**.¹¹⁸



Edward A. Johnson

- **1896-Judson Whitlocke Lyons (Georgia)** is elected to represent Georgia to the Republican National Committee where he votes for **William McKinley** as the Republican presidential candidate.¹¹⁹

- **1897-George Henry White (North Carolina)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from North Carolina's second district, and he remained in office until 1901. His election came during a period of fusion politics in North Carolina where **Populist** and **Republican Party** candidates overlapped and resulted in more African American electoral success. His legislative proposals included combating disenfranchisement and mob violence in the South. After leaving Congress, he worked as a lawyer and entrepreneur and helped found the black town of **Whitesboro** in Cape May, New Jersey.¹²⁰



Judson Whitlocke Lyons

- **1897-Henry Cheatham (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the federal recorder of deeds for the District of Columbia by **President William McKinley**, and he remained in this position until 1901. During this period, he remained active in African American politics in Washington, D.C., collaborating with **Frederick Douglas** and **George Henry White**.¹²¹

- **1898-Judson Whitlocke Lyons (Washington, D.C.)**, who was born into slavery and graduated from **Howard University Law School** in 1884, is appointed registrar of the U.S. Treasury by **President William McKinley**, becoming the second African American to hold this post.¹²²

- **1893-William W. Ferguson (Michigan)** becomes the first African American elected to the Michigan House of Representatives and is reelected in 1895. He was a prominent Detroit lawyer and plaintiff in *Ferguson v. Gies* (1890), the first successful case against racial discrimination before the Michigan Supreme Court.¹²³



William W. Ferguson

- **1898-Silas Robbins (Nebraska)** is the second African American to run for the Nebraska state legislature, but he loses the race.¹²⁴ He was the first black lawyer admitted to the Nebraska bar who was active in local politics as an debater and speaker around Omaha, and he secured a patent from the U.S. Patent Office for a game he created in 1893 called "Politics."¹²⁵

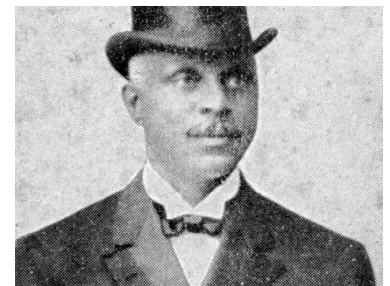
- **Late-1890s-Edward A. Johnson (Raleigh, NC)** serves on the Raleigh Board of Aldermen and, from 1899 to 1907, is assistant to the federal attorney for the district of eastern North Carolina.¹²⁶

1900-1909

- **1901-Theodore Roosevelt (New York)** is elected the 26th president of the United States and remained in office until 1909. His “**lily-white**” campaigns (reflecting an anti-black segment of the Republican Party) advocated against supporting the civil rights for African Americans. He also popularized the eugenic idea of **race suicide**, warning that the “superior” white race would disappear because “undesirable” women of color had more children.
- **1909-William H. Taft (Ohio)** is elected the 27th president of the United States and remained in office until 1913. With his “Southern Policy,” he refused to appoint African Americans to federal jobs and removed most black office holders in the South.
- **1900-Silas Robbins (Omaha, NE)** becomes the Douglas County tax commissioner in Omaha, Nebraska when the **Populist Party** gains control of local politics, and he serves in that role from 1900 to 1901 and again from 1903 to 1905.¹²⁷
- **1904-Oscar De Priest (Cook County, IL)** is elected to the Cook County Board of Commissioners and remained in office until 1908. He was born in Alabama to freedmen who left the south after the end of Reconstruction to live in Kansas. He worked as an apprentice plasterer and house painter, eventually establishing a successful business and real estate management firm.¹²⁸
- **1904-George Edwin Taylor (Oskaloosa, IO)** runs for the U.S. Presidency, the first African American to do so, as the candidate for the National Liberty Party, the first national political party created exclusively by and for African Americans.¹



Oscar De Priest



George Edwin Taylor

1910-1919

- **1913-Woodrow Wilson (Virginia)** is elected the 28th president of the United States and remained in office until 1921. He instituted a range of discriminatory practices—supporting anti-miscegenation laws, segregating federal jobs and offices, and screening *The Birth of a Nation* at the White House. He only spoke out against lynching, ordered federal intervention during riots, and provided equal pay to black soldiers in response to public pressures.¹²⁹

¹ Tamara Shiloh, “George Edwin Taylor: Black Politician an Early Candidate for U.S. Presidency,” *The Post News Group*, August 14, 2021, <https://www.postnewsgroup.com/george-edwin-taylor-black-politician-an-early-candidate-for-u-s-presidency/>.

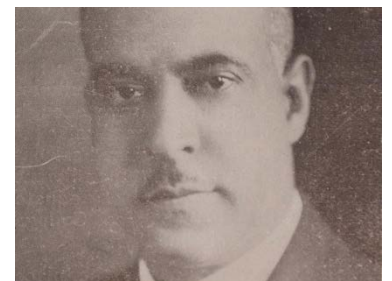
- **1917-Edward A. Johnson (New York)** is the first African American elected to the New York State Assembly. Resenting disenfranchisement of African Americans in the South, he moved to Harlem and argued that African Americans needed to be nominated for public office in areas with large African American communities. He unsuccessfully campaigned for Congress in 1928.¹³⁰
- **1918-Frederick M. Roberts (California)** becomes the first African American to serve in the California State Legislature when he is elected to the assembly, and he remained in office until 1934. He attended the University of Southern California and Colorado College before working as a newspaper editor, deputy assessor, and principal. He supported legislation on public education, civil rights, and anti-lynching. He was defeated in 1934 by Democratic African American candidate **Augustus F. Hawkins**.¹³¹
- **1915-Oscar De Priest (Chicago, IL)** is the first African American elected to the Chicago City Council and serves from 1915 to 1917 and then again from 1943 to 1947. He built strong connections with powerful Republicans like **Chicago Mayor William Hale Thompson** and **U.S. Representative Martin Madden**. He resigned abruptly in 1917 due to charges of accepting bribes but was later acquitted.¹³²
- **1915-Alfred P. Russell (Boston, MA)** is elected a member of the Republican Ward Committee (ward 18) at the state primary in Boston. He graduated from Harvard Dental School in 1908 and opened his own dental practice in Boston. He was very active in local politics and was nominated as a candidate for the Office of the Delegate to the Constitutional Convention in the Eleventh Congressional District of Massachusetts in 1917.¹³³



Frederick M. Roberts

1920-1929

- **1921-Warren Harding (Ohio)** is elected the 29th president of the United States and remained in office until 1923. He advocated for civil rights and equal political rights for African Americans and spoke out against lynching—supporting the **Dryer Anti-Lynching Bill (1918)**—but instituted no significant policy or legislative changes for the black community.
- **1923-Calvin Coolidge (Vermont)** is elected the 30th president of the United States and remained in office until 1929. He defended black voting rights, advocated for civil rights, called for laws to make lynching a federal crime, and also supported appropriating funds for a medical school at **Howard University**.¹³⁴
- **1929-Herbert Hoover (Iowa)** is elected the 31st president of the United States and remained in office until 1933. While he had desegregated the Commerce Department as secretary of commerce (1928), as president, he continued lily-white political strategies and seldom mentioned civil rights, leading many African Americans to switch to the Democratic Party in the 1932 election.¹³⁵
- **1928-Dr. William J. Thompkins (Washington, D.C.)**, a leader in the National Colored Democratic Convention (NCDC), is involved in the 1928 presidential campaign in support of **Alfred E. Smith** (who loses to **Herbert Hoover**). He then ran the NCDC Democratic campaign for all states west of the Mississippi River in 1932, which helped him establish connections with the **Roosevelt administration**.¹³⁶



William J. Thompkins

- **1929-Oscar De Priest (Illinois)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Illinois first district and remained in office until 1935, making him the first African American elected to Congress in the twentieth century and the first from the North. In 1934, he drafted a resolution to integrate the House’s whites only public restaurant. He consistently advocated for legislation advancing African American rights—and successfully added an antidiscrimination amendment to the bill that launched the **Civilian Conservation Corps**—but most of his efforts were unsuccessful.¹³⁷
- **1924-Daisy D. Perkins (Ohio)** becomes the first black woman to seek election to the Ohio General Assembly, although she loses the election. She was Ohio’s first African American woman lawyer.¹³⁸
- **1921-John Raymond Jones (New York, NY)** first becomes involved in politics as an election inspector, and he uses that post to register African American voters in Harlem.¹³⁹



Campaign button, Oscar De Priest, c. 1920s



John Raymond Jones

1930-1939

- **1933-Franklin D. Roosevelt (New York)** is elected the 32nd president of the United States and remained in office until 1945. He did not propose specific civil rights legislation but did move to repeal egregious racial restrictions in the federal government. **First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt** was a vocal supporter of racial equality and, along with **Harold Ickes** (former Chicago NAACP president and U.S. secretary of the interior from 1933 to 1946), made Roosevelt more aware of the concerns of African Americans. The **“Black Cabinet”** (1933-1945) emerged as an informal group of African American policy advisors and office holders working in federal executive departments and New Deal agencies. Members of this group in 1938 included:

Mary McLeod Bethune (National Youth Administration)
Edgar G. Brown (Civilian Conservation Corps)
Dr. Roscoe C. Brown (Public Health Service)
Dr. Ambrose Caliver (Department of the Interior)
Joseph H. Evans (Farm Security Administration)
Dr. Charles L. Franklin (Social Security Board)
Charles E. Hall (Department of Commerce)
William H. Hastie (Department of the Interior)
Joseph R. Houchins (Department of Commerce)
William J. Houston (Department of Justice)
Henry A. Hunt (Farm Credit Administration)
Dewey R. Jones (Department of the Interior)
Eugene Kinckle Jones (Department of Commerce)
Edward H. Lawson, Jr. (Works Projects Administration)
Ralph E. Mizelle (U.S. Postal Service)
Lawrence A. Oxley (Department of Labor)
J. Parker Prescott (Housing Authority)
Alfred Edgar Smith (Works Projects Administration)
Dr. William J. Thompkins (Recorder of Deeds)
William J. Trent (Federal Works Agency)
Dr. Robert C. Weaver (Federal Housing Authority)
Arthur Weiseger (Department of Labor)
John W. Whitten (Works Projects Administration)

His **Executive Order 8802** (1941) created the **Fair Employment Practice Committee**, which banned discriminatory hiring in the federal government. He is known for the **New Deal** economic relief programs, most of which disproportionately benefited white Americans over people of color.¹⁴⁰ First **Lady Eleanor Roosevelt**, who was the longest serving First Lady, also spoke out and advocated for the civil rights of African Americans. She also developed a close working relationship with **Mary McCloud Bethune**.

- 1930-Ambrose Caliver (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed senior specialist in the Education of Negroes in the U.S. Office of Education by **President Herbert Hoover**. He remained in the post after the election of **President Franklin Roosevelt**, becoming part of the **Black Cabinet**. He worked to raise awareness of and address the disparities between education for black and white students. His office published articles, pamphlets, and bulletins (like “The Education of Negro Teachers” and “National Statistics of the Education of Negroes from 1933 to 1934”) and a nine-part NBC radio broadcast on black history and achievement, titled “Freedom Peoples.”¹⁴¹



Ambrose Caliver

- **1932-Crystal Bird Fauset (Washington, D.C.)** founds the **Colored Women's Activities Club** for the **Democratic National Committee** and helps register African American women to vote. In response, she is appointed director of the **Women and Professional Project in the Works Progress Administration** by the **Roosevelt administration**. She was a 1931 graduate of Teacher's College at Columbia University.¹⁴²



Crystal Bird Fauset

- **1933-William H. Hastie (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed **President Franklin Roosevelt's** race relations advisor, making him one of the first African American members of the Roosevelt administration. And he worked as an assistant solicitor for the U.S. Department of the Interior from 1933 to 1937. He received his J.D. degree from Harvard Law School in 1933, practiced law, and, in 1937, became the first African American federal judge. He is considered a member of the **Black Cabinet** during the Roosevelt administration.¹⁴³



William H. Hastie

- **1933-Henry A. Hunt (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed assistant governor of the Farm Credit Administration, a New Deal department that provides government support to farmers. Within this capacity, he served as an advisor to **President Franklin D. Roosevelt** as a member of the **Black Cabinet**. He graduated from Atlanta University (HBCU) with a B.A. degree in 1890, and he worked as a teacher, principal, and ran agricultural programs for farmers.¹⁴⁴



Henry A. Hunt

- **1933-Eugene Kinckle Jones (Washington, D.C.)** joins the Department of Commerce as an advisor on Negro Affairs. Within this capacity, he served as an advisor to **President Franklin D. Roosevelt** as a member of the **Black Cabinet**. A 1906 graduate of Cornell University, he was a leader of the **National Urban League** and a co-founder of the **Alpha Phi Alpha** Fraternity.¹⁴⁵



Eugene Kinckle Jones

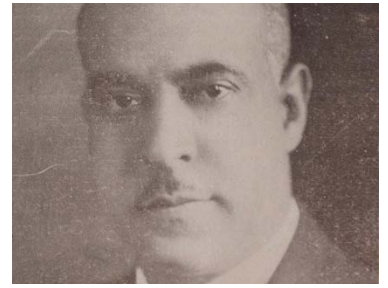
- **1934?-Edgar G. Brown (Washington, D.C.?)** is appointed to an administrative position with the **Civilian Conservation Corp** where he reports on and advocates for African Americans in CCC work camps. A veteran of WWI who once worked as an advertising manager of the **Madame C. J. Walker Co.**, he criticized the mistreatment and underemployment of African Americans in federal agencies and was president of the **United Government Employees** (a federal workers' union) from 1934 to 1943. He was a member of the **Black Cabinet** during the **Roosevelt administration**.¹⁴⁶



Edgar G. Brown

- **1934-Lawrence A. Oxley (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed to the Department of Labor where he worked on programs to improve employment opportunities for African Americans. Within this capacity, he served as an advisor to **President Franklin D. Roosevelt** as a member of the **Black Cabinet**. He previously worked as the director of the Division of Work Among Negro, a branch of the North Carolina state Board of Charities and Public Welfare.¹⁴⁷

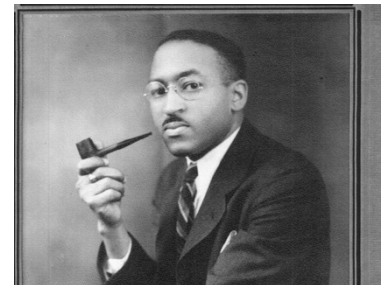
- **1934-Dr. William J. Thompkins (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed recorder of deeds for the District of Columbia and remained in this position until 1944. Within this capacity, he served as an advisor to **President Franklin D. Roosevelt** as a member of the **Black Cabinet**. A graduate of Howard Medical School, he was a prominent health practitioner and hospital administrator who advocated for African Americans through organizations like the National Negro Educators Congress.¹⁴⁸
- **1934-Alfred Edgar Smith (Washington, D.C.)** works for the **Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA)** (later named the **Works Progress Administration**) from 1934 to 1943. Within a year, he replaced **Forrester Washington** as the director of the Colored Work in FERA. He served as an advisor to **President Franklin D. Roosevelt** as a member of the **Black Cabinet**. He received an M.A. degree in history from Howard University in 1932.¹⁴⁹
- **1934-Robert C. Weaver (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed as an aide to the U.S. Secretary of the Interior **Harold L. Ickes** and, in 1938, becomes special assistant to the U.S. Housing Authority. Within this capacity, he served as an advisor to **President Franklin D. Roosevelt** as a member of the **Black Cabinet**. In 1937, he drafted the U.S. Housing Program that provided financial assistance to local housing departments to subsidize the rent for low income African Americans. He earned a B.S. and M.A. degrees from Harvard University and, in 1934, a Ph.D. in economics.¹⁵⁰
- **1935-Dewey R. Jones (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed associate acting advisor on Negro Affairs in the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works in the U.S. Department of the Interior under **Harold L. Ickes**. Within this capacity, he served as an advisor to **President Franklin D. Roosevelt** as a member of the **Black Cabinet**. An army veteran, he earned an M.S. degree in journalism from Columbia University in 1932 and worked for the Chicago Defender from 1923 to 1935.¹⁵¹
- **1935-Crystal Bird Fauset (Washington, D.C.)** serves on the **Federal Housing Advisory Board**.¹⁵²
- **1935-Arthur W. Mitchell (Illinois)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Illinois's first district, and he remained in office until 1943. He attended the **Tuskegee Institute** in 1897 and attended both Columbia and Harvard before being admitted to the Washington, D.C. bar in 1927. Like many African Americans, he switched from the Republican to the Democratic Party in the early days of the **New Deal**, which made him the first black Democrat elected to Congress. He was a strong supporter of **President Roosevelt** and the New Deal, and he introduced bills against discrimination and lynching.¹⁵³
- **1936-Dr. William J. Thompkins (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed adviser on colored affairs to the **Democratic Party Chairman James A. Farley** and remained active in Washington, D.C. politics.¹⁵⁴
- **1936-Harold Bledsoe (Michigan)** becomes the first African American to cast an **Electoral College** ballot when, as the only African American among the nineteen delegates from Michigan, he votes for President Franklin Roosevelt.¹⁵⁵



Dr. William J. Thompkins



Robert C. Weaver



Dewey R. Jones



Arthur W. Mitchell



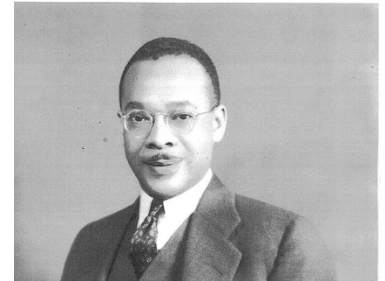
Harold Bledsoe

- **1938-Mary McLeod Bethune (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed director of the Division of Negro Affairs within the **National Youth Administration**, a federal agency under **President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Works Progress Administration**, which made her the first African American female division head. In this role, she created school-based employment programs for black students, enrolled black colleges in the Civilian Pilot Training Program, and advocated for hiring African Americans in state and local government. She helped run the **Black Cabinet** (or **Black Brain Trust** or **Federal Council of Negro Affairs**) that served as an advisory board to the Roosevelt administration on issues impacting African Americans.¹⁵⁶



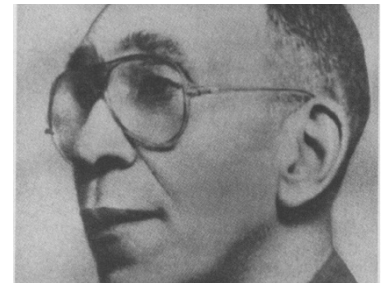
Mary McLeod Bethune

- **1938-Joseph R. Houchins (Washington, D.C.)**, who had worked in the department since 1935, is appointed interim head of the **Division of Negro Affairs of the Commerce Department** and remained in this role until 1940. Within this capacity, he served as an advisor to President Franklin D. Roosevelt as a member of the Black Cabinet.¹⁵⁷



Joseph R. Houchins

- **1938?-Dr. Roscoe C. Brown, Sr. (Washington, D.C.)**, who holds a degree in dentistry from Howard University, serves as the director of the National Negro Health Movement of the U.S. Public Health Service during the **Roosevelt administration**. He was a member of Roosevelt's **Black Cabinet** and father of **Roscoe C. Brown Jr. (HM)**, a Tuskegee Airman and educator.¹⁵⁸



Dr. Roscoe C. Brown, Sr.

- **1935-Lester Aglar Walton (Liberia)** is named envoy and minister to Liberia (later called ambassador) by **President Franklin D. Roosevelt** and serves in this role until 1946. He was a journalist who wrote for the *St. Louis Star* (making him the first black reporter working for a white daily paper in St. Louis, Missouri) and the *New York Age* (the largest black newspaper, based in New York City). His international travel as a journalist and his work with the **National Democratic Committee** (especially when most African Americans were in the Republican Party) resulted in his diplomatic appointment.¹⁵⁹



Lester Aglar Walton

- **1934-Harold Bledsoe (Michigan)** is appointed Michigan's first African American assistant attorney general by **Governor William A. Comstock**.¹⁶⁰ He was a 1925 graduate of the **Detroit College of Law**.

- **1935-Augustus "Gus" F. Hawkins (HM) (California)** is elected to the California State Assembly from the sixty-second district and remained in office until 1963. He graduated from the University of California, Los Angeles with a bachelor's degree in engineering in 1931.¹⁶¹

- **1936-Charles W. Anderson, Jr. (Kentucky)** is elected to the Kentucky legislature, becoming the first black legislator in Kentucky and in the South since Reconstruction.¹⁶² One of his most notable legislative accomplishment was the **Anderson-Mayer State Aid Act**, which provided African American students \$7,500 annually to attend out of state colleges because **Kentucky State College**, the only all-black state school in the segregated state, could not accommodate all black applicants.¹⁶³ He was a 1931 **Howard University Law School** graduate.



Charles W. Anderson, Jr.

- **1938-Crystal Bird Fauset (Pennsylvania)** is elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, making her the first African American female state legislator. She introduced bills related to public health, housing, and women’s rights in the workplace.¹⁶⁴



Robert N.C. Nix, Sr.

- **1932-Robert N.C. Nix, Sr. (Philadelphia, PA)** is elected a Democratic committeeman from the forty-fourth ward in 1932, and he remained in this position for twenty-six years while serving as chairman for eight years. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Law School in 1924.¹⁶⁵

- **1933-William L. Dawson (Chicago, IL)** is elected to the Chicago city council with the critical backing of **Oscar De Priest**, Chicago’s first African American alderman. A veteran of WWI, he studied law at Northwestern University Law and was admitted to the Illinois bar in 1920. Support from **Chicago Mayor Edward J. Kelly** helped him secure a second term as alderman.¹⁶⁶



William L. Dawson

1940-1941

1945-Harry S. Truman (Missouri) is elected the 33rd president of the United States and remained in office until 1953. While he opposed civil rights demonstrations, intermarriage, and Martin Luther King, Jr., Truman nevertheless built a strong civil rights plank in the Democratic party, creating **The President’s Committee on Civil Rights** (1946), which released a 1947 report on discrimination in education, housing, public accommodations, and voting rights. Truman signed **Executive Order 9981** (1948) ordering the desegregation of the armed forces.¹⁶⁷

- **1940-William H. Hastie (Washington, D.C.)** serves as civilian aid to **Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson** from 1940 to 1942. He resigns in protest of continued segregation, which prompts the army and navy to begin limited trials of integrated units.¹⁶⁸
- **1941-Crystal Bird Fauset (Washington, D.C.)**, with the help of **First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt**, secures a position in President Roosevelt’s **“Black Cabinet”** as assistant director and race relations director of the Office of Civil Defense.¹⁶⁹
- **1943-William L. Dawson (Illinois)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Illinois’s first district and remained in office until 1970. At the time of his election, he was the only African American in Congress, and he became the first African American to chair a congressional committee (Committee on Expenditures in Executive Departments). Although active in the civil rights movement of the 1940s and vocally opposed to poll taxes, African American leaders criticized him for his philosophy of working within the establishment and for not strongly advocating for civil rights reform in Congress. He mentored young black politicians like **Archibald Carey, Jr.** and sought better appointments for blacks in federal offices.¹⁷⁰
- **1945-Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. (New York)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from New York, making him the first African American from New York elected to Congress. He remained in office until 1967.¹⁷¹



Crystal Bird Fauset (left) and Eleanor Roosevelt (right)



Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.

- **1946-Maceo W. Hubbard (Washington, D.C.)** is invited by the **Truman administration** to join the Justice Department where he becomes the first African American attorney in the Civil Rights Division.¹⁷² He worked as counsel to the Fair Employment Practice Committee in Philadelphia in the 1940s, supported the establishment of the United Negro College Fund, and helped with the development of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.¹⁷³
- **1945-President Harry Truman (Washington, D.C.)**, a Democrat, appoints an **African American to an ambassadorship one time** between 1945 and 1953. Each president after Truman appointed at least one African American ambassador.¹⁷⁴
- **1949-Edward R. Dudley (Liberia)** becomes the first black American to lead a U.S. mission abroad under the title of ambassador. He earned a L.L.B. degree from St. John's University in 1941, worked for the NAACP, and became legal counsel to the **Governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands Charles Harwood** and, later, **William Hastie**. He began working in Liberia as an envoy and minister in 1948 until, the next year, **President Harry Truman** promoted him to the rank of ambassador.¹⁷⁵
- **1946-William H. Hastie (Virgin Islands)** is appointed governor of the United States Virgin Islands by **President Franklin Roosevelt** and remained in office until 1949, making him the first African American to hold the post of governor of a U.S. territory.¹⁷⁶
- **1941-Jesse D. Locker (Cincinnati, OH)** is elected to the Cincinnati City Council and remained in that role for twelve years, making him the first African American member of the city council. He became president of the council in 1951.¹⁷⁷
- **1942-Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. (New York, NY)** is elected to the New York City Council, its first African American member. **Newbold Morris** was president of the city council, which had twenty-six members. Powell was a pastor of the **Abyssinian Baptist Church** and civil rights activist.¹⁷⁸
- **1944-Robert C. Weaver (Chicago, IL)** serves as the director of the Commission on Race Relations in the Office of the Mayor of Chicago under **Edward Joseph Kelly**.¹⁷⁹
- **1947-Archibald Carey, Jr. (Chicago, IL)** is elected an alderman on the Chicago City Council and serves until 1955. He earned degrees in law and theology from Chicago-Kent College of Law and Northwestern University's Garrett Biblical Institute. He was a pastor at the Woodland African Methodist Episcopal Church (1930-1941) and the Quinn Chapel AME church (1941-1967).¹⁸⁰



Maceo W. Hubbard



Edward R. Dudley



Jesse D. Locker



Archibald Carey, Jr. (1908-1981)

1950-1959

1953-Dwight Eisenhower (Texas) is elected the 34th president of the United States and remained in office until 1961. While he did not support civil rights activism, he desegregated government and military institutions in Washington, D.C. and deployed the National Guard to enforce desegregation mandated by **Brown v. Board of Education (1954)**. The **Civil Rights Act of 1957**, backed by Eisenhower, established a permanent civil rights office in the **Justice Department** (first headed by Philadelphia attorney **W. Wilson White**) and a **Civil Rights Commission**, the first significant civil rights acts since 1875.¹⁸¹ The first Civil Rights Commission included: **John A. Hannah**, President of Michigan State University; **Robert Storey**, Dean of the Southern Methodist University Law School; **Father Theodore Hesburgh**, President of the University of Notre Dame; **John Stewart Battle**, former governor of Virginia; **Jesse Ernest Wilkins, Sr.**, a Department of Labor attorney; and **Doyle E. Carlton**, former governor of Florida.

- **1954**–In **Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka (Kansas)** the NAACP brings a class action lawsuit on behalf of thirteen plaintiffs who opposed the local school district busing their children far from their homes in order to maintain segregated schools. NAACP chief counsel, and future U.S. Supreme Court justice, **Thurgood Marshall** argued the case before the U.S. Supreme Court and the court declared “separate but equal” unconstitutional for public schools and educational facilities.



Edith S. Sampson

- **1950**–**Edith S. Sampson (Chicago, IL)** is appointed by **President Harry S. Truman** as an alternative U.S. delegate to the **United Nations**, making her the first African American to officially represent the U.S. at the U.N.¹⁸²

- **1952**–**Archibald Carey, Jr. (Chicago, IL)** is a speaker at the **Republican National Convention** where **General Dwight D. Eisenhower** is nominated for president. Much of the language and themes of his speech, titled “Let Freedom Ring,” echoed eleven years later in **Martin Luther King, Jr.’s** “I Have a Dream” speech—including the closing line, “from every mountainside, let freedom ring.” Carey assisted with the Montgomery bus boycott and maintained correspondence with King.¹⁸³



Archibald Carey, Jr.

- **1954**–**Jesse Ernest Wilkins, Sr. (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed assistant secretary for International Labor Affairs by **President Dwight D. Eisenhower**, making him the first African American appointed to a sub-cabinet position in the U.S. government.¹⁸⁴ He was a 1914 graduate of the **University of Chicago Law School**, the father of **John Robinson Wilkins**, and the grandfather of **David Wilkins (HM)**.



Jesse Ernest Wilkins, Sr.

- **1955**–**Charles C. Diggs, Jr. (Michigan)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Michigan’s thirteenth district and remained in office until 1980, making him the first African American from Michigan elected to Congress. He was mentored by **Representatives Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. (New York)** and **William L. Dawson (Illinois)**. He was a founder and first chairman of the **Congressional Black Caucus**.¹⁸⁵

- **1955**–**Charles C. Diggs, Jr. (Mississippi)** attracts media attention for being the only Congressman to attend the Mississippi trial of the men accused of murdering **Emmitt Till**.¹⁸⁶

- **1955**–**Archibald Carey, Jr. (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed chairman of the President’s Committee on Government Employment Policy by **President Dwight D. Eisenhower**, making him the first African American in this role. He also served as an alternative delegate to the United Nations (1953-1956) during the Eisenhower administration.¹⁸⁷



Charles C. Diggs, Jr

- **1958**–**Jesse Ernest Wilkins, Sr. (Washington, D.C.)** becomes the first African American on the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, a bipartisan commission that investigates and makes recommendations to the U.S. government about civil rights issues, where he leads investigations into illegal voter suppression in Alabama.¹⁸⁸

- **1958-Robert N.C. Nix, Sr. (Pennsylvania)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Pennsylvania and remained in office until 1979, making him the first African American to represent Pennsylvania in Congress. He was a founder of the **Congressional Black Caucus**.¹⁸⁹
- **1959-Charles W. Anderson, Jr. (Washington, D.C.)** is selected as an alternate delegate to the United Nations by **President Dwight D. Eisenhower**.¹⁹⁰
- **1953-President Dwight D. Eisenhower (Washington, D.C.)**, a Republican, appoints an **African American to an ambassadorship three times** between 1953 and 1961.¹⁹¹
- **1953-Jesse D. Locker (Liberia)** is appointed ambassador to Liberia by President Dwight D. Eisenhower, and he remained in this post until his death by stroke in 1955. He earned a law degree from Howard University in 1915 and established a law practice in Cincinnati, Ohio. As ambassador, he helped negotiate the construction of the first international airport in Liberia.¹⁹²
- **1955-Richard Lee Jones (Liberia)** is named ambassador to Liberia by **President Dwight D. Eisenhower**, and he remained in office until 1959. He served in both WWI and WWII, helped establish one of the first African American banks in Kentucky, and worked for several newspapers. He was appointed ambassador after working as the director of the U.S. Operations Mission in Liberia. As ambassador, he focused on Cold War efforts to stop the spread of communism and limit the influence of the Soviet Union and China.¹⁹³
- **1958-Clifton Reginald Wharton, Sr. (Romania)** is appointed minister to Romania by **President Dwight D. Eisenhower**, and he remained in office until 1960. His early career in the State Department was limited to small posts often assigned to African Americans in the “Negro Circuit,” small tropical countries like Liberia, the Canary Islands, and Madagascar. In the mid-1950s, he began receiving better posts in Portugal and France because of international attention to U.S. race relations. His appointment to ambassador of Romania made him the highest-ranking black diplomat in the U.S. foreign service.¹⁹⁴
- **1959-John Howard Morrow (Guinea)** is appointed ambassador to the newly independent country of Guinea by **President Dwight Eisenhower**, and he remained in the post until 1961. At the time, some criticized the appointment because it was his first government job and Africa was a key region in the Cold War battle against communism.¹⁹⁵
- **1951-Charles C. Diggs, Jr. (Michigan)** is elected to the Michigan state senate in 1951 and remained in office until 1954. A veteran and funeral director, he paused his studies at **Detroit School of Law** to run for the seat after the Michigan state senate refused to seat his father, **Charles Digg, Sr.**, who won the election but served time in prison due to a legislative bribery scandal. Charles Diggs, Sr. was the first African American elected to the Michigan senate in 1936 and remained in office until he was defeated in the Democratic primary in 1944.¹⁹⁶
- **1952-Cora Mae Brown (Michigan)** is elected to the Michigan State Senate, after two unsuccessful runs for office in 1950 and 1951, making her the first African American woman in the country to serve in a state senate. She served two terms and supported fair housing, equal employment, and civil rights legislation. She was a graduate of **Fisk University** and **Wayne State University Law School**.¹⁹⁷



Charles W. Anderson, Jr.



Richard Lee Jones



Clifton Reginald Wharton, Sr.



John Howard Morrow



Cora Mae Brown

- **1955-Dr. Robert C. Weaver (New York, NY)** is appointed New York State Rent Commissioner under **Governor W. Averell Harriman**, making him the first black state cabinet member in New York.¹⁹⁸
- **1958-Ivan Warner (New York, NY)** is elected to the New York State Assembly and remained in office until 1960. He was a graduate of Brooklyn Law School who was admitted to the New York Bar in 1955.¹⁹⁹
- **1958-Verda Freeman Welcome (Maryland)** is elected to the Maryland House of Delegates to represent the fourth district of Baltimore, becoming the first black woman in that position, and remained in office until 1963.²⁰⁰
- **1950s-“The Silent Six” (Chicago, IL)** describes a group of African American aldermen on the Chicago city council who were loyal to the **Richard J. Daley** (1955-1976) machine. They included: **William Campbell**, **Robert Miller** (6th Ward), **William Harvey** (1943-1968), **Benjamin Lewis** (24th Ward), **Ralph Metcalf** (1955-1970), **Claude Holman** (1955-1973), **Wilson Frost** (21st and 34th Wards), and **William “Butch” Barnett** (1972-1983).²⁰¹



Verda Freeman Welcome

- **1950-Lawson E. Thomas (Miami, FL)** is appointed judge of Miami’s Negro Police Court, becoming the “first black person to hold public office in the South since Reconstruction.”²⁰² He was a 1935 graduate of the **University of Michigan Law School**.



Lawson E. Thomas

- **1952-Julian Steele (West Newbury, MA)** is elected town meeting moderator for West Newbury, making him the first African American town moderator in Massachusetts and remained the only one for a decade, and, two years later, he is appointed to the Massachusetts Parole Board. His brother, **Joseph Alexander Ellis Steele**, was a well-known jazz musician.²⁰³



Julian and Polly Steele

- **1954-George W. Collins (Chicago, IL)** is appointed precinct captain for Chicago’s 24th Ward on the West Side. He continued serving in a number of positions controlled by the local Democratic Party and **Mayor Richard J. Daley**, including deputy sheriff of Cook County (1958-1961), secretary to alderman **Benjamin Lewis**, and administrative assistant to the **Chicago Board of Health**.²⁰⁴



George W. Collins

- **1958-Floyd J. McCree (Flint, MI)** is elected to the Flint City Commission and remained in office until 1970.²⁰⁵



Floyd J. McCree

- **1956-Velvalea "Vel" Phillips (Milwaukee, WI)** is elected to the Milwaukee Common Council and remained in office until 1971. She was the first woman and African American member of the city council, where she was given the title "Madam Alderman." She advocated for civil rights, participated in protests led by **Father James Groppi**, and authored the Fair Housing Law (1968) that made it illegal to not rent to black people.²⁰⁶



Velvalea "Vel" Phillips

- **1957-Cora Mae Brown (Detroit, MI)** is appointed special associate general counsel of the **U.S. Post Office** during the Eisenhower administration. She was a graduate of **Wayne State University Law School**.²⁰⁷

- **1959-William "Bill" L. Clay, Sr. (HM) (St. Louis, MO)** is elected alderman in St. Louis and serves from 1959 to 1964. A veteran, he was active in the civil rights movement, including serving nearly four months in jail for participating in a protest against discriminatory hiring practices at a local bank while he was alderman. He then served as a St. Louis committeeman from 1964 to 1967 while working with local unions.²⁰⁸

1960 - 1969

- **1961-John F. Kennedy (Massachusetts)** is elected the 35th president of the United States and remained in office until his assassination in 1963. Kennedy supported racial integration and civil rights and in his 1963 televised speech, **Report to the American People on Civil Rights**, he outlined his initiatives for civil rights legislation, including equal access to education, public facilities, and voting rights. This formed the basis for the **Civil Rights Act of 1964**. Kennedy worked closely with **Martin Luther King, Jr.** and other civil rights movement leaders. He appointed many African Americans to public office, including **Thurgood Marshall** to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.
- **1963-Lyndon Johnson (Texas)** is elected the 36th president of the United States and remained in office until 1969. Johnson's "Great Society" domestic platform emphasized civil rights legislation. **The Civil Rights Act of 1964** outlawed discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin, prohibiting racial segregation in schools, employment, and public accommodations. **The Voting Rights Act of 1965** prohibited racial discrimination in voting. In 1967, Johnson nominated **Thurgood Marshall** the first African American justice on the U.S. Supreme Court. **The Civil Rights Act of 1968** mandated equal housing opportunities.
- **1969-Richard Nixon (California)** is elected the 37th president of the United States and remained in office until 1974. His integration efforts, begun by previous

administrations, sought middle ground between southern segregationists and liberal Democrats. He implemented the **Philadelphia Plan** (1970), an affirmative action plan that required government contractors hire minority workers. Nixon promoted “**black capitalism**”—expanding economic opportunities for African Americans through endowments to black colleges, ending workplace discrimination, creating job assistance programs, and promoting black entrepreneurship.²⁰⁹

- **1961-Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. (Washington, D.C.)** becomes chairman of the **Education and Labor Committee**, the most powerful position held by an African American in Congress at the time, and he supports the passage of civil rights legislation during the Kennedy and Johnson administrations.²¹⁰
- **1963-Augustus “Gus” F. Hawkins (HM) (California)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from California and remained in office until 1991. He was a strong supporter of **President Lyndon B. Johnson’s** Great Society. He was a founder of the **Congressional Black Caucus** and was known as the “Silent Warrior” for his reserved approach to advocating for issues like unemployment, education, and civil rights.²¹¹
- **1963-Patricia Roberts Harris (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed co-chair of the **National Women’s Committee for Civil Rights** by **President John F. Kennedy**. While an undergraduate student at **Howard University**, she worked as the assistant director of the **American Council on Human Rights** and participated in civil rights protests in the 1940s and 1950s. She graduated from the **George Washington University Law Center** with a J.D. degree in 1960.²¹²
- **1964-Carl T. Rowan (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed director of the United States Information Agency by **President Lyndon B. Johnson**, making him the first African American to hold a seat on the National Security Council and the highest level African American in the government at the time.²¹³
- **1964-Patricia Roberts Harris (Washington, D.C.)** is elected as a delegate from Washington, D.C. to the **1964 Democratic National Convention** where she seconds the nomination of **Lyndon B. Johnson**, who’s presidential campaign she had worked on.²¹⁴
- **1964-Aileen Hernandez (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed by **President Lyndon Johnson** as the only woman on the newly established **Equal Employment Opportunity Commission**. She went on to help found the **National Organization for Women** and the **National Black Women’s Political Leadership Caucus**.²¹⁵



Patricia Roberts Harris



Carl T. Rowan



Aileen Hernandez

- **1965-John Conyers, Jr. (HM) (Michigan)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Michigan and remained in office until 2017, making him the longest-serving African American member of Congress (as of 2020). He ran under the slogan “Jobs, Justice, and Peach,” which tapped into his connections to labor unions, the black legal community, and opposition to the Vietnam War. He was a founder of the **Congressional Black Caucus**. **Rosa Parks** worked as a secretary and receptionist in his congressional office from 1965 to 1988.²¹⁶



John Conyers, Jr.

- **1965-John Conyers, Jr. (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** becomes the first African American member of the **House Judiciary Committee**, where he served as chair (2007-2011) and ranking member (2011-2017).²¹⁷
- **1965-The Voting Rights Act of 1965 (Washington, D.C.)** increases the number of black elected officials when it prohibits the denial or abridgment of voting rights (including literacy tests, poll taxes, and intimidation) and thus enables African American voters to cast ballots for black representatives.²¹⁸

- **1966-Dr. Robert C. Weaver (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the first U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) by **President Lyndon B. Johnson**, and he remained in office until 1968. While HUD was created as a cabinet department with the approval of Congress in 1965, Weaver began this work as the administrator of the U.S. Housing and Home Financing Agency under **President John F. Kennedy**.²¹⁹

- **1966-Edward William Brooke III (HM) (Massachusetts)** becomes the first African American popularly elected to the U.S. Senate where he represents Massachusetts and is re-elected in 1972. He was a centrist Republican who supported civil rights, reducing nuclear weapons, legalizing abortion, and fair housing programs.²²⁰



Edward William Brook III

- **1967-Richard G. Hatcher (HM) (Indiana?)** serves as the campaign chairman for **Reverend Jesse Jackson**'s bid for president and, in 1988, he serves as advisor in Jackson's campaign.²²¹



Richard G. Hatcher

- **1967-A.J. Cooper, Jr. (HM) (New York)** joins **Senator Robert F. Kennedy**'s U.S. Senate staff as an aide and, one year later, joins his presidential campaign, manages the Watts campaign headquarters, and is with Kennedy when he is assassinated.²²²



A.J. Cooper, Jr.

- **1968-Barbara M. Watson (Washington, D.C.)** becomes the Assistant Secretary of State for Security and Consular Affairs under the nomination of **President Lyndon B. Johnson**, and she remained in office until 1974. This made her the first African American and the first woman assistant secretary of state. She graduated from New York Law School in 1962 and joined the State Department in 1966. Her father, **James S. Watson**, was the first black judge in New York and her mother, **Violet Lopez Watson**, co-founded the National Council of Negro Women. **General Colin L. Powell**, former U.S. Secretary of State, is her cousin.²²³



Barbara M. Watson

- **1968-Shirley Chisholm (New York)** becomes the first black woman elected to Congress when she represents New York's twelfth district in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1969 to 1983. She supported and contributed to programs like Head Start, school lunches, and food stamps.²²⁴



Shirley Chisholm

- **1969-Louis Stokes (Ohio)**, a veteran who practiced law with his brother **Carl Stokes**, is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives to represent the east side of Cleveland, making him the first African American congressman elected in the state of Ohio. He served fifteen terms in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1969 to 1999, where he increased opportunities for African Americans.²²⁵



Louis Stokes

- **1969-William "Bill" L. Clay, Sr. (HM) (Missouri)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Missouri's first district, and he remained in office until 2001, making him the first African American representative from Missouri. As a representative, he was a founder of the **Congressional Black Caucus** and supported legislation related to the environment, labor rights, and social justice. In 1993, he helped pass the **Family and Medical Leave Act**. His son, **Lacy Clay**, succeeded him in the U.S. House of Representatives and remained in office as of 2020.²²⁶



William "Bill" L. Clay, Sr.

- **1969-Elizabeth Duncan Koontz (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the first African American director of the United States Department of Labor Women's Bureau by **President Richard Nixon**. In that role, she addressed discrimination against women and minorities in the workforce, identified discriminatory state laws, and supported the **Equal Rights Amendment**. Along with teaching in North Carolina, she became the first black president of the **National Education Association** in 1968.²²⁷



Elizabeth Duncan Koontz

- **1969-George Williford Boyce Haley (HM) (Silver Springs, MD)** is appointed chief counsel to the Urban Mass Transportation Administration by **President Richard Nixon**, and he remained in this role until 1973. He subsequently served as the Equal Employment Opportunity Office at the United States Information Agency (USIA) from 1973 to 1976. A Republican, he left public office during the Carter administration. He served as a delegate and chair to national and international conventions and commissions during subsequent presidential administrations.²²⁸



George Williford Boyce Haley

- **1969-The Congressional Black Caucus (Washington, D.C.)**, originally named the **Democratic Select Committee**, is founded by thirteen members of the 92nd U.S. Congress concerned with providing greater visibility and political leverage for the African American community.²²⁹ Founding members included:

- Shirley A. Chisholm (D-NY)**
- William L. Clay (HM) (D-MO)**
- George W. Collins (D-IL)**
- John Conyers, Jr. (HM) (D-MI)**
- Ronald V. Dellums (HM) (D-CA)**
- Charles C. Diggs, Jr. (D-MI)**
- Augustus F. Hawkins (HM) (D-CA)**
- Ralph H. Metcalfe (D-IL)**
- Parren J. Mitchell (HM) (D-MD)**
- Robert N.C. Nix, Sr. (D-PA)**
- Charles B. Rangel (HM) (D-NY)**
- Louis Stokes (HM) (D-OH)**
- Walter E. Fauntroy (HM) (Washington, D.C. delegate)**



Congressional Black Caucus, U.S. Capitol, 1977

- **1961-President John F. Kennedy (Washington, D.C.)**, a Democrat, appoints an **African American to an ambassadorship three times** between 1961 and 1963.²³⁰
- **1961-Will Mercer Cook (Niger)** is appointed ambassador to Niger by **President John F. Kennedy**, and he remained in this position until 1964. He was a professor of romance languages (French), conducted research in the French West Indies, and translated the work of African authors. He shifted his focus to international relations, which contributed to his appointment as ambassador to Niger.²³¹
- **1961-Clifton Reginald Wharton, Sr. (Norway)** is appointed ambassador to Norway by **President John F. Kennedy** and, later, **President Lyndon B. Johnson**, and he remained in office until 1964. This was the first time an African American held such a high-ranking diplomatic position in Europe.²³²
- **1961-John Howard Morrow (France)** is appointed the first ever ambassador to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) by **President John F. Kennedy**, and he remained in this position until 1963.²³³



Will Mercer Cook

- **1963-President Lyndon B. Johnson (Washington, D.C.)**, a Democrat, appoints an **African American to an ambassadorship nine times** between 1963 and 1969.²³⁴
- **1963-Carl T. Rowan (Finland)** is appointed ambassador to Finland by **President John F. Kennedy**. A WWII veteran, he earned an M.A. degree in journalism from the University of Minnesota in 1948 and then worked as a journalist, reporting on desegregation in the south before becoming a foreign correspondent. **Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson** noticed his reporting, which led to his appointment as ambassador.²³⁵
- **1964-Will Mercer Cook (Senegal and Gambia)** is appointed ambassador to both Senegal and Gambia by **President Lyndon B. Johnson**, and he remained in these positions until 1966. His father, **William Marion Cook**, was a prominent composer, violinist, and choral director who was known for a series of popular songs and Broadway musicals featuring African American artists. His mother, **Abriea “Abbie” Mitchell Cook**, was a soprano opera singer known for her performance at Buckingham Palace and for her 1935 performance in *Porgy and Bess*.²³⁶
- **1964-Clinton E. Knox (Benin)** is appointed ambassador to the West African Republic of Dahomey (now Benin) by **President Lyndon B. Johnson**, and he remained in this role until 1969. He served in WWII as a research analyst with the Office of Strategic Services (the forerunner of the CIA), was a professor of history and international relations, and worked for the State Department. In 1957, he became the first African American secretary to the United States Mission to NATO.²³⁷



Clinton E. Knox

-
- **1965-Patricia Roberts Harris (Luxembourg)** is named ambassador to Luxembourg by **President Lyndon B. Johnson** and remained in that role until 1967, making her the first African American woman ambassador.²³⁸



Patricia Roberts Harris

- **1965-Hugh H. Smythe (Syria)** is appointed ambassador to Syria by **President Lyndon B. Johnson**, and he remained in office until 1967. He was the first African American ambassador to a nation in the Middle East. A sociologist and researcher with the NAACP, he assisted **James H. Robinson** in launching Operation Crossroads in Africa in 1958, a forerunner to the Peace Corps. Hoping to secure a diplomatic assignment, he traveled and worked abroad, serving as a consultant to agencies affiliated with the United Nations.²³⁹



Hugh H. Smythe and wife

- **1965-Franklin Williams (Ghana)** is appointed ambassador to Ghana by **President Lyndon B. Johnson**. He served in the Army then graduated from Fordham University Law School in 1945 and worked for the NAACP. In 1961, he assisted **Robert Sargent Shriver, Jr.** in organizing the **Peace Corps** under the Kennedy administration. Before becoming ambassador, President Johnson appointed him the U.S. representative to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, making him the first African American in this role.²⁴⁰



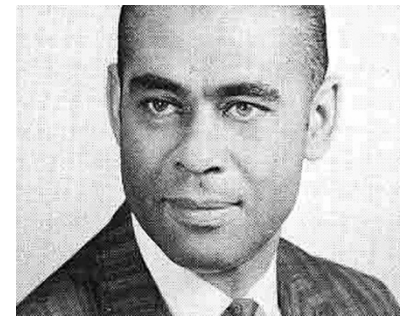
Franklin Williams and Sargent Shriver

- **1966-Elliott Skinner (Burkina Faso)** is appointed ambassador to the Republic of Upper Volta (renamed Burkina Faso in 1984) by **President Lyndon B. Johnson**. After immigrating from Trinidad in 1924 and serving in the U.S. Army during WWII, he became a leading anthropologist who lived in Burkina Faso and learned the More language.²⁴¹



Elliott Skinner

- **1966-Arthur W. Lewis (Washington, D.C.)** joins the **United States Information Agency (USIA)** and works to promote American culture abroad to combat the Cold War. He expanded the USIA program that recruited African Americans, Latinos, and Native Americans from universities into the foreign service. This program provided students with training in history, language, and international affairs so they could pass the Foreign Services entrance exam.²⁴²



Arthur W. Lewis

- **1967-Hugh H. Smythe (Malta)** is appointed ambassador to Malta by **President Lyndon B. Johnson** and, later, **President Richard Nixon**, and he remained in office until 1969.²⁴³

- **1968-Samuel Clifford Adams, Jr. (Niger)** is appointed ambassador to Niger by **President Lyndon B. Johnson**, and he remained in office until 1969. He served in WWII and graduated with a PhD degree from the University of Chicago in 1953 before working for a number of diplomatic government agencies, including the Economic Cooperation Administration and the Office of Education of the International Cooperation Administration.²⁴⁴



Samuel Clifford Adams, Jr.

- **1969-Clinton E. Knox (Haiti)** is appointed ambassador to Haiti by **President Lyndon B. Johnson** and, later, **President Richard Nixon**, and he remained in this role until 1973. While ambassador, in 1973, he was kidnapped and held at gunpoint for seventeen hours before being released in exchange for money and the release of twelve political prisoners; he retired soon thereafter.²⁴⁵



Clinton E. Knox

- **1969-Samuel Z. Westerfield (Liberia)** is appointed ambassador to Liberia by **President Richard Nixon**, and he remained in office until his death by heart attack on July 19, 1972 at the embassy in Monrovia. He earned a doctorate from Harvard University in 1950, worked as a professor and administrator, and was associate director of the treasury during the **Kennedy administration**. He was “one of the first black economists to join the diplomatic service and was nationally known as an authority on the economic plight of Africa and played a key role in developing its economic policy.”²⁴⁶



Samuel Z. Westerfield

- **1969-Terence A. Todman (Chad)** is appointed ambassador to Chad by **President Richard Nixon**, and he remained in this role until 1972. He passed the Foreign Services Exam in 1951 and fought against State Department restrictions placed upon African Americans, becoming fluent in four languages and serving in the United Nations Interim Program from 1952 to 1957. In 1990, he was awarded the rank of **Career Ambassador** in recognition of his work as ambassador to **Chad (1969-1972, President Richard Nixon), Guinea (1972-1975, President Richard Nixon), Costa Rica (1975-1977, President Gerald Ford), Spain (1978-1983, President Ronald Reagan), Denmark (1983-1989, President Ronald Reagan), and Argentina (1989-1993, President George H. W. Bush)**.²⁴⁷



Terence A. Todman

- **1969-President Richard Nixon (Washington, D.C.)**, a Republican, appoints an **African American to an ambassadorship twelve times** between 1969 and 1974.²⁴⁸

- **1960s-The Black Legislative Clearinghouse (Chicago, IL)**, a precursor to the **National Black Caucus of State Legislators**, meets annually in Chicago, Illinois as an informal support group for black state legislators. Illinois State Senator **Richard “Dick” Newhouse, Jr.** founded and ran the BLC.²⁴⁹

- **1960s-The Council of Elected Negro Democrats (New York)** works to increase black representation in New York State politics, especially in increasing black involvement in various committees of the state assembly. Black New York politicians active in the organization included **Shirley Chisholm, Percy Sutton, Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., J. Raymond Jones, and Ivan Warner**.²⁵⁰



Edward William Brooke III

- **1960-Edward William Brooke III (Massachusetts)** wins the Republican nomination for Massachusetts secretary of state, making him the first African American nominated for statewide office in Massachusetts. He lost the race to Democrat **Kevin H. White**. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II then graduated from **Boston University Law School** in 1948.²⁵¹

- **1961-Ivan Warner (New York)** is elected to the New York State Senate and remained in office until 1965 before serving another term from 1967 to 1968.²⁵²

- **1962-Edward William Brooke III (Massachusetts)** is elected as the attorney general of Massachusetts and remained in office until 1967, making him the first African American elected attorney general of any state.²⁵³

- **1962-Leroy R. Johnson (Georgia)** becomes a member of the Georgia State Senate to represent the thirty-eighth district, making him the first black state senator in Georgia since reconstruction (1870).²⁵⁴



Leroy Johnson

- **1962-Carl Stokes (Ohio)** is elected to the Ohio House of Representatives and remained in office until 1968. He graduated from **Cleveland-Marshall College of Law** in 1956 and was admitted to the Ohio bar in 1957. His brother, **Louis Stokes**, was a lawyer and civil rights advocate who served in the U.S. House of Representatives.²⁵⁵



Carl Stokes

- **1962-Verda Freeman Welcome (Maryland)** is elected to the Maryland State Senate and remained in office until 1982, making her the first black woman in the country elected to a state senate seat.²⁵⁶



- **1963-Parren J. Mitchell (HM) (Baltimore, MD)** is appointed the executive secretary of the Maryland Commission on Interracial Problems and Relations in 1963, overseeing the implementation of the state's new public accommodation laws.²⁵⁷



Parren J. Mitchell

- **1963-Mervyn M. Dymally (HM) (California)** is elected to the California State Assembly and serves from 1963 to 1967 and again from 2002 to 2008. He also became the first African American to serve in the California Senate when he was elected from 1967 to 1975. In 1960, he worked for the **Democratic National Convention** in Los Angeles and as a field coordinator for **Senator John Kennedy's** presidential campaign.²⁵⁸



Mervyn M. Dymally

- **1963-Thomas "Tom" Bradley (California)** unsuccessfully runs for governor of California in 1982 and 1986, making him the first black candidate for governor in that state.²⁵⁹



Thomas "Tom" Bradley

- **1964-Constance Baker Motley (HM) (New York)** is elected to the New York State Senate to fill the vacancy left after **James Lopez Watson** is elected to the New York City Civil Court. This made her the first black woman to sit in the New York State Senate. She was re-elected later that year for a full term but left in February 1965 to serve as Manhattan Borough President.²⁶⁰



Constance Baker Motley

- **1964-George Williford Boyce Haley (HM) (Kansas)** is elected to the Kansas State Senate, and he remained in office until 1968. He earned his law degree from the University of Arkansas School of Law in 1952 (only the second African American to do so), worked the law firm of **Stevens Jackson** in Kansas City, became a deputy city attorney from 1954 to 1964. His older brother, **Alex Haley**, is the author of the 1976 novel *Roots: The Saga of an American Family*.²⁶¹



Willie L. Brown, Jr.

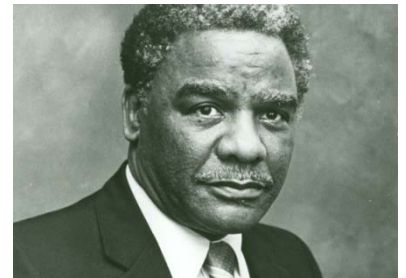
- **1964-Willie L. Brown, Jr. (HM) (California)** is elected to the California State Assembly and remained in office (representing the eighteenth, seventeenth, and then thirteenth districts) until 1995. He graduated from **Hastings College of Law** in 1958 and established the firm of **Brown, Dearman, and Smith**. He was one of four African Americans in the state legislature at the time, including **Mervyn M. Dymally (HM)**, **F. Douglas Ferrell**, and **Byron Rumford**.²⁶²

- **1965-Marjorie Pitter King (Washington)** is elected to the Washington State Legislature, making her the first African American and the first African American woman to serve in that body. She attended the University of Washington but finished her B.A. degree at Howard University in 1943. She was active in local politics and owned an accounting and tax services company.²⁶³



Marjorie Pitter King

- **1965-Harold Washington (Illinois)** serves in the Illinois House of Representatives (1965-1976) and the Illinois State Senate (1977-1980). He had served in the army during WWII and graduated from **Northwestern University School of Law** in 1952. He entered politics while working for alderman and former Olympic athlete **Ralph Metcalfe** from 1951 to 1965. While in the state senate, he focused on passing the **Illinois Human Rights Act of 1980**.²⁶⁴



Harold Washington

- **1965-David N. Dinkins (HM) (New York)** is elected to the New York State Assembly. He graduated from **Brooklyn Law School** in 1956. He then served as a city clerk for New York from 1975 to 1985.²⁶⁵



David N. Dinkins

- **1965-Julian Bond (HM) (Georgia)** is elected to the Georgia House of Representatives but the Georgia representatives vote 184-12 to not seat him because he had endorsed the **Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee's** statement against the **Vietnam War**. In 1966, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in **Bond v. Floyd** that the Georgia legislature had denied his right to free speech and required that they seat him. He remained in office until 1975, when he was elected to the Georgia Senate and served until 1987.²⁶⁶



Julian Bond

- **1965-Shirley Chisholm (New York)** is elected to the New York State Assembly and remained in office until 1968. Born to immigrant parents from the Caribbean region, she spent a significant part of her childhood living with her grandmother in Barbados before earning an M.A. degree in elementary education from Teachers College at Columbia University in 1952.²⁶⁷



Percy Sutton

- **1965-Percy Sutton (New York)**, a prominent lawyer and leader in Harlem politics, is elected to the New York assembly and remained in office until 1966.²⁶⁸

- **1965-Coleman Young (Michigan)** is elected to the Michigan senate and remained in office until 1973. After high school, he worked for the Ford Motor Company in Detroit and served in the army with the Tuskegee Airmen during WWII, where he was involved in the **Freeman Field Mutiny (1945)** where black officers were arrested for resisting segregation at a base near Seymour, Indiana. In the 1940s and 1950s, he was a target of anti-communist investigations because of his association with organizations like the **Progressive Party**, the **United Auto Workers**, and the **National Negro Labor Council**, and he appeared before the **House Committee on Un-American Activities (HUAC)** in 1952.²⁶⁹



Coleman Young

- **1966-Yvonne Braithwaite Burke (HM)(California)** becomes the first black woman elected to the California State Assembly, and she remained in office until 1973. She earned a J.D. degree from the University of Southern California in 1956, entered private practice, and served as an attorney on the **McCone Commission** that investigated the 1965 **Watts Riots** or **Watts Rebellion**.²⁷⁰



Yvonne Braithwaite Burke

- **1966-Richard "Dick" Newhouse, Jr. (Illinois)** is elected to the Illinois senate and remained in office for 24 years. He organized the **Black Legislative Clearinghouse** (a precursor to the **National Black Caucus of State Legislators**) and helped get Senator **Cecil Partee** elected as the first black leader of the Illinois State Assembly in 1971. Although he was not elected, he became the first black mayoral candidate for Chicago in 1975. He was a veteran of WWII and graduated from the University of Chicago Law School.²⁷¹

- **1966-Barbara Jordan (Texas)** is elected to the Texas senate and remained in office until 1972, making her the first African American state senator since 1883 and the first ever black woman to hold that office. Prior to this, she unsuccessfully ran for the Texas House of Representatives in 1962 and 1964 after graduating from **Boston University School of Law** in 1959.²⁷²



Barbara Jordan

- **1966-Basil A. Paterson (HM) (New York)** is elected to the New York senate to represent Harlem and the Upper West Side of New York City from 1966 to 1971. A 1951 graduate of **St. John's University Law School**, he was very active in Harlem politics throughout the 1950s and 1960s and was part of a leadership group known as the "**Harlem Clubhouse**" or "**Gang of Four**," which included **David Dinkins (HM)**, **Basil Paterson (HM)**, **Charles Rangel (HM)**, and **Percy Sutton**.²⁷³



Basil A. Paterson

- **1967-The California Legislative Black Caucus (California)** is founded by African American members of the California legislature under the leadership of **Senator Mervyn Dymally** to address the concerns of the black community and promote political influence and visibility for black politicians.²⁷⁴

- **1967-Geraldine W. Travis (Montana)** becomes the first African American elected to the Montana State Legislature when she joins the House of Representatives from 1967 to 1989. She was a founding member of the local branches of the **NAACP**, the **National Council of Negro Women**, and the **Montana Women's Political Caucus**. In 1972, she was active in the **Shirley Chisholm** presidential campaign and was a delegate to the **Democratic National Convention** as well as the **U.S. Civil Rights Commission**.²⁷⁵



Geraldine W. Travis

- **1967-Lena King Lee (Maryland)** becomes one of the first African American women elected to the Maryland General Assembly and remained in office until 1982. In 1970, she founded the **Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland**. When leaving office in 1982, she campaigned and fundraised for **Elijah E. Cummings**, who succeeded her as representative for the fourth district.²⁷⁶



Lena King Lee

- **1967-Charles B. Rangel (HM) (New York)** is elected to the New York State Assembly and remained in office until 1970. He graduated from **St. John's University Law School** in 1960 and, in 1963, was appointed assistant U.S. attorney for the southern district of New York by **U.S. Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy**. While in the New York legislature, he was mentored by **Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.**²⁷⁷



Charles B. Rangel

- **1967-Ernest Nathan Morial (Louisiana)** becomes the first African American elected to the Louisiana legislature since Reconstruction. He was the first African American to earn a law degree from **Louisiana State University** (1954), the first black juvenile court judge in the state (1970), and first black circuit court of appeals judge in Louisiana (1974).²⁷⁸



Ernest Nathan Morial

- **1968-The National Democratic Party of Alabama (Alabama)** is officially established via a state charter as a black political party with a slate of candidates for election to local and state office. Although party nominee **Dr. John Cashin (HM)** (a black dentist and chairman of the party) lost to **Governor George Wallace**, the party succeeded with many local elections, including winning every elective office in Greene County, Alabama.²⁷⁹

- **1968-Julian Steele (Massachusetts)** is appointed commissioner of Massachusetts' new Department of Community Affairs, making him the first African American to head an agency in the state under the administration of

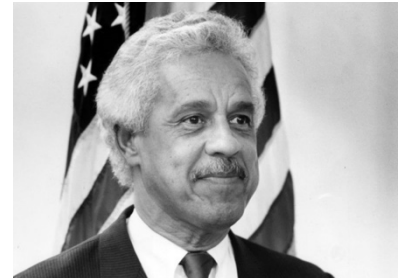
Governor John Volpe. He previously served in a number of prominent government roles including assistant administrator of the U.S. Housing and Home Finance Agency (1960) and the deputy commissioner of Urban Renewal in Massachusetts' Department of Commerce and Development (1965).²⁸⁰

- **1968-William Ferguson "Fergie" Reid (Virginia)**, a physician and veteran of the Korean War, becomes the first African American elected to the Virginia Assembly since Reconstruction (1891) and remained in office until 1973. He was active in the civil rights movement and cofounded the **Richmond Crusade for Voters** in 1956 with **William Thornton, John M. Brooks, Ethel T. Overby**, and **Lola Hamilton**, which sought to register and mobilize black voters.²⁸¹



William Ferguson "Fergie" Reid

-
- **1969-L. Douglas Wilder (HM) (Virginia)** becomes the first African American to serve in the Virginia senate since Reconstruction. He graduated from Howard University Law School in 1959.²⁸²



Douglas Wilder

- **1969-Melvin H. Evans (Virgin Islands)** is appointed governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands by **President Richard Nixon**, and he remained in office until 1975. He was then elected governor in 1970 after the passage of the Virgin Islands Elective Governor Act instituted the popular vote. He graduated from Howard University College of Medicine in 1944 and worked in a number of medical and public health positions.²⁸³



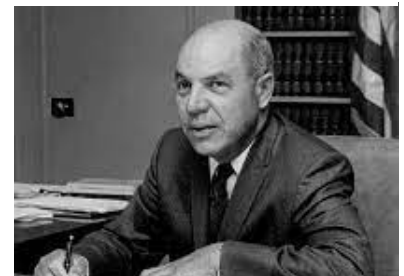
Melvin H. Evans

- **1960s-The Harlem Clubhouse (or Gang of Four) (Harlem, NY)** is an African American political coalition composed to four African American elected officials from Harlem: **David Dinkins (HM)**, **Basil Paterson (HM)**, **Charles Rangel (HM)**, and **Percy Sutton**.²⁸⁴



The Harlem Clubhouse

- **1961-Edward R. Dudley (New York, NY)** campaigns and becomes Manhattan Bureau President from 1961 to 1965, making him the first black chair of the **New York Democratic Committee**. He left this post when he was elected to the New York Supreme Court, where he served from 1965 until his retirement in 1985.²⁸⁵



Edward R. Dudley

- **1961-Robert C. Henry (Springfield, OH)** is elected to the city commission of Springfield, Ohio and remained in that role until 1971.²⁸⁶



Robert C. Henry

- **1962-Don L. Crawford (Dayton, OH)** becomes the first African American city commissioner of Dayton, Ohio.²⁸⁷

- **1963-George W. Collins (Chicago, IL)** becomes alderman of Chicago's 24th Ward when alderman **Benjamin Lewis** is murdered in his ward office, and he remained in office until 1970.²⁸⁸



George W. Collins

- **1963-Richard G. Hatcher (HM) (Gary, IN)** is elected to the city council in Gary, Indiana and becomes the first and only freshman elected president of the council in Gary's history.²⁸⁹ Hatcher graduated from **Valparaiso University School of Law (Indiana)** in 1959, before moving to Gary and practicing in East Chicago, Indiana.



Richard G. Hatcher

- **1963-Thomas "Tom" Bradley (Los Angeles, CA)** serves on the Los Angeles City Council from 1963 to 1972. While on the city council, he criticized racism within the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), including handling of the 1965 **Watts Rebellion** (or "**Watts Riots**"). While working as a lieutenant for the LAPD in the 1960s, the highest ranking African American at the time, he earned a law degree from Southwestern University.²⁹⁰



George D. Carroll

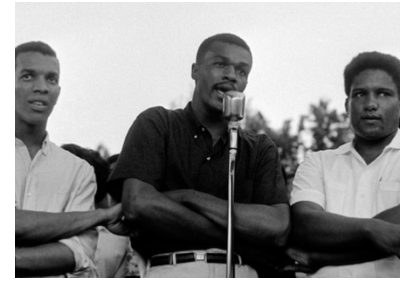
- **1964-George D. Carroll (Richmond, CA)** becomes mayor of Richmond, California, making him the first African American mayor of a large U.S. city. A veteran of WWII, Carroll was the first black lawyer in Richmond, C.A. and the first black man elected to the local city council (where he served from 1961-1964).

- **1964-John Raymond Jones (New York, NY)** becomes the head of **Tammany Hall** (1964-1967), the powerful Democratic political machine that played a major role in New York City politics from the 1790s to the 1960s. This made him the highest ranking African American party official in the county and built on his history of mentoring African American politicians like **Adam Clay Powell, Jr.**, **Constance Baker Motley**, and **David Dinkins (HM)**.²⁹¹



John Raymond Jones

- **1964-Marion Barry (HM) (Mississippi)**, as head of the **Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee**, lobbies the state legislature to make the **Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party** the recognized Democratic Party of Mississippi at the **1964 Democratic National Convention**. He subsequently moved to Washington, D.C. to manage the local chapter of **SNCC**.²⁹²



Marion Barry

- **1965-Constance Baker Motley (New York, NY)** is chosen as Manhattan Borough President, making her the first woman in this position. Later that year, she was elected to remain in that office for a full four-year term.²⁹³

- **1965-William S. Thompson (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed as a member of the Washington, D.C. City Council. He assumed this position while working in the Washington, D.C. law firm of **Thompson, Evans, & Dolphin**.²⁹⁴



William S. Thompson

- **1966-Henry L. Marsh III (Richmond, VA)** wins election to the Richmond city council. He was a 1959 graduate of Howard University School of Law.²⁹⁵

- **1966-Floyd J. McCree (Flint, MI)**, a veteran of WWII, is selected mayor by the city commission, making him the first African American mayor of Flint, Michigan. In that role, McCree advocated for open housing and equal employment opportunities, while also navigating the **1967 Detroit Riot** that saw violent confrontations between black residents and the police department.



Henry L. Marsh III

- **1966-Henry L. Marsh III (HM) (Richmond, VA)** is elected to the Richmond City Council in 1966 (where he remained until 1991), and they chose him as vice-mayor in 1970. A 1959 graduate of **Howard University School of Law**, he was inspired by civil rights lawyer **Oliver Hill (HM)** to go to law school after testifying before the Virginia legislature, which was considering passing laws to resist desegregation.²⁹⁶

- **1966-Percy Sutton (New York, NY)** is elected borough president of Manhattan under **Mayor John Lindsay** to fill a vacancy caused by **Constance Baker Motley** moving to the federal bench, and he remained in the role until 1977. Upon his election, he was the highest-ranking African American elected official in New York City, and he maintained the longest tenure in that role. Prior to the 1990s, the presidents for each of the five boroughs of New York City exercised strong executive powers—advising the mayor, commenting on land use issues, advocating for municipal budgets, and appointing officials and community board members.²⁹⁷

- **1967-Walter Washington (Washington, D.C.)** becomes the first African American appointed mayor of Washington, D.C. by **President Lyndon Johnson**, making him one of the first black mayors of a major city. After earning a law degree from **Howard University School of Law**, Washington worked as the executive director of the National Capital Housing Authority upon appointment by **President John F. Kennedy**.



Walter Washington

- **1967-John Burton (Ypsilanti, MI)** becomes the first African American elected mayor of Ypsilanti, Michigan. After playing in amateur and major league baseball, Burton joined the staff of the **International United Auto Workers** union and worked as the Political Action Committee Coordinator for congressional districts.²⁹⁸



John Burton

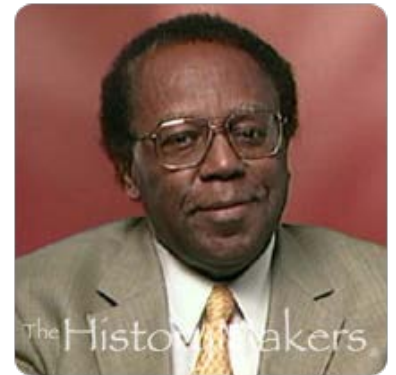
- **1966-Robert C. Henry (Springfield, OH)** is appointed mayor of Springfield by the city commission and remained in office until 1968, making him the first mayor of a city in Ohio. He owned and operated the **Robert C. Henry Funeral Home**.²⁹⁹



Robert C. Henry

- **1967-Floyd J. McCree (Flint, MI)** threatens to resign as mayor of Flint, Michigan when the city commission refuses to adopt an **open housing ordinance** that would prevent discrimination in housing. Other prominent African American citizens also spoke out, staging a sleep-in in front of city hall and threatening to resign from public boards. The city commission approved the ordinance and it passed after a contested public vote, making Flint the first city to pass an open housing referendum by popular vote.³⁰⁰

- **1967-Carl Stokes (Cleveland, OH)** is elected mayor of Cleveland, Ohio, making him one of the first African American mayors of a major city. While in office, he opened local government job to African Americans and women, established programs to revitalize Cleveland neighborhoods, and saw the city through race riots.³⁰¹



Richard G. Hatcher

- **1967-Richard G. Hatcher (HM) (Gary, IN)** is elected the first African American mayor of Gary, Indiana, making him one of the first black mayors of a major city, and he remained in office for an unprecedented five terms (1967-1987). He developed innovative approaches to urban problems, promoted civil rights, and awarded the majority of city contracts to black business owners to encourage African American entrepreneurship.³⁰²

- **1968-Matthew G. Carter (Montclair, NJ)** becomes the first African American mayor of Montclair, New Jersey upon appointment by the township commission. A pastor with a Master of Divinity from **Virginia Union University**, Carter advocated for affordable housing during his tenure as mayor and remained active in politics throughout his life—including serving on the Montclair Township Commission, running for the New Jersey senate, and chairing the New Jersey State Commission on Civil Rights.³⁰³

- **1968-Luska Twyman (Glasgow, KY)** becomes mayor of Glasgow, Kentucky upon appointment by the city council, making him the first African American mayor of a Kentucky city. A WWII veteran, he graduated from Kentucky State University, worked as a principal, and served as an appointee of the United States Commission on Civil Rights.³⁰⁴

- **1968-Howard Nathaniel Lee (Chapel Hill, NC)** becomes mayor of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, making him the first African American elected mayor of a predominantly white southern city. A veteran, he entered politics after encountering racism in his predominately white Chapel Hill neighborhood. He was re-elected mayor twice, in 1971 and 1973.³⁰⁵



Howard Nathaniel Lee

- **1969-Charles Evers (HM) (Fayette, MS)** becomes the first African American elected mayor of Fayette, Mississippi. Charles Evers, like his brother **Medger**

Evers, was active in the civil rights movement, serving as the **NAACP** State Voter Registration chairman (1954) and then the field director of the NAACP in Mississippi (1963). Upon Evers' election to mayor, the white police officers of Fayette (which was 75% African American) resigned in protest. He unsuccessfully ran for governor (1971) and the U.S. Senate (1978).

- **1969-Marvin S. Arrington, Sr. (HM) (Atlanta, GA)** serves on the Atlanta Board of Aldermen (later the Atlanta City Council) for twenty-five years, including seven years as president. He was one of the first two black students to attend **Emory University School of Law** in 1965.³⁰⁶

1970-1979

- **1974-Gerald Ford (Nebraska)** is elected the 38th president of the United States and remained in office until 1977. As a congressman, Ford supported the civil rights legislation of the 1960s, and he extended funding and enforcement as president. Ford officially recognized **Black History Month** in 1976.³⁰⁷
- **1977-Jimmy Carter (Georgia)** is elected the 39th president of the United States and remained in office until 1981. Carter prioritized civil rights as a state senator (1963-1967) and governor of Georgia (1971-1975). President Carter appointed **Patricia Roberts Harris** as the first black female cabinet member, **Andrew Young** as the first black ambassador to the United Nations (although Young was forced to resign in the wake of his meeting with the Kuwait ambassador and a representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization contradicted U.S. promises to Israel), and **Drew S. Days III** as the first black division head at the Department of Justice.³⁰⁸

- **1970-George W. Collins (Illinois)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives to represent Illinois and remained in office until his death in a plane crash on December 8, 1972. This unexpired seat became vacant after **Daniel J. Ronan** died in office, and Collins ran with the backing of **Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley**. He was a founder of the **Congressional Black Caucus**.³⁰⁹
- **1971-The National Women's Political Caucus (Washington, D.C.)** is founded after the failure of the **Equal Rights Amendment** to help increase women's participation in all areas of political and public life, including elected and appointed office. The founders included **Gloria Steinem, Shirley Chisholm, Dorothy Height, Jill Ruckelshaus, Ann Lewis, Elly Peterson, LaDonna Harris, Liz Carpenter, Eleanor Holmes Norton, and Fannie Lou Hammer**.³¹⁰



Women staff members and appointees in the Nixon administration, Sallyanne Payton (*far left*)

- **1971-Louis Stokes (Washington, D.C.)** becomes the first African American to win a seat on the powerful **House Appropriations Committee**, which oversees all federal spending bills.³¹¹
- **1971-Charles B. Rangel (HM) (New York)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from New York and remained in office until 2017. He succeeded **Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.** and was backed by New York Mayor and former Congressman **John Lindsay**. He was a founder of the **Congressional Black Caucus**.³¹²



Louis Stokes

- **1971-Parren J. Mitchell (HM) (Maryland)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Maryland's seventh district and remained in office until 1987, making him the first African American representative from Maryland. He worked for anti-poverty and fair housing organizations in Baltimore in the 1960s and was persuaded to run for Congress by local community groups. He was a founder of the **Congressional Black Caucus**.³¹³
- **1971-Walter E. Fauntroy (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from the District of Columbia's at-large district, and he remained in office until 1991. He was a pastor of Washington's **New Bethel Church**, was active within the civil rights movement, and was the director of the local bureau of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. He was a founder of the **Congressional Black Caucus** and served as its chair in 1981.³¹⁴
- **1971-The National Black Women's Political Leadership Caucus (Washington, D.C.)** is established to promote and support black women politicians at the local, state, and national level. The caucus emerged from frustrations about the lack of black women in politics (even after the **Civil Rights Act of 1964**) and sought to address this through leadership training, education, and voter registration. The founders included: **Nelis James Saunders**, Michigan state representative; **Florine James**, president of the Ohio Federate of Democratic Women; **Cynthia Delores Tucker**, Pennsylvania secretary of state; **Elizabeth Duncan Koontz**, director of the U.S. Department of Labor Women's Bureau; **Hildagardeis Boswell**, Maryland state representative; **Aileen Hernandez (HM)**, former president of the National Organization for Women; and **Verda Freeman Welcome**, Maryland's first black and first woman state senator.³¹⁵
- **1971-Ronald V. Dellums (HM) (California)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from California and remained in office until 1998. He served on the Berkeley City Council in Berkeley, California from 1967 to 1970. He ran for Congress on an antiwar platform and connected to the anti-establishment culture of Berkeley and Oakland.³¹⁶
- **1971-Sallyanne Payton (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed to the **White House Domestic Council** during the Nixon administration. There she represented the president on the Commission on the Organization of the District of Columbia, which established "home rule" for Washington, D.C. She was a 1968 graduate of Stanford Law School.³¹⁷
- **1971-Ralph Metcalfe (Illinois)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Illinois's first district and remained in office until 1978. A track and field medalist during the **1932 Olympics**, he was elected alderman in Chicago in 1955.³¹⁸



Walter E. Fauntroy



Ronald V. Dellums



Sallyanne Payton



Ralph Metcalfe

- **1972-Melvin H. Evans (Virgin Islands)** serves as a representative from the Virgin Islands at the 1972 and 1976 Republican National Conventions that resulted in the selection of **Richard Nixon** and **Gerald Ford**, respectively, as the party nominee for president.³¹⁹



Melvin H. Evans

- **1972-Yvonne Braithwaite Burke (HM) (Los Angeles, Ca)** serves as the vice-chairperson for the **1972 Democratic National Convention**, making her the first African American and the first woman to hold this position. She spoke at the convention, which helped her subsequently win her seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.³²⁰



Yvonne Braithwaite Burke

- **1972-Barbara Jordan (Texas)** becomes the first Southern African American woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives where she represents Texas. While a member of the **Congressional Black Caucus**, she focused on local issues and avoided aligning herself too closely with civil rights or women's rights issues.³²¹

- **1972-Shirley Chisholm (Washington, D.C.)** runs for president of the United States, making her the first woman and the first African American to run for the nomination of a major party for the presidency.³²²



Shirley Chisholm

- **1972-Gwen Cherry (Washington, D.C.?)** chairs both the Minority Affairs Committee for the **Democratic National Convention** and the **National Women's Political Caucus** in 1972.³²³



Gwen Cherry

- **1973-Sallyann Payton (Washington, D.C.)** becomes chief counsel of the Urban Mass Transportation Administration in the Department of Transportation where she helps enact the **National Mass Transportation Act of 1974**.³²⁴

- **1973-Togo D. West, Jr. (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed deputy attorney general of the U.S. Department of Justice by **President Gerald Ford**.³²⁵



Togo D. West, Jr.

- **1973-Andrew Young (HM) (Georgia)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Georgia's fifth district and remained in office until 1977, making him the first black congressman from Georgia since **Jefferson Long** (elected in 1870). He was active in the civil rights movement, joining the staff of the **Southern Christian Leadership Conference** and helping lead the **Poor Peoples Campaign**.³²⁶



Andrew Young

- **1973-Yvonne Braithwaite Burke (HM) (California)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from California and remained in office until 1979, making her the first black woman elected to Congress from California. While on the House Committee on Appropriations, she worked to increase funding for desegregation mandates in local jurisdictions. After an unsuccessful run for California attorney general in 1978, she focused on state politics.³²⁷



Cardiss Collins

- **1973-Cardiss Collins (HM) (Illinois)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Illinois and remained in office until 1997, making her the fourth African American women in Congress and the first from the Midwest. She took office after a special election where she assumed the seat of her husband, George W. Collins, who died in a plane crash. While in office, she became the first African American and the first woman to hold position of Democratic whip-at-large, and she was the president of the Congressional Black Caucus in 1979.³²⁸



Clifton R. Wharton, Jr.

- **1973-Clifton R. Wharton, Jr. (HM) (Washington, D.C.)**, son of ambassador **Clifton R. Wharton, Sr.**, is named deputy secretary of state, making him the highest-ranking black American in the history of the U.S. Department of State up to that point in time.³²⁹

- **1974-Barbara Jordan (Washington, D.C.)** earns national recognition when, as a member of the **Judiciary Committee**, she delivers the opening remarks in favor of impeaching **President Richard Nixon** for crimes associated with the **Watergate scandal**.³³⁰

- **1975-William Thaddeus Coleman, Jr. (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is named secretary of transportation by **President Gerald Ford**, making him the second African American to serve in the U.S. Cabinet. A 1946 graduate of Harvard Law School, he worked was the first black associate hired by a major New York Law firm when he joined Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton, & Garrison in 1949.³³¹



William Thaddeus Coleman, Jr.

- **1975-Harold Ford, Sr. (Tennessee)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Tennessee and he remained in office until 1997, making him the first African American to represent Tennessee in Congress. He advocated for economic development, supported welfare and social safety measures, and chaired the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Public Assistance and Unemployment Compensation (1981-1983). His son, **Harold Ford, Jr.**, successfully ran for his seat in 1996.³³²

- **1975-William Thaddeus Coleman, Jr. (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed on March 7, 1975 by **President Gerald Ford** as the fourth secretary of transportation and the first African American secretary of education. He served as in this capacity until January of 1977.
- **1976-Louis Stokes (HM) (Washington, D.C.)**, a U.S. Representative from Ohio, serves as the chairman of the **U.S. House of Representatives Select Committee on Assassinations**, which investigates the assassinations of **President John F. Kennedy** and civil rights leader **Martin Luther King, Jr.**³³³
- **1976-Barbara Jordan (Washington, D.C.)** becomes the first African American and first woman keynote speaker at a **Democratic National Convention**, campaigning for **James Earl (Jimmy) Carter** over **President Gerald Ford.**³³⁴
- **1976-Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF) (Washington, D.C.)** is founded as a nonprofit, nonpartisan public policy research and educational institute.³³⁵ The CBCF was founded by **Nira Hardon Long, Albert L. Nellum, and Yvonne Brathwaite Burke.**³³⁶
- **1977-Shirley Chisholm (Washington, D.C.)** is elected to a leadership position as secretary of the House Democratic Caucus and remained in that role until 1981.³³⁷

1977-Kurt Schmoke (HM) (Washington, D.C.) is recruited by the **Carter administration** to work as assistant director of the White House Domestic Policy Staff. He graduated from Harvard Law School in 1976.³³⁸



Kurt Schmoke

- **1977-Alexis Herman (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed director of the Labor Department’s Women’s Bureau by **President Jimmy Carter**, and she remained in that role until 1981. She graduated with a BA in sociology from Xavier University of Louisiana in 1969 before working with various charities, organizations, and consulting firms to build employment opportunities for black women.³³⁹



Alexis Herman

- **1977-Eleanor Holmes Norton (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the first female chair of the **Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)** by **President Jimmy Carter**. During her tenure, the EEOC released its first set of regulations on what constitutes sexual harassment, a form of sexual discrimination that violates federal civil rights laws. She graduated from Yale Law School in 1964 and was prominent in the civil rights and women’s rights movements.³⁴⁰



Eleanor Holmes Norton

- **1977-Hazel R. O’Leary (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** works as assistant administrator of the Federal Energy Commission, general counsel of the Community Services Administration, and an administrator for the Economic Regulatory Commission within the Department of Energy during the administration of **President Jimmy Carter**.³⁴¹
- **1977-Patricia Roberts Harris (Washington, D.C.)** becomes the sixth secretary of Housing and Urban Development upon appointment by **President Jimmy Carter**, and she remained in this role until 1979. This made her the first African American woman to serve in the United States Cabinet and the first to enter the presidential line of succession.³⁴²
- **1979-Patricia Roberts Harris (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the thirteenth secretary of **Health, Education, and Welfare** (renamed **Health and Human Services** during her tenure) by **President Jimmy Carter**, and she remained in this role until 1981.³⁴³
- **1979-William H. Gray III (HM) (Pennsylvania)**, a third-generation pastor of a large Philadelphia-area Baptist church, is elected on the Democratic ticket to represent Pennsylvania’s second district at the U.S. House of Representatives.³⁴⁴



Hazel R. O’Leary



William H. Gray III

- **1979-Ronald “Ron” H. Brown (Washington, D.C.)** becomes deputy campaign manager for **Senator Edward M. Kennedy’s** 1979 campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination. When Kennedy returned to the Senate, he offered Brown a job as counsel to the Senate Judiciary Committee. Prior to this political engagement, Brown served in the army and graduated from **St. John’s University Law School** in 1971 before working at the **National Urban League**. His father, **William Brown**, was an official in the **Franklin Roosevelt administration**.³⁴⁵



Ronald “Ron” H. Brown

- **1979-Melvin H. Evans (Virgin Islands)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from the U.S. Virgin Island’s at-large district, and he remained in office until 1981. He was the first black delegate to represent the territory in Congress. Although he had a non-voting status, he advocated for healthcare and education, and he served on the Armed Services, Interior and Insular Affairs, and Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committees. He was the first Republican member of the **Black Congressional Caucus**.³⁴⁶



Melvin H. Evans

- **1979-Mickey Leland (Texas)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Texas and remained in office until 1989. He previously served in the Texas House of Representatives from 1973 to 1979 before running for the Houston area congressional seat vacated by **Barbara Jordan**. He was soon appointed Freshman Majority Whip and later served as chair of the **Congressional Black Caucus** from 1985 to 1986. He chaired the **House Select Committee on Hunger** (that he lobbied Congress to create) and focused on relieving famine and hunger in East Africa until his death in a plane crash on a humanitarian mission to Ethiopia in 1989.³⁴⁷



Mickey Leland

- **1970-Jerome Heartwell “Brud” Holland (Sweden)** is appointed ambassador to Sweden by **President Richard Nixon**, and he remained in this position until 1972. He was only the second African American appointed as an ambassador to a European nation. After earning an M.A. degree in sociology from Cornell University in 1939, he taught sociology and physical education at the college level, worked in shipbuilding during WWII, and became the president of Delaware State College (1953-1959) and Hampton Institute (1960-1970).³⁴⁸



**Jerome Heartwell
“Brud” Holland**

- **1970-Clarence Clyde Ferguson, Jr. (Uganda)** is appointed ambassador to Uganda by **President Richard Nixon**, and he remained in office until 1972. He served in the army during WWII, earned an L.L.B. degree from Harvard Law School in 1951, and taught in various law schools. While serving as ambassador, Uganda experienced a coup that led to a dictatorship and he advised Nixon to focus U.S. involvement on humanitarian aid and protections for Americans living in the country. After leaving office, he joined the faculty at Harvard Law School in 1976 and taught there until his death in 1983.³⁴⁹



Clarence Clyde Ferguson, Jr.

- **1971-Charles J. Nelson (Botswana, Lesotho, and Swaziland)** is appointed ambassador to Botswana, Lesotho, and Swaziland by **President Richard Nixon**, and he served in this role until 1974. In the 1950s and 1960s, he worked in the Mutual Security Administration (forerunning to the U.S. Agency for International Development, USAID), traveling to the Philippines and Iran.³⁵⁰



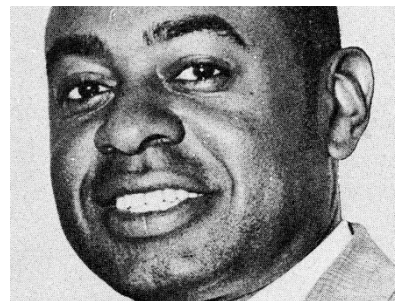
Charles J. Nelson

- **1971-John E. Reinhardt (Nigeria)** is appointed ambassador to Nigeria by **President Richard Nixon**, and he remained in office until 1975. He was a foreign service officer in the U.S. Information Agency beginning in 1957 and, after holding a number of diplomatic positions, became the director from 1977 to 1981.³⁵¹



John E. Reinhardt

- **1972-William Beverly Carter (Tanzania and Liberia)** is appointed ambassador to Tanzania in 1972 by **President Richard Nixon**, ambassador to Liberia in 1976 by **President Gerald Ford**, and ambassador-at-large by **President Jimmy Carter** in 1979. This made him the first ambassador-at-large (the highest rank for a diplomat that involves directing the State Department’s Office for Liaison with State and Local Governments) and the second African American appointed ambassador by three presidents. He earned a law degree from Temple University in 1947 before working as a newspaper writer, editor, and publisher. He became involved in politics through civil rights activism and the NAACP before unsuccessfully running for office and entering the State Department as a public affairs officer in 1965.³⁵²



William Beverly Carter

- **1973-O. Rudolph Aggrey (Senegal and Gambia)** is appointed ambassador to Senegal and Gambia in 1973 by **President Richard Nixon** and, later, is reappointed by **President Gerald Ford** and **President Jimmy Carter**. He served in these roles from 1974 to 1977. He entered the U.S. State Department in the 1950s with assistance from assistant secretary of labor for international affairs **George L.P. Weaver**, one of the most important African American members of the **Truman administration**. In 1960, he worked with assistant secretary of state for African affairs **G. Mennen Williams** to help develop the **Kennedy administration's** policies regarding Africa.³⁵³
- **1974-President Gerald Ford (Washington, D.C.)**, a Republican, appoints an **African American to an ambassadorship five times** between 1974 and 1977.³⁵⁴
- **1974-David Benjamin Bolen (Lesotho, Swaziland, and Botswana)** is appointed ambassador to Lesotho, Swaziland, and Botswana by **President Richard Nixon** and, later, by **President Gerald Ford**. He remained in these posts from 1974 to 1976. An Olympic athlete who graduated from the University of Colorado, he joined the U.S. Foreign Service in the 1950s and served in embassies in Ghana, West Germany, and Yugoslavia for more than twenty years before becoming an ambassador.³⁵⁵
- **1974-Theodore R. Britton Jr. (HM) (Barbados and Grenada)** is appointed ambassador to Barbados and Grenada by **President Gerald Ford**, and he remained in these positions until 1977. He simultaneously served as a special representative to the West Indian island nations of **Antigua, Dominica, St. Christopher, Nevis, Anguilla, St. Vincent, and St. Lucia**. In 1944, he became one of the first African Americans selected to join the U.S. Marine Corps during WWII and he later served again during the Korean War.³⁵⁶
- **1976-Charles A. James (Niger)** is appointed ambassador to Niger by **President Gerald Ford**. He served in WWII and earned an L.L.B. degree from Yale Law School in 1952, practicing law in California for ten years before being appointed assistant attorney general for the state of California in 1961. Throughout the 1960s and 1970s he worked for a number of government agencies, including the Peace Corps and the U.S. Foreign Service.³⁵⁷
- **1976-Joseph Monroe Segars (HM) (South Africa)**, while working as a consul general, is one of the first African Americans assigned to South Africa. He arrived during the Soweto Uprising, a massive student protest against the apartheid regime that brought international attention and sanctions.³⁵⁸



O. Rudolph Aggrey



David Benjamin Bolen



Theodore R. Britton Jr.



Charles A. James



Joseph Monroe Segars

- **1976-Ronald DeWayne Palmer (Togo)** is appointed ambassador to Togo by **President Gerald Ford**, and he remained in office until 1978. He earned a B.A. degree from Howard University in 1955 and a M.A. degree from Johns Hopkins University in 1957. He joined the Foreign Service as an intelligence research specialist in 1957 and subsequently worked in a number of roles with the federal government. While ambassador, he helped stop a plan by British and Canadian nationals to assassinate **Togolese President Gnassingbe Eyadema**.³⁵⁹



Ronald DeWayne Palmer

- **1977-President Jimmy Carter (Washington, D.C.)**, a Democrat, appoints an **African American to an ambassadorship sixteen times** between 1977 and 1981.³⁶⁰
- **1977-O. Rudolph Aggrey (Romania)** is appointed ambassador to Romania by President Jimmy Carter and, later, is reappointed by President Ronald Reagan. He remained in this role from 1977 to 1981.³⁶¹

- **1977-David Benjamin Bolen (Germany)** is appointed ambassador to the German Democratic Republic (communist East Germany) by **President Jimmy Carter**, and he remained in this post until 1980. This made him the first African American ambassador to work behind the Cold War “Iron Curtain.”³⁶²

- **1977-Wilbert J. LeMelle, Sr. (Kenya and Seychelles)** is appointed ambassador to Kenya and Seychelles by **President Jimmy Carter**, and he remained in office until 1980. He urged the United States to be more actively engaged in African, particularly helping with economic development and human rights. He worked closely with **Kenya Presidents Jomo Kenyatta and Daniel arap Moi** and **Seychelles President Francis Rene**, drawing on his ties to the region and his Swahili language skills. He served in the army and earned a Ph.D. in international relations at the University of Denver in 1963 before teaching African Studies.³⁶³



Wilbert J. LeMelle, Sr.

- **1977-Ulric Haynes (Algeria)** is appointed ambassador to Algeria by **President Jimmy Carter**, and he remained in office until 1981. He earned a law degree from Yale University in 1956 and worked in a number of governmental offices as well as the private sector. He was fluent in five languages.³⁶⁴



Ulric Haynes

- **1977-Richard K. Fox (Trinidad and Tobago)** is appointed ambassador to Trinidad and Tobago by **President Jimmy Carter**, and he remained in office until 1981. He served in the navy during WWII and earned a graduate degree in social psychology from Indiana University in 1952. While working at the Urban League in Minneapolis, Minnesota, he met **Carl T. Rowan** who encouraged him to join the U.S. Foreign Service in 1961 and, later, the State Department.³⁶⁵



Richard K. Fox

- **1977-William B. Jones (Haiti)** is appointed ambassador to Haiti by **President Jimmy Carter**, and he remained in office until 1980. During his time in office, **Jean-Claude Duvalier** resigned as the dictator of Haiti, and Jones helped the country transition to a democracy. He earned a J.D. degree from the University of Southern California School of Law in 1952 and practiced law until joining the U.S. Foreign Service in 1962. From 1973 to 1977, he served as the U.S. permanent representative to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).³⁶⁶



William B. Jones

- **1977-Mabel M. Smythe (Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea)** is appointed ambassador to Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea by **President Jimmy Carter**, and she remained in office until 1980. She was the second black woman ambassador after **Patricia Roberts Harris** and the first black woman ambassador to an African country. After earning a Ph.D. degree in economics and law from the University of Wisconsin, she taught at several universities, worked for the **NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund**, helped launch **Operation Crossroads Africa** (forerunner to the **Peace Corps**), and was a scholar-in-residence at the **United States Civil Rights Commission**. In 1966, she traveled to Syria where her husband, **Hugh Smythe**, was appointed ambassador.³⁶⁷



Mabel Murphy Smythe and Hugh Smythe

- **1977-Maurice D. Bean (Burma)** is appointed ambassador to Burma by **President Jimmy Carter**, and he remained in office until 1980. He was the first African American ambassador to serve in Southeast Asia. He worked closely with **Burmese President Ne Win** and **Thailand's Kriangsak Chamanan** to combat drug trafficking, particularly cocaine and heroin. He joined the U.S. Foreign Service in 1951 after graduating from Howard University with a B.A. degree in government.³⁶⁸



Maurice D. Bean

- **1977-Andrew Young (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the 14th U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations by **President Jimmy Carter**, and he remained in that position until 1979.³⁶⁹

- **1978-Delano Eugene Lewis, Sr. (Washington, D.C.)** works on the successful mayoral campaigns of Washington, D.C. **Mayor Marion Barry** in 1978 and 1982. He also served as a legislative assistant for **Senator Edward Brooke** and **Congressman Walter E. Fauntroy**. An attorney and businessman, he was also active in the 1970s campaigns to establish home rule for Washington, D.C. before becoming ambassador to South Africa.³⁷⁰



Delano Eugene Lewis, Sr.

- **1979-Anne F. Holloway (Mali)** is appointed ambassador to Mali by **President Jimmy Carter**, and she remained in this role until 1981. She earned an M.A. degree in African Studies from Howard University in 1968 and a doctoral degree from Union Institute & University in 1975. She then worked for **Congressman Andrew Young**, first as a part time staffer then as staff director when he became ambassador to the United Nations.³⁷¹



Anne F. Holloway

- **1979-Horace G. Dawson (HM) (Botswana)** is appointed ambassador to Botswana by **President Jimmy Carter**, and he remained in office until 1983. As ambassador, he worked to end apartheid in South Africa. He earned a Ph.D. in communications from the University of Iowa in 1961, and he joined the U.S. Information Agency at the urging of director **Edward R. Murrow**.³⁷²



Horace G. Dawson

- **1979-Donald McHenry (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed U.S. permanent representative to the United Nations with the rank of ambassador by **President Jimmy Carter**, and he remained in that role until 1981. He earned an M.A. degree from Southern Illinois University in 1959 and worked for the U.S. Department of State in its Office of Dependent Area Affairs before joining the transition team of President-elect Jimmy Carter in 1976. **President Bill Clinton** then appointed him special envoy to Nigeria from 1994 to 1996.³⁷³



Donald McHenry

- **1970-Gwen Cherry (Florida)** is elected to the Florida House of Representatives, making her the first African American woman to serve in the state legislature. She introduced the Equal Rights Amendment and the Martin Luther King, Jr. state holiday legislation to the Florida legislature.³⁷⁴



Gwen Cherry

- **1970-Basil A. Paterson (HM) (New York)** leaves his state senate seat to run for lieutenant governor of New York as the running mate of former **U.S. Supreme Court justice Arthur Goldberg**. They lost to incumbents **Governor Nelson Rockefeller** and **Lieutenant Governor Malcolm Wilson**.³⁷⁵

- **1971-James E. Clyburn (HM) (South Carolina)** becomes a member of **Governor John C. West's** staff, making him the first African American advisor to a governor of South Carolina. He previously worked on **St. Julian Devine's** 1969 campaign for the Charleston City Council and, in 1974, he was appointed Commissioner of South Carolina's Human Affairs Office by Governor West (where he remained until running for Congress in 1992).³⁷⁶



James E. Clyburn

- **1971-Harold Ford, Sr. (Tennessee)** is elected to the Tennessee House of Representatives and remained in office until 1975. He earned a B.S. degree from Tennessee State University in 1967 and M.B.A. degree from Howard University in 1982. After joining the family mortuary business, he ran for local political office and capitalized on his family's prominence in the community, going back through several generations of politicians.³⁷⁷



Harold Ford, Sr.

- **1971-Cynthia Delores Tucker (Pennsylvania)** becomes the first black female Pennsylvania secretary of state upon appointment by **Governor Milton Shapp**.³⁷⁸
- **1972-Barbara Jordan (Texas)** is elected **president pro tempore** of the Texas senate, making her the first black woman in America to preside over a legislative body. In that role, she served as acting **governor of Texas** for one day, June 10, 1972, when the governor and lieutenant governor were out of the state. While largely ceremonial, this made her the first African American woman in the nation to serve as a state governor (excluding lieutenant governors).³⁷⁹



Cynthia Delores Tucker

- **1972-Lois DeBerry (Tennessee)** is elected to the Tennessee House of Representatives and remained in office until her death in 2013. She was the second African American woman to serve in the state legislature and the first woman to serve as the speaker pro tempore of the House (1987-2010). She was also the first woman president of the **National Black Caucus of State Legislators** from 1994 to 1999.³⁸⁰



Lois DeBerry

- **1973-Roland Burris (HM) (Illinois)** becomes director of the Illinois State Department of General Services in the cabinet of **Governor Daniel Walker**. He was a 1963 graduate of **Howard University Law School**.³⁸¹



Roland Burris

- **1973-Julia Carson (Indiana)** is elected to the Indiana legislature, serving in the House from 1973 to 1977 and the Senate from 1977 to 1990. A single mother who worked as a secretary for the United Auto Workers, she entered politics in the 1960s by working in the office of Indiana Representative **Andrew "Andy" Jacobs, Jr.**, who encouraged her to run for the state legislature.³⁸²



Eddie Bernice Johnson

- **1973-Eddie Bernice Johnson (HM) (Texas)** is the first African American woman elected to public office from Dallas when she is elected to the Texas legislature, first to the House of Representatives from 1973 to 1977 and then to the Senate from 1987 to 1993. She also became the first woman in Texas to lead a major house committee when she chaired the Labor Committee.³⁸³

- **1973-Wellington Webb (HM) (Colorado)** is elected to the Colorado House of Representatives and remained in office until 1977.³⁸⁴



Wellington Webb

- **1975-Mervyn M. Dymally (HM) (California)** is elected lieutenant governor of California alongside **Governor Jerry Brown** and he remained in office until 1979, making him the first African American in this role in California and the second African American to hold statewide office in California after **Wilson Riles** (California Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1971-1983). He focused on energy and environmental problems as well as equal rights for women.³⁸⁵

- **1976-Maxine Waters (HM) (California)** is elected to the California State Assembly and remained in office until 1990. She entered politics as the chief deputy to Los Angeles city councilman **David S. Cunningham, Jr.** in 1973. In the assembly, she supported divesting state pension funds from any businesses active in South Africa, which operated under apartheid.³⁸⁶



Maxine Waters

- **1977-Wellington Webb (HM) (Colorado)** is selected by **President Jimmy Carter** to serve as the regional director of the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and he remained in this role until 1981.³⁸⁷

- **1977-Sanford D. Bishop, Jr. (Georgia)** is elected to the Georgia House of Representatives from 1977 to 1991 and then serves in the Georgia Senate from 1991 to 1993. He earned a J.D. degree from Emory University Law School in 1971 and then served in the army before opening a private practice.³⁸⁸



Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.

- **1977-Eddie Bernice Johnson (HM) (Texas)** is appointed the regional director for the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare by **President Jimmy Carter**, making her the first African American woman in this role. She earned a B.A. degree in nursing from Texas Christian University and was the first black chief psychiatric nurse at the Dallas Veterans Administration Hospital.³⁸⁹

- **1977-The National Black Caucus of State Legislators (Nashville, TN)** is founded by a group of eighteen black state legislators to represent and serve the interests of African American state legislators. They formed the NBCSL in response to racism within the **National Conference of State Legislatures** and to counteract efforts by the **Federal Bureau of Investigations** to delegitimize black political elites. Michigan Representative **Matthew McNeely** served as the first president and founding members included Maryland Senator **Tommie Broadwater**, Ohio Senator **C. J. McLin**, and New York Representative **Arthur Eve**.³⁹⁰

- **1977-Howard Nathaniel Lee (Chapel Hill, NC)** is appointed secretary of the North Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Community Development by **Governor Jim Hunt** and remained in the position until 1981.³⁹¹



Howard Nathaniel Lee

- **1978-Carol Moseley Braun (HM) (Illinois)** is elected to the Illinois house of representatives and serves in that role for ten years, serving as the first African American assistant majority leader. A 1972 graduate of the **University of Chicago School of Law**, she worked as a prosecutor in the office of the U.S. Attorney in Chicago from 1973 to 1977.³⁹²

- **1978-Roland Burris (HM) (Illinois)** is elected comptroller for Illinois and remained in the position until 1991, making him the first African American elected to statewide office in Illinois.³⁹³



Carol Moseley Braun

- **1978-Diane Watson (HM) (California)** is elected to the California Senate where she serves from 1978 to 1990 and again from 1994 to 1998. She was the first African American woman to serve in the California state legislature. While earning a B.A. degree (1956) in education from the University of California, Los Angeles, she became friends with fellow future congresswoman **Yvonne Braithwaite Burke**, and she later earned a doctorate in education from Claremont Graduate University (1986).³⁹⁴



Diane Watson

- **1979-Basil A. Paterson (HM) (New York)** becomes the first African American secretary of state of New York.³⁹⁵

- **1979-Velvalea “Vel” Phillips (HM) (Wisconsin)** is elected secretary of state of Wisconsin and remained in office until 1983, making her the first woman and the first African American elected to this role. She earned an L.L.B. degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison Law School in 1951 and, in 1971, became the first black judge in Wisconsin.³⁹⁶



Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick

- **1979-Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick (Michigan)** is elected to the Michigan House of Representatives and remained in office until 1996. She is succeeded by her son, **Kwame Kilpatrick**, who later becomes mayor of Detroit (2002-2008).³⁹⁷

- **1970-A. Price Woodard, Jr. (Wichita, KS)**, an attorney and member of the city commission, is appointed mayor as fellow commissioners hope he can help stem riots related to racial tensions. This made Woodard the first African American appointed mayor of Wichita, Kansas.³⁹⁸



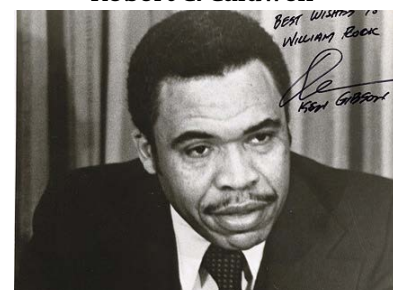
A. Price Woodard, Jr.

- **1970-Robert C. Caldwell (Salina, KS)**, a local teacher and city commissioner, is elected the first African American mayor of Salina, Kansas. Caldwell served a second term (1971-1972) and third term (1975) as mayor before his 1976 election to the Kansas legislature. He was active within the **NAACP** as well as local civil rights and human rights organizations.³⁹⁹



Robert C. Caldwell

- **1970-Kenneth A. Gibson (HM) (Newark, NJ)** becomes the first African American elected mayor of Newark, New Jersey or any major city in the northeast. Gibson, who worked as an engineer for the state, came to office three years after the city experienced a series of race riots in 1967.



Kenneth A. Gibson

- **1970-Maynard Jackson (Atlanta, GA)** becomes the first African American vice-mayor of Atlanta, Georgia and remained in office for four years. He graduated from **Morehouse College** (an HBCU) in 1956 before earning a law degree from **North Carolina Central University** in 1964.⁴⁰⁰



Maynard Jackson

- **1970-James Howell “Jim” McGee (Dayton, OH)** becomes the first African American mayor of Dayton, Ohio upon appointment by the city commission, and he remained in office until 1982, making him the city’s longest-tenured mayor (as of 2020). A 1948 graduate of **Ohio State University Moritz College of Law**, he worked with the **NAACP** on civil rights cases before entering politics as an assistant to **Rodney M. Love** of Ohio and serving as city commissioner of Dayton beginning in 1967.⁴⁰¹

- **1971-Walter Scott Taylor (Englewood, NJ)** becomes the first African American mayor of Englewood, New Jersey. Taylor was a pastor within the **United Methodist Church** and the publisher of *The Torchbearer*, a community newspaper. In the 1950s, he led a chapter of the **NAACP** and lead efforts to integrate the schools in Englewood.⁴⁰²

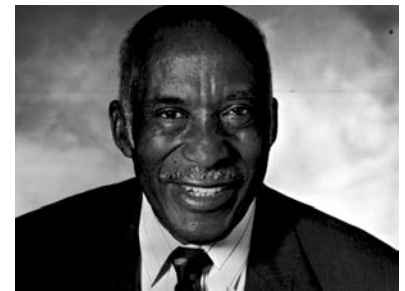
- **1971-Eugene Sawyer (HM) (Chicago, IL)** is elected alderman for Chicago’s 6th Ward and remained in office until 1987, when he becomes mayor. He defeated **A.A. “Sammy” Rayner** (a civil rights leader investigated by the FBI for connections to black power groups who was elected to the city council in 1967), and his election was part of the efforts of the Daley machine (administration of **Mayor Richard J. Daley**) to shift the city to the Democratic Party. He graduated from Alabama State University in 1956, where his fraternity, **Alpha Phi Alpha**, provided security for **Martin Luther King, Jr.** during the 1955 **Montgomery bus boycott**. By 1987, he was the longest serving black alderman on the city council.⁴⁰³



Eugene Sawyer

- **1971-Marion Barry (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is elected as the at-large member of the school board, defeating incumbent **Anita L. Allen** and reorganizing the school system’s finances (including raises for teachers).⁴⁰⁴

- **1972-James R. Ford (HM) (Tallahassee, FL)** becomes the first African American mayor of Tallahassee, Florida and first African American mayor of a state capital. A graduate of **Florida A&M University** (an HBCU), Ford worked as a teacher and administrator, presiding over the county’s first integrated school staff.



James R. Ford

- **1972-Ted Berry (Cincinnati, OH)** becomes the first African American mayor of Cincinnati, Ohio. Berry was admitted to the Ohio bar in 1932 after graduating from the **University of Cincinnati Law School**. He served as the president of the local branch of the **NAACP** from 1932 to 1946. And he became the first black assistant prosecuting attorney for Hamilton County in 1938.



Ted Berry

- **1972-Johnny Ford (HM) (Tuskegee, AL)** is elected the first African American mayor of Tuskegee, Alabama and remained in office until 1996. Prior to his tenure as mayor, he managed **Fred Gray's** campaign for the Alabama house, worked in the Montgomery office of the U.S. Department of Justice to ensure compliance with the **Civil Rights Act of 1964** and the **Voting Rights Act of 1965**. He served as a representative in the state legislature (1998-2004) before later again becoming mayor from 2004 to 2008 and from 2012 to 2016. He cofounded the **Southern Conference of Black Mayors** (later the **National Conference of Black Mayors**).⁴⁰⁵



Johnny Ford

- **1972-A.J. Cooper, Jr. (HM) (Prichard, AL)** is elected mayor of Prichard, Alabama and serves two terms. He was the first black mayor of Prichard and the first African American to defeat a white incumbent in the state of Alabama. He co-founded and served as the first president of the **National Conference of Black Mayors**.⁴⁰⁶

- **1973-Clarence Lightner (Raleigh, NC)** becomes the first African American elected mayor of Raleigh, North Carolina. A veteran of WWII, Lightner completed a degree in mortuary science and was a member of the **NAACP**. He was a member of an informal community group known as the "Oval Table Gang" who regularly met to "discuss strategies to desegregate Raleigh schools, plan demonstrations, and assist black candidates for public office."⁴⁰⁷



Clarence Lightner

- **1973-Coleman Young (Detroit, MI)** becomes the first African American elected mayor of Detroit, Michigan. Young served five terms as mayor between 1973 and 1994, focusing on issues that such as police violence, community policing, affirmative action, racial divisions between city and suburbs, and economic revitalization.⁴⁰⁸



Coleman Young

- **1973-Maynard Jackson (Atlanta, GA)**, a lawyer, is elected mayor of Atlanta, Georgia, becoming the first African American mayor of a major southern city. He oversaw several major public-works projects, including the upgrade of the then-**William B. Hartsfield Atlanta International Airport**, and ensured that minority and women-owned businesses participated in these projects. He was also mayor when the **Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority** began construction with the assistance of federal funding, and Atlanta was selected as the host for the **1996 Summer Olympic Games**.⁴⁰⁹

- **1973-Thomas "Tom" Bradley (Los Angeles, CA)** is elected mayor of Los Angeles, making him the first African American elected mayor of a major western city. In office from 1973 until 1993, Bradley had the longest tenure as mayor in the city's history. Bradley worked as a police officer prior to his political career.

- **1973-Lelia Foley (Taft, OK)** becomes the first African American woman mayor when elected by the all-black town of Taft, OK.⁴¹⁰ After losing her run for the local school board, Foley, a single mother surviving on welfare, knocked on every door in town until she gained enough support to become mayor.



Lelia Foley-Davis

- **1973-Doris A. Davis (Compton, CA)** is elected mayor of Compton, California, becoming the first African American woman mayor of a major satellite city. After earning an MA in educational administration from Northwestern University, Davis became the city clerk of Compton, CA.



Doris A. Davis

- **1974-The National Conference of Black Mayors (Fayette, MS)**, originally named the **Southern Conference of Black Mayors**, is founded at an informal meeting in Fayette, Mississippi of thirteen black mayors newly elected after the passage of the **Voting Rights Act**.⁴¹¹ Some of the founding members included:⁴¹²

A.J. Cooper, Jr. (HM) (Prichard, AL)

Charles Evers (HM) (Fayette, MS)

Emmitt Conley (Cotton Plant, Arkansas)

Clarence Lightner (Raleigh, NC)

Johnny Ford (HM) (Tuskegee, AL)

- **1974- Oscar DuCongé (Waco, TX)** becomes the first African American elected mayor of Waco, Texas. A WWII veteran, DuCongé earned an MA in social work from **Atlanta University**.⁴¹³



Oscar DuCongé

- **1975-Diane Watson (HM) (Los Angeles, CA)** becomes one of the first African American women elected to the Los Angeles Unified School District Board and was the leading proponent of the controversial court ordered busing of students to end racial segregation. Previously, she worked as a teacher, principal, and health education specialist. The 1963 ruling in *Crawford v. Board of Education of Los Angeles* called for active integration but the state supreme court did not require the district develop a plan until 1977, and subsequent lawsuits delayed action and the desegregation process didn't comply with state supreme court rulings until the mid-1980s.⁴¹⁴
- **1975-Marion Barry (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is elected to serve on the Council of the District of Columbia from 1975 to 1979, from 1993 to 1995, and from 2005 to 2014. He was active in the civil rights movement while at **LeMoyne College** (1958) and **Fisk University** (1960), serving as the first chairman of the **Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee** in 1960. In 1964, he helped found the **Southern Student Organizing Committee**.⁴¹⁵
- **1976-Kenneth A. Gibson (HM) (New Jersey)** becomes first African American president of the **United States Conference of Mayors** (thirty-four president), a non-partisan organization of cities with populations of 30,000 or more.⁴¹⁶

- **1976-David S. Cunningham, Jr. (HM) (New York)** serves as the state chairman of the California delegation to the Democratic National Committee. He was elected to the Los Angeles City Council in 1973, replacing **Tom Bradley** who is elected mayor, and remained in that position until 1987. He served in air force in the 1950s and earned his M.A. degree in urban studies from Occidental College in 1973. As councilman, he authored legislation creating the Mayor's Office of Small Business Assistance, created a system of senior citizens centers, and chaired the Grants, Housing, and Community Development Committee.⁴¹⁷



David S. Cunningham, Jr.

- **1976-Unita Blackwell (Mayersville, MI)** is elected mayor of Mayersville, Mississippi and remained in office until 2001, making her the first African American female mayor in Mississippi. After fighting against personal experiences of voter discrimination, she met **Fannie Lou Hamer** in 1964 and joined the **Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee** as a project director, helping with the **Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party**, the introduction of **Head Start** in Mississippi, and then working with the **National Council of Negro Women**. As mayor, she obtained federal funding for public housing, police and fire protection, public water projects, housing accommodations, and other infrastructure projects.⁴¹⁸



Unita Blackwell

- **1977-Henry L. Marsh III (HM) (Richmond, VA)** becomes the first African American mayor of Richmond, Virginia upon election by the city council and remained in office until 1982.⁴¹⁹



Henry L. Marsh III

- **1977-Ernest Nathan Morial (New Orleans, LA)** becomes the first African American mayor of New Orleans, capturing 95% of the black vote and 20% of the white vote. He remained in office until 1986, and his son, **Marc Morial (HM)**, became mayor of New Orleans in 1994.⁴²⁰

- **1977-Lionel J. Wilson (Oakland, CA)** is elected mayor of Oakland, California with the support of labor groups, the **Black Panther Party**, and liberal Democrats, making him the first African American mayor of that city. After several unsuccessful runs for the Berkeley City Council in the 1950s, he became the first black judge in Alameda County in 1960. He remained mayor until 1990, advocating for civil rights, affirmative action, and fiscal conservatism.⁴²¹

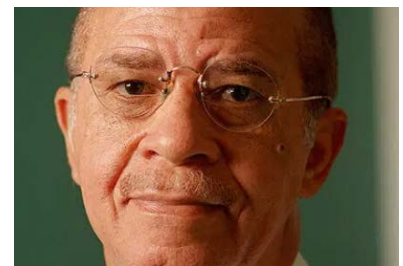


Lionel J. Wilson

- **1978-Basil A. Paterson (HM) (New York)** is appointed the deputy mayor of New York City by **Mayor Ed Koch**.⁴²²

- **1978-Norman "Norm" Rice (HM) (Seattle, WA)** is elected to the city council in Seattle, Washington and remained in office until 1989. After earning degrees in communication and public administration from the University of Washington, he worked as a news reporter.⁴²³

- **1979-Richard Arrington, Jr. (HM) (Birmingham, AL)** becomes the first African American mayor of Birmingham, Alabama and remained in office until 1999. A professor and academic administrator, he served on the Birmingham city council from 1971 to 1979.⁴²⁴



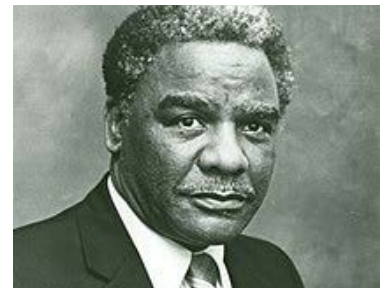
Richard Arrington, Jr.

- **1979-Marion Barry (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is elected and serves as mayor of Washington, D.C. from 1979 to 1991 and from 1995 to 1999. A misdemeanor drug conviction forced him to step down as mayor in 1991, but he returned to politics when he was elected to the city council in 1993

before becoming mayor again in 1995. His initiatives and concerns as mayor included a summer jobs program, managing the city budget, and requiring that firms doing business with the city employ minority partners.⁴²⁵

1980-1989

- **1981-Ronald Reagan (Illinois)** is elected the 40th president of the United States and remained in office until 1989. Having opposed the civil rights, voting rights, and fair housing acts of the 1960s, Reagan assumed the presidency as an advocate of states' rights and inadequately enforced civil rights legislation.⁴²⁶ In 1982, grassroots lobbying compelled him to extend the **Voting Rights Act**. Reagan vetoed the **Civil Rights Restoration Act (1987)** that required recipients of federal funding comply with civil rights laws in all areas of their operation.
- **1989-George H. W. Bush (Massachusetts)** is elected the 41st president of the United States and remained in office until 1993. Bush had a mixed record on civil rights legislation, opposing the **Civil Rights Act (1964)** but supporting the **Fair Housing Act (1968)**. As president, he appointed African Americans to government positions, including General **Colin Powell** as the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Judge **Clarence Thomas** to the U.S. Supreme Court. He also responded to the 1992 **Rodney King** assault and the subsequent Los Angeles riots by calling for law and order while sympathizing with the black community.⁴²⁷
- **1980-Togo D. West, Jr. (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed general counsel of the Department of Defense by **President Jimmy Carter**. A 1968 graduate of **Howard Law School**, he previously served as a judge in the Army and held several positions in the Carter administration, including general counsel of the Navy (1977-1979) and special assistant to the secretary and to the deputy secretary of defense (1979).⁴²⁸
- **1981-Henry L. Marsh III (HM) (Virginia)** hosts the **National Conference on the Black Agenda**, which attracts 1,500 African American state, local, and federal officials.
- **1981-Parren J. Mitchell (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** becomes chairman of the House Small Business Committee and remained in that post until 1987.⁴²⁹
- **1981-Harold Washington (Illinois)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Illinois and remained in office until 1983. He supported funding for social programs and extending the **Voting Rights Act**.⁴³⁰



Harold Washington

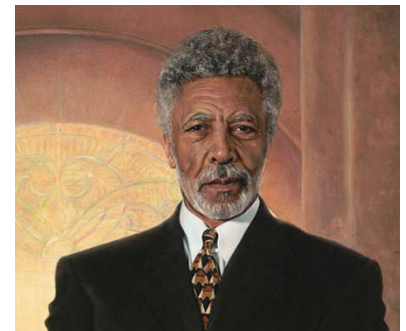
- **1981-Samuel Pierce (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the eighth secretary of Housing and Urban Development by **President Ronald Reagan**. He was Reagan's only black cabinet member and, after he left office in 1989, a federal investigation found political favoritism and trading of influence in the department during his tenure. He graduated from New York University School of Law in 1952 and worked in private practice and as an assistant U.S. attorney in New York.⁴³¹



Samuel Pierce

- **1981-Mervyn M. Dymally (HM) (California)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from California and remained in office until 1993. He heavily advocated for international human rights and economic development, with a particular focus on Africa and the Caribbean. He chaired the **Congressional Black Caucus** from 1987 to 1989.⁴³²

- **1981-August "Gus" Savage (Illinois)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Illinois and he remained in office until 1993. He primarily focused on the rights of African American and improving living conditions in Chicago, and he proved to be one of the more outspoken members of the House. He faced criticism for antisemitic language and a sexual misconduct charge but remained in office until he lost to **Mel Reynolds** in the 1992 election.⁴³³



Ronald V. Dellums

- **1983-Ronald V. Dellums (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** becomes the chairman of the influential **Subcommittee on Military Installations and Armed Services**. He was a founder of the **Congressional Black Caucus**.⁴³⁴

- **1983-Charles Hayes (Illinois)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Illinois and remained in office until 1993. He was a trade unionist who worked with **Martin Luther King, Jr.** and the **Southern Christian Leadership Council** in Chicago and he helped found the **Coalition of Black Trade Unionists** in the 1970s. He brought these concerns about civil rights and labor rights to Congress, authoring the Dropout Prevention and Reentry Act, sponsoring bills related to unemployment, and protesting at the South African Embassy in Washington, D.C.⁴³⁵



Charles Hayes

- **1984-The National Black Women's Political Caucus (Washington, D.C.)** is established by Congresswoman **Shirley Chisholm** and **Cynthia Delores Tucker**, and soon thereafter changes its name to the **National Congress of Black Women** after conflict with the **National Black Women's Political Leadership Caucus** (of which Tucker was a founder).⁴³⁶

- **1984-Marion Barry (HM) (San Francisco, CA)** gives the presidential nomination speech for **Jesse Jackson** at the **1984 Democratic National Convention**.⁴³⁷

- **1984-Alexis Herman (Washington, D.C.?)** manages the convention teams for **Jesse Jackson's** campaigns for the Democratic Party's presidential nominations in 1984 and 1988.⁴³⁸

- **1985-William H. Gray III (HM) (Washington, D.C.)**, U.S. Representative for Pennsylvania, becomes the first African American chair of the **House Budget Committee** and remained in the role until 1989.⁴³⁹
- **1985-National Organization of Black Elected Women (NOBEL Women) (Philadelphia, PA) (or National Organization of Black Elected Legislative Women)** is founded by California State Senator **Diane Watson** as a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to increasing and promoting black women in government. NOBEL Women is part of the larger organization, the **National Black Caucus of State Legislators**.⁴⁴⁰
- **1986-Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (Washington, D.C.)** establishes an internship program to help future black leaders gain experience working in public service.⁴⁴¹
- **1987-Louis Stokes (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** serves as the chair of the **House Intelligence Committee** and remained in office until 1989.⁴⁴²
- **1987-General Colin Powell (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the sixteenth U.S. National Security Advisor by **President Ronald Reagan**, and he remained in office until 1989. He was the first African American in this role. He joined the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) while a student at City College of New York in 1958, and he ultimately had a thirty-five-year military career and retired as a Four-Star U.S. Army General.⁴⁴³



William H. Gray III



General Colin Powell

- **1987-Alphonson Michael "Mike" Espy (Mississippi)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Mississippi and remained in office until 1993, making him the first black Congressman from Mississippi since **John R. Lynch** (1882-1883). He graduated with a J.D. degree from the University of Santa Clara in 1978 and worked as an attorney and in various government offices throughout the 1980s. While in Congress, he embraced centrist politics and focused on economic development and securing aid for farmers in his rural district.⁴⁴⁴



Alphonson Michael "Mike" Espy

- **1987-Floyd H. Flake (HM) (New York)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from New York and remained in office until 1997. He was a minister at **Allen African Methodist Episcopal Cathedral** in Brooklyn, New York from 1976 to 1986. While in Congress, he focused on urban renewal projects, community development plans, and supported the **Congressional Black Caucus**.⁴⁴⁵



Floyd H. Flake

- **1987-Kweisi Mfume (Maryland)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Maryland and serves from 1987 to 1996 and is re-elected in 2020 to fill the vacancy after the death of **Elijah Cummings**. He was elected to the Baltimore City Council in 1978 and served until 1986. In Congress, he served on the Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs Committee, the Small Business Committee, and the Select Committee on Hunger. He was treasurer of the Congressional Black Caucus from 1987 to 1989 and later served as its vice chairman.⁴⁴⁶



Kweisi Mfume

- **1987-John Lewis (HM) (Georgia)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Georgia and remained in office until his death in 2020 from pancreatic cancer. He was prominent in the civil rights movement, chairing the **Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee** (1963-1966) and helping organize the 1963 **March on Washington**.⁴⁴⁷



John Lewis

- **1988-Women in Government (WIG) (Washington, D.C.)** is founded as a non-profit, non-partisan organization of women state legislators focused on supporting female elected officials through networking, expert forums, and educational resources.⁴⁴⁸
- **1989-William H. Gray III (HM) (Washington, D.C.)**, U.S. Representative for Pennsylvania, becomes the first African American majority whip and remained in the role until 1991.⁴⁴⁹
- **1989-Dr. Louis Wade Sullivan (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the seventeenth secretary of Health and Human Services by **President George H.W. Bush**. He earned an M.D. degree from Boston University School of Medicine and was the founder and president of Morehouse College School of Medicine, which is why he met and became an advisor to President Bush.⁴⁵⁰
- **1989-Ronald "Ron" H. Brown (Washington, D.C.)** becomes chair of the **Democratic National Committee** and remained in that position until 1993, making him the first African American to head a major U.S. political party.⁴⁵¹

- **1989-Condoleezza Rice (Washington, D.C.)** serves as director and then senior director of the Soviet and East European Affairs in the National Security Council during the **George H. W. Bush administration**. She earned her Ph.D. in political science from the University of Denver in 1981 and held a number of prominent fellowships before teaching (1981-1987) and serving as provost (1993-1999) at Stanford University.⁴⁵²
- **1989-General Colin Powell (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the twelfth Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff by **President George H. W. Bush** and, later, **President Bill Clinton**, remaining in office until 1993. He was the first African American in this role. While in this highest military position in the Department of Defense, he oversaw twenty-eight crises, including the 1989 invasion of Panama and Operation Desert Storm in the Persian Gulf War (1990-1991).⁴⁵³



Condoleezza Rice

- **1989-Donald M. Payne (New Jersey)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from New Jersey and remained in office until 2012, making him the first African American from New Jersey elected to Congress. He served as a chairman of the **Congressional Black Caucus**, headed a presidential humanitarian mission to Rwanda, brought financial resources to his district, and supported greater U.S. engagement in Africa. He was succeeded by his son, **Donald Payne, Jr.**, in 2012.⁴⁵⁴
- **1980-Barbara M. Watson (Malaysia)** is appointed ambassador to Malaysia by **President Jimmy Carter**, and she remained in office until 1981. She also served a second term as Assistant Secretary of State for Security and Consular Affairs under the Carter administration from 1977 to 1980.⁴⁵⁵
- **1980-Walter Carrington (HM) (Senegal)** is appointed ambassador to Senegal by **President Jimmy Carter**, and he remained in office until 1981. He served in WWII, earned a J.D. degree from Harvard Law School in 1958, worked on the 1960 **John F. Kennedy** presidential campaign, and served in the Peace Corps.⁴⁵⁶
- **1981-President Ronald Reagan (Washington, D.C.)**, a Republican, appoints an **African American to an ambassadorship eighteen times** between 1981 and 1989.⁴⁵⁷
- **1981-Ulric St. Clair Hyanes, Jr. (Algeria)**, U.S. ambassador to Algeria from 1977 to 1981, is instrumental in negotiations during the **Iranian Hostage Crisis** that led to the release of American hostages.⁴⁵⁸
- **1981-Ronald DeWayne Palmer (Malaysia)** is appointed ambassador to Malaysia by **President Ronald Reagan**, and he remained in office until 1983. He spoke English, Indonesian, French, and Danish.⁴⁵⁹
- **1981-Gerald E. Thomas (Guyana and Kenya)** is appointed ambassador to Guyana by **President Ronald Reagan** and remained in office until 1983, then becoming ambassador to Kenya from 1983 to 1989. He earned a Ph.D. degree from Yale University in 1973 and served in the navy from 1951 to 1981, retiring as a Rear Admiral (the second African American to achieve this rank).⁴⁶⁰
- **1981-John A. Burroughs (Malawi)** is appointed ambassador to Malawi by **President Ronald Reagan** and remained in office until 1984. In this role, he worked closely with Malawi's dictator **Elmo Zumwalt** and he monitored human rights issues as refugees fled Mozambique due to civil war. He graduated from the University of Iowa in 1959 and joined the Department of State in 1960 where he served in a number of roles throughout his career.⁴⁶¹



Donald M. Payne



Walter Carrington



**Gerald E. Thomas and
President Ronald Reagan
1982**



John A. Burroughs

- **1982-Howard K. Walker (Togo)** is appointed ambassador to Togo by **President Ronald Reagan** and remained in office until 1984. As ambassador, he worked to convince Togo to support U.S. Cold War policy against the Soviet Union on the United Nation's Security Council. He served in the air force (1962-1965), earned a Ph.D. degree from Boston University in 1968, and became a foreign service officer in 1969.⁴⁶²



Howard K. Walker and President Ronald Reagan

- **1982-Terrence Todman (Spain)**, U.S. ambassador to Spain, is instrumental in the negotiations that resulted in Spain joining the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).⁴⁶³
- **1982-Melvin H. Evans (Trinidad and Tobago)** is appointed ambassador to Trinidad and Tobago by **President Ronald Reagan**, and he remained in office until his death by heart attack on November 27, 1984.⁴⁶⁴



Terrence Todman

- **1983-Arthur W. Lewis (Sierra Leone)** is appointed ambassador to Sierra Leone by **President Ronald Reagan** and remained in office until his retirement in 1986. After twenty-three years in the navy, he became a career foreign service officer. His cousin was **Colin Powell**, former chairman of the joint chiefs of staff and former U.S. secretary of state.⁴⁶⁵



George E. Moose

- **1983-George E. Moose (Benin)** is appointed ambassador to Benin by **President Ronald Reagan** and remained in office until 1986. He graduated from Grinnell College in Iowa in 1966 and joined the Foreign Service in 1967, where served in a number of roles until his retirement in 2004.⁴⁶⁶

- **1985-Irvin Hicks (Seychelles)** is appointed ambassador to Seychelles by **President Ronald Reagan** and remained in office until 1987. He joined the Department of State as a foreign service officer in 1962, where he served in a number of international posts. He earned a B.A. degree from the University of Maryland in 1983.⁴⁶⁷



Edward Joseph Perkins, Jr

- **1985-Edward Joseph Perkins, Jr. (HM) (Liberia and South Africa)** is appointed ambassador to Liberia by **President Ronald Reagan**, where he serves briefly before being appointed as ambassador to South Africa in 1986. A veteran and foreign service officer, he worked at the U.S. embassy in Ghana (1978-1981) and Liberia (1981-1983) before becoming director of the Office of West African Affairs (1983-1985).⁴⁶⁸

- **1986-Cynthia Shepard Perry (Sierra Leone)** is appointed ambassador to Sierra Leone by **President Ronald Reagan** and remained in office until 1989. A Republican and career diplomat, she also worked during the Reagan administration as the chief of education and human resources for the U.S. Agency for International Development (1982-1986). Based on her desire to be an ambassador, she earned B.A. degrees in political science and foreign language from Indiana State University in 1968 and a doctorate in education from the University of Massachusetts in 1976.⁴⁶⁹



Cynthia Shepard Perry

- **1986-Ronald DeWayne Palmer (Mauritius)** is appointed ambassador to Mauritius by **President Ronald Reagan**, and he remained in office until 1989.⁴⁷⁰
- **1988-George E. Moose (Senegal)** is appointed ambassador to Senegal by **President Ronald Reagan** and remained in office until 1991. He later served as the assistant secretary of state for African affairs for the **Clinton administration** during the Rwanda genocide. And, in 2002, he achieved the rank of career ambassador, the highest rank in the U.S. Foreign Service, two years before his retirement.⁴⁷¹
- **1988-John A. Burroughs (Uganda)** is appointed ambassador to Uganda by **President Ronald Reagan** and remained in office until 1991. He helped mediate relationships between Uganda and Rwanda in the leadup to the Rwanda Civil War and Hutu genocide of the Tutsi.⁴⁷²
- **1988-Leonard O. Spearman, Sr. (Rwanda)** is appointed ambassador to Rwanda by **President George H.W. Bush** and remained in office until 1990. He earned a Ph.D. degree in clinical psychology from the University of Michigan in 1960. He worked as a professor at various universities for twenty years before joining what is now the Department of Education.⁴⁷³
- **1989-Cynthia Shepard Perry (Burundi)** is appointed ambassador to Burundi by **President George H. W. Bush** and remained in office until 1993. During the Bush administration, she also worked as the executive director of the African Development Bank where she promoted microloans for African women as a way to help reduce poverty.⁴⁷⁴
- **1989-Howard K. Walker (Madagascar and Comoros)** is appointed ambassador to Madagascar and Comoros by **President George H.W. Bush** and he remained in office until 1992. In this role, he helped lay the foundation for the first Peace Corps volunteers in the country.⁴⁷⁵
- **1989-Ruth Washington (Gambia)** is appointed ambassador to Gambia by **President George H.W. Bush** and confirmed by the Senate but she in a car accident on January 20, 1990 before presenting her credentials to the Gambian government. While not a member of the Foreign Service, she graduated from New York University Law School in 1968 and worked in a range of legal and political roles in both city, state, and national government.⁴⁷⁶
- **1989-President George H. Bush (Washington, D.C.)**, a Republican, appoints an **African American to an ambassadorship sixteen times** between 1989 and 1993.⁴⁷⁷
- **1989-Johnny Young (Sierra Leone)** is appointed ambassador to Sierra Leone by **President George H. W. Bush**, and he remained in office until 1992. He promoted democracy and economic development during Sierra Leone's civil war. He participated in **Operation Sharp Edge**, which evacuated U.S. citizens from Freetown during the 1992 coup led by **Valentine Strasser**.⁴⁷⁸



Leonard O. Spearman, Sr.



Johnny Young

- **1980-Willie L. Brown, Jr. (HM) (California)** becomes the first African American speaker of the California State Assembly and holds the position for fifteen years. He promoted legislation related to seat belt requirements, educational testing standards, compensation for crime victims, regulation of healthcare costs, and civil rights.⁴⁷⁹
- **1981-Wellington Webb (HM) (Colorado)** is appointed the executive director of the Department of Regulatory Agencies by **Colorado Governor Richard Lamm**, and he remained in that role until serving as city auditor from 1987 to 1991.⁴⁸⁰
- **1983-Elijah E. Cummings (Maryland)** is elected to the Maryland House of Delegates and remained in office until 1996. He served as chairman of the **Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland** and was the first African American named speaker *pro tempore* (second highest position in the House) of the Maryland legislature. A 1976 graduate of the **University of Maryland School of Law**, he entered politics with the help of **Lena King Lee**, his predecessor in the Maryland House.⁴⁸¹
- **1983-Ray Miller (HM) (Ohio)** is elected to the Ohio House of Representatives and remained in office until 1993. He graduated from Ohio State University with a B.S. degree in political science (1971) and a M.A. in public administration (1973). He then worked as a staffer in the **Carter administration** from 1979 to 1980. In 1988, he became president of the **Legislative Black Caucus**.⁴⁸²
- **1983-Robert “Bobby” C. Scott (Virginia)** is elected to the Virginia Senate and remained in office until 1993. He previously served as a member of the Virginia House of Delegates from 1978 to 1983. He sponsored legislation on healthcare, education, crime prevention, economic development, consumer protection, and social services.⁴⁸³
- **1983-Chaka Fattah (HM) (Pennsylvania)** is elected to the Pennsylvania legislature, serving in the House from 1983 to 1988 and in the Senate from 1989 to 1994. At twenty-five years old, he was one of the youngest politicians elected to the state legislature.⁴⁸⁴



Willie L. Brown, Jr.



Elijah E. Cummings



Ray Miller



Robert “Bobby” C. Scott



Chaka Fattah

- **1983-William Lacy Clay, Jr. (HM) (Missouri)** is elected to the Missouri legislature, serving in the House from 1983 to 1991 and in the Senate from 1991 to 2001. While in office, he helped pass Missouri’s Hate Crimes Law and the Youth Opportunities and Violence Prevention Act.⁴⁸⁵



William Lacy Clay, Jr

- **1984-Arthenia L. Joyner (Florida)** serves in the Florida House of Representatives (2000-2006) and the Florida Senate (2006-2016), where she serves as the first African American woman minority leader of the senate from 2014 to 2016. She was active in the civil rights movement and graduated from **Florida A&M University College of Law** in 1968. She advocated for reducing crime, increasing access to health care and childcare, creating jobs with fair pay, and reforming criminal and civil justice.⁴⁸⁶



Arthenia L. Joyner

- **1985-David A. Paterson (HM) (New York)** is elected to the New York senate. He represented the twenty-ninth district from 1985 to 2002—the same seat as his father, former **New York Secretary of State Basil A. Paterson (HM)**—and then represented the thirtieth district from 2003 to 2006.⁴⁸⁷ He was a 1983 graduate of **Hofstra Law School**.



Basil A. Paterson (HM) (left) and David A. Paterson (HM) (right)

- **1985-Melvin “Mel” Watt (HM) (North Carolina)** is elected to the North Carolina Senate and remained in office until 1987. He earned a law degree from Yale Law School in 1970, worked in private practice, and managed the campaigns of Harvey Gantt for Charlotte City Council, mayor of Charlotte, and the U.S. Senate.⁴⁸⁸



Melvin “Mel” Watt

- **1985-The Black & Puerto Rican Legislative Caucus of New York State (New York)** is founded to support black and Puerto Rican legislator and address the concerns facing people of color. It is the nonprofit arm of the **Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic and Asian Legislative Caucus**.⁴⁸⁹

- **1988-Cynthia McKinney (Georgia)** is elected to the Georgia legislature at the age of thirty-three. There she served alongside her father, **James Edward “Billy” McKinney**, who was elected to the Georgia legislature from 1973 to 2003. While in office, she opposed the Gulf War and worked with civil rights leaders to increase the number of black judges. She had earned a degree in international relations from the University of Southern California in 1978.⁴⁹⁰



Cynthia McKinney

- **1989-Gwendolynne “Gwen” S. Moore (Wisconsin)** is elected to the Wisconsin legislature, serving in the Assembly from 1989 to 1993 and then in the Senate from 1993 to 2005. She was the first African American woman

elected to the state Senate in Wisconsin. She graduated from Marquette University in 1973 with a B.A. degree in political science and then worked as a housing activist and organizer through AmeriCorps VISTA.⁴⁹¹

- **1980-A. C. Warton, Jr. (HM) (Shelby County, TN)** is appointed Shelby County's Chief Public Defender by **Mayor Bill Morris**. He earned his J.D. degree from the University of Mississippi School of Law in 1971 before working at the Office of the General Council of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (Washington, D.C.), at the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law (Washington, D.C.), and at Memphis Area Legal Services (Memphis, TN).⁴⁹²
- **1980-Richard G. Hatcher (HM) (Gary, IN)** becomes the 38th president of the **United States Conference of Mayors** from 1980 to 1981.⁴⁹³
- **1980-W. Wilson Goode (HM) (Philadelphia, PA)** serves as the managing director of the city of Philadelphia under **Mayor William J. Green**. A graduate of **Morgan State University** and **University of Pennsylvania**, he entered politics by managing the unsuccessful 1971 mayoral campaign of **State Representative Anthony Hardy Williams**.⁴⁹⁴
- **1982-Kurt Schmoke (HM) (Baltimore, MD)** is elected state's attorney for Baltimore, Maryland and remained in office until 1987.⁴⁹⁵
- **1982-Lee P. Brown (HM) (Houston, TX)** is appointed the first African American police commissioner of Houston by **Mayor Kathy Whitmire** and remained in this role until 1990. He earned both a master's degree and a PhD in criminology from the University of California, Berkeley (1968 and 1970).⁴⁹⁶
- **1982-Coleman A. Young (Detroit, MI)** becomes the 40th president of the **United States Conference of Mayors** from 1982 to 1983.⁴⁹⁷
- **1982-Andrew Young (HM) (Atlanta, GA)** is elected mayor of Atlanta and remained in office until 1990. He ran for mayor at the urging of a number of people, including **Coretta Scott King**, and defeated **Mayor Maynard Jackson**. He expanded programs for awarding city contracts to minority and female-owned businesses.⁴⁹⁸
- **1983-Harvey B. Gantt (Charlotte, NC)** is elected as the first African American mayor of Charlotte, North Carolina and remained in office until 1987. He previously served on the Charlotte city council from 1974 to 1983. He later ran for the U.S. Senate in 1990 and 1996 but was not elected.⁴⁹⁹



W. Wilson Goode



Lee P. Brown



Andrew Young (HM) (1932-)



Harvey B. Gantt

- **1983-Bobby Rush (HM) (Illinois)** is elected to the Chicago City Council and remained in office until 1993. He was active in the civil rights movement, joining the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and co-founding the Illinois Black Panther Party. In 1993, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.⁵⁰⁰
- **1983-Harold Washington (Chicago, IL)** is elected mayor of Chicago, making him the first African American elected as the city's mayor. He increased the number of underrepresented groups in city government and city contracts. Washington died unexpectedly of a heart attack in office in 1987.⁵⁰¹
- **1985-David N. Dinkins (HM) (New York, NY)** is elected borough president of Manhattan in 1985 and remained in office until 1989.⁵⁰²
- **1984-Johnny Ford (HM) (St. Louis, MO)** establishes the **World Conference of Mayors, Inc.**, which fosters collaboration between mayors and other elected officials from the United States, Asia, Africa, and the Caribbean.⁵⁰³
- **1984-W. Wilson Goode (HM) (Philadelphia, PA)** is elected mayor of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and remained in office until 1992, making him the first black mayor of Philadelphia.⁵⁰⁴
- **1985-Ernest N. Morial (New Orleans, LA)** becomes the 43rd president of the **United States Conference of Mayors** from 1985 to 1986.⁵⁰⁵
- **1987-Kurt Schmoke (HM) (Baltimore, MD)** becomes the first elected African American mayor of Baltimore, Maryland and remained in office until 1999. He defeated **Clarence Burns**, the first black mayor of Baltimore who was elevated from city council president to mayor in 1987 when then-Mayor **William Donald Schaefer** resigned to serve as governor.⁵⁰⁶
- **1987-Sheila Ann Dixon (Baltimore, MD)** is elected the first African American woman on the city council of Baltimore, where she served from 1987 to 2007 from 1999 to 2007. She graduated from Towson University with a B.A. and became the first African American woman to serve as council president degree and from Johns Hopkins University with a M.A. degree. Before entering politics, she worked as a teacher and international trade specialist.⁵⁰⁷
- **1987-Eugene Sawyer (HM) (Chicago, IL)** becomes mayor of Chicago after the sudden death of **Mayor Harold Washington**, and he remained in office until 1989. **David Duvall Orr** served as the interim mayor immediately after Washington's death, but the city council elected Sawyer to complete the term. He ran for re-election in 1989, but he lost to **Richard M. Daley**.⁵⁰⁸
- **1988-Carol Moseley Braun (HM) (Cook County, IL)** is elected the recorder of deeds for Cook County, Illinois, becoming the first African American to hold an executive position in the county.⁵⁰⁹
- **1989-Norman "Norm" Rice (HM) (Seattle, WA)**, after an unsuccessful campaign in 1985, is elected the first African American mayor of Seattle in 1989 and remained in office until 1998. He served as president of the U.S.



Bobby Rush



Sheila Ann Dixon

Conference of Mayors (1995-1996) and unsuccessfully ran for governor in 1996.⁵¹⁰

- **1989-David N. Dinkins (HM) (New York, NY)** becomes the first African American mayor of New York City and remained in office until 1993.⁵¹¹
- **1989-Alphonso Jackson (HM) (Dallas, TX)** is named president and CEO of the Housing Authority of the city of Dallas, Texas, making him the first African American to head the agency. He previously headed housing authority departments in St. Louis and Washington, D.C. In 1973, he earned a J.D. degree from Washington University School of Law.⁵¹²

1990-1999

- **1993-William J. Clinton (Arkansas)** is elected the 42nd president of the United States and remained in office until 2001. He earned seventy-five percent of the black vote in the presidential election while supporting affirmative action and appointing African Americans to high profile government positions, including cabinet secretaries that included **Mike Espy, Ron Brown, Alexis Herman, Rodney E. Slater, Hazel R. O'Leary, Jesse Brown,** and **Togo D. West, Jr.** He is also known for the passage of 1994 crime bill and 1996 welfare reform bill that ultimately hurt African American communities.⁵¹³
- **1990-Eleanor Holmes Norton (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is elected as a Democratic delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives from Washington, D.C.'s at-large district and remained in office as of 2020. **Donna Brazile** was her campaign manager.⁵¹⁴
- **1991-Maxine Waters (HM) (California)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from California and remained in office as of 2020. She was active on a number of issues including affirmative action, community development, women's health, and welfare reform. She chaired the **Congressional Black Caucus** from 1997 to 1999.⁵¹⁵
- **1991-Barbara-Rose Collins (Michigan)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Michigan after the death of her husband, **Congressman George Collins**, in a plane crash, and she remained in office until 1997. While in Congress, she focused on addressing crime, poverty, unemployment, homelessness, and violence. Concerns about her violating house rule and federal law contributed to her electoral defeat in the 1996 primary. She had a long record of service in local and state government, including serving on the Detroit school board (1971-1973), the Michigan House of Representatives (1975-1981), and the Detroit City Council (1981-1991).⁵¹⁶
- **1991-Mervyn M. Dymally (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed by **President Bill Clinton** to serve as a representative to the **United Nations**.⁵¹⁷
- **1991-Louis Stokes (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** serves as the chair of the House Ethics Committee and remained in office until 1993.⁵¹⁸
- **1991-William H. Gray III (HM) (Washington, D.C.)**, U.S. Representative for Pennsylvania, surprises the political community by resigning from office to head the **United Negro College Fund**.⁵¹⁹

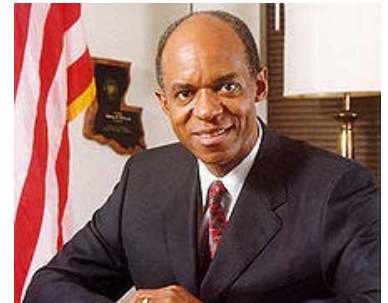


Maxine Waters



Barbara-Rose Collins

- **1991-William J. Jefferson (HM) (Louisiana)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Louisiana and remained in office until 2009, making him the first African American congressman from the state since Reconstruction. He earned a J.D. degree from Harvard Law School, worked as a legislative assistant to Louisiana Senator J. Bennett Johnston, and served in the Louisiana Senate from 1980 to 1991. He was indicted on sixteen counts of corruption for racketeering and money laundering, and he was sentenced to thirteen years in prison.⁵²⁰



William J. Jefferson

- **1992-Eva M. Clayton (North Carolina)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from North Carolina and remained in office until 2003, making her the first black woman from North Carolina elected to Congress. She previously worked in state government and served as a member and chair of the Warren County, North Carolina Board of Commissioners from 1982 to 1992. While in Congress, she focused on the rural and agricultural issues facing her district.⁵²¹



Eva M. Clayton

- **1992-Alexis Herman (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** serves as the vice chair of the **1992 Democratic National Convention** after serving as chief of staff to the **Democratic National Committee Chairman Ronald H. Brown**.

⁵²²

- **1993-Alphonson Michael “Mike” Espy (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed U.S. Secretary of Agriculture by **President Bill Clinton**, making him the first African American in this role. He resigned in 1994 when Independent Counsel Donald Smaltz began investigating him for ethics violations. In 1997, he was indicted for bribery and fraud but, the next year, was acquitted of all charges.⁵²³

- **1993-Jesse Brown (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed U.S. Secretary of Veteran Affairs by **President Bill Clinton**. In this role, he reengineered the healthcare system, created more health services for women, and developed programs for homeless veterans. A Vietnam veteran, he became the first black executive director of the Bureau of the Disabled American’s Veterans.⁵²⁴



Jesse Brown

- **1993-Eddie Bernice Johnson (HM) (Texas)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Texas and remained in office as of 2020. While in Congress, she supported legislation to improve healthcare, the environment, civil rights, women’s issues, and science research and education. She chaired the Committee on Science and Technology and, in 2001, chaired the **Congressional Black Caucus**.⁵²⁵

- **1993-Sanford D. Bishop, Jr. (Georgia)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Georgia and remained in office as of 2020. He is a member of the **Congressional Black Caucus** and the **Blue Dog Coalition**, which seeks to move the Democratic Party further to the right. He has supported agricultural initiatives that reflect the interest of his district, voted in favor of the Iraq War, and an August 2020 embezzlement investigation from the Office of Congressional Ethics.⁵²⁶

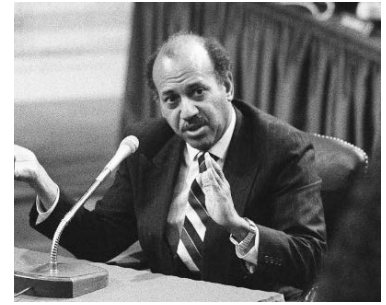
- **1993-Corrine Brown (Florida)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives and remained in office until 2017. That year, Brown, **Alcee Hastings**, and **Carrie Meeks** became the first three African Americans elected to Congress from Florida since Reconstruction. Inspired to enter politics by her mentor **Gwen Cherry**, she served in the Florida House of



Corrine Brown

Representatives from 1982 to 1992, advocated for civil rights, brought federal programs to her district, and was vice chair of the **Congressional Black Caucus** (2005-2007). In 2017, she was convicted of 18 counts of mail and wire fraud, conspiracy, obstruction, and filing false tax returns, and she was sentenced to five years in prison.⁵²⁷

- **1993-Alcee Hastings (Florida)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Florida and remained in office as of 2020. He was appointed a U.S. district judge for the southern district of Florida by **President Jimmy Carter** in 1979 but was impeached in 1989 for perjury and corruption. While in Congress, he has advocated for gun control, affordable health care, Head Start, environmental justice, and supported the **Congressional Black Caucus**.⁵²⁸



Alcee Hastings

- **1993-James E. Clyburn (HM) (South Carolina)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from South Carolina and remained in office as of 2020. He has served as the House Majority Whip (2007-2011, 2019-, which makes him the third ranking Democrat in Congress behind Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer), House Assistant Democratic Leader (2011-2019), Chair of the House Democratic Conference (2006-2007), and Vice Chair of the Democratic Conference (2003-2006). As a leader among Democrats in Congress, he supports a liberal agenda that includes civil rights, women's rights, supporting education, expanding childcare, and increasing minimum wages.⁵²⁹



James E. Clyburn

- **1993-Cynthia McKinney (Georgia)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Georgia from 1993 to 2003 and from 2005 to 2007, making her the first African American woman from Georgia to serve in Congress. While in Congress, she opposed the Gulf War, spoke against human rights abuses, supported abortion, and worked for gun control.⁵³⁰

- **1993-Carrie M. Meek (HM) (Florida)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Florida and remained in office until 2003, making her the first African American elected to Congress since Reconstruction. While in Congress, she advocated for election reform, women's rights, civil rights, and health care reform. She previously served in the Florida House from 1979 to 1982 and was the first African American woman to serve in the Florida Senate from 1982 to 1992.⁵³¹



Carrie M. Meek

- **1993-Mel Reynolds (Illinois)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Illinois and remained in office until 1995. He resigned his seat after he was convicted of twelve counts of sexual assault, obstruction of justice, and solicitation of child pornography.⁵³²

- **1993-Bobby Rush (HM) (Illinois)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Illinois and remained in office as of 2020. He has chaired the Committee on Energy and Commerce and co-chaired the Congressional Biotech Caucus.⁵³³



Mel Reynolds

- **1993-Robert “Bobby” C. Scott (Virginia)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives and remained in office as of 2020, making him the second African American elected to Congress from Virginia after **John Mercer Langston** in the 1880s. He has supported healthcare access, minimum wage increases, and LGBTQ rights. In January 2019, he became the chair of the House Education Committee.⁵³⁴

- **1993-Melvin “Mel” Watt (HM) (North Carolina)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from North Carolina and remained in office until 2014. While in Congress, he supported federal welfare, advocated for African American communities, helped extend the Voting Rights Act, and defended civil liberties. In 2004, he was elected chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus.⁵³⁵



Melvin "Mel" Watt

- **1993-Bennie G. Thompson (Mississippi)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives and remained in office as of 2020. After earning M.S. and M.A. degrees from Jackson State University in 1972, he used his prior experience as an alderman to run for mayor of Bolton, Mississippi. He was then elected to the Hinds County Board of Supervisors in 1980 before running for Congress. He has supported civil rights, education, and healthcare reform.⁵³⁶



Bennie G. Thompson

- **1993-Dr. Joycelyn Elders (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the fifteenth surgeon general of the United States by **President Bill Clinton**, and she remained in office until 1994. She earned her M.D. and M.S. degrees from the University of Arkansas (1960, 1967), and, in 1987, was appointed director of the Arkansas Department of Health by Governor Bill Clinton.⁵³⁷



Dr. Joycelyn Elders

- **1993-Ronald “Ron” H. Brown (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the thirtieth U.S. Secretary of Commerce by **President Bill Clinton** and remained in office until 1996, making him the first African American to serve in this role. He advocated for the Clinton administration’s goals for free trade and increased demand for U.S. exports in new markets. He died in a plane crash in Croatia on April 3, 1996.⁵³⁸

- **1993-Hazel R. O’Leary (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the seventh U.S. Secretary of Energy by **President Bill Clinton** and remained in office until 1997, making her the first woman and the first African American to hold this position. “As secretary, O’Leary changed the department’s Office of Classification to the Office of Declassification, initiated an aggressive clean-up of surplus plutonium, created an Openness Advisory Panel, and encouraged the Clinton administration to end nuclear testing in the United States.”⁵³⁹

- **1993-Alexis Herman (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed director of the White House Office of Public Liaison by **President Bill Clinton**, and she remained in that role until 1997.⁵⁴⁰

- **1993-Ronald V. Dellums (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** becomes the first African American chair of the **House Armed Services Committee**.⁵⁴¹

- **1993-Lee P. Brown (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy by **President Bill Clinton** and remained in office until 1996.⁵⁴²
- **1993-Carol Moseley Braun (HM) (Illinois)** is elected to the U.S. Senate and serves from 1992 to 1998, making her the first woman from Illinois and the first African American woman in the country to serve in the U.S. Senate. She ran for office after the questioning of **Anita Hill** during **Clarence Thomas's** nomination hearings for the U.S. Supreme Court and, once in office, addressed issues affecting women and African Americans. She also unsuccessfully ran for Illinois lieutenant governor in 1986.⁵⁴³
- **1993-Togo D. West, Jr. (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** becomes the sixteenth secretary of the Army upon nomination by **President Bill Clinton** and confirmation by Congress, and he remained in this role until 1997.⁵⁴⁴
- **1993-Dr. David Satcher (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the thirteenth director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and administrator of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry by **President Bill Clinton**, and he remained in office until 1998. He earned M.D. and Ph.D. degrees in cytogenetics from Case Western Reserve University in 1970.⁵⁴⁵
- **1993-Rodney E. Slater (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed administrator of the Federal Highway Administration by **President Bill Clinton**. In the 1980s, he served in several government positions under Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton, including head of the Arkansas Highway Commission. He earned a J.D. degree from the University of Arkansas in 1980.⁵⁴⁶
- **1994-Deval Patrick (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** becomes the U.S. assistant attorney general for the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice under President Bill Clinton and works on issues like racial profiling and police misconduct. He graduated from **Harvard Law School** in 1982 and worked for the **NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund** before entering politics.⁵⁴⁷
- **1995-Andrew Young (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed chairman of the Southern Africa Enterprise Development Fund by **President Bill Clinton**.⁵⁴⁸



Lee P. Brown



David Satcher



Rodney E. Slater



Deval Patrick

- **1995-Jesse Jackson, Jr. (HM) (Illinois)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Illinois and remained in office until 2012, winning a special election after Congressman **Mel Reynolds** is convicted of sexual assault, obstruction of justice, and solicitation of child pornography. While in Congress, he focused on issues such as the economy, voting reform, and healthcare that affected the African American community and his suburban constituents. In 2012, he resigned due to mental and physical health struggles and, the next year, plead guilty and went to prison for wire and mail fraud.⁵⁴⁹



Jesse Jackson, Jr.

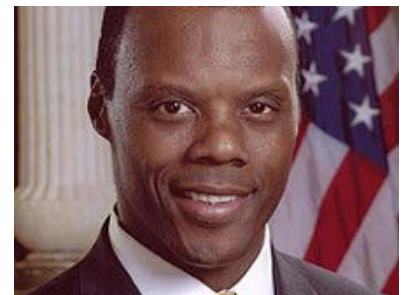
- **1995-Chaka Fattah (HM) (Pennsylvania)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Pennsylvania and remained in office until 2016. He primarily focused on increasing educational opportunities for student, including the GEAR UP program that partnered low income high school students with colleges and universities. He resigned after being convicted of racketeering, fraud, and corruption, and he was subsequently sentenced to ten years in prison.⁵⁵⁰



Shelia Jackson-Lee

- **1995-Shelia Jackson-Lee (Texas)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Texas and remained in office as of 2020. She earned a J.D. degree from the University of Virginia Law School in 1975 and worked in private practice before running for the Houston City Council where she served from 1990 to 1995. While in Congress, she has supported civil rights and abortion rights, opposed the genocide in Darfur, served as the vice-chairwoman of the Congressional Black Caucus, and served on the House Committee on Homeland Security.⁵⁵¹

- **1995-Julius Caesar "J.C." Watts, Jr. (HM) (Oklahoma)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Oklahoma and remained in office until 2003. A member of the Republican Party and a social and fiscal conservative, he declined to join the Democratic dominated **Congressional Black Caucus**. He served as the chair of the House Republican Conference from 1999 to 2003, making him the fourth highest-ranking Republican in the House.⁵⁵²



Julius Caesar "J.C." Watts, Jr.

- **1996-Julius Caesar "J.C." Watts, Jr. (HM) (Washington, D.C.)**, a conservative Republican U.S. Representative, is tapped by the Republican Party to deliver the GOP response to **President Bill Clinton's** State of the Union Address, making him the youngest Representative and first African American to give this speech.⁵⁵³

- **1996-Elijah E. Cummings (Maryland)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives to represent Maryland's seventh district, and he remained in office until his death on October 17, 2019.⁵⁵⁴

- **1997-Susan Rice (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs by **President Bill Clinton**, and she remained in office until 2001. In this role, she coordinated the investigation of the 1998 bombings of the U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania. She earned a Ph.D. in international relations from Oxford University in 1990, during which time she worked as a foreign policy aide to the 1988 **Michael Dukakis** presidential campaign.⁵⁵⁵



Susan Rice

- **1997-Togo D. West, Jr. (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the U.S. secretary of veteran affairs by **President Bill Clinton**, becoming the second African American to hold this position after **Jesse Brown**.⁵⁵⁶

- **1997-Rodney E. Slater (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the thirteenth U.S. Secretary of Transportation by **President Bill Clinton**, and he remained in office until 2001.⁵⁵⁷
- **1997-Alexis Herman (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the twenty-third U.S. Secretary of Labor by **President Bill Clinton** and remained in that role until 2001, making her the first African American woman to hold this position. She mediated the 1997 United Parcel Service workers strike, supported raises to the minimum wage, and enforced child labor laws (including participating in the International Labor Organization's Child Labor Convention).⁵⁵⁸
- **1997-Eric Holder (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed by **President Bill Clinton** as U.S. deputy attorney general under Attorney General **Janet Reno**. He is the first African American in this role.
- **1997-Julia Carson (Indiana)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Indiana and remained in office until 2007, making her the first African American woman to represent Indiana in Congress. There she advocated for women's rights, children's issues, and combating homelessness. She authored the legislation that granted **Rosa Parks** the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest civilian honor from Congress.⁵⁵⁹
- **1997-Danny K. Davis (HM) (Illinois)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Illinois and remained in office as of 2020. He has supported a progressive Democratic platform that includes LGBTQ rights, single-payer healthcare, child nutrition programs, and abortion rights. He was active in Chicago politics during Mayor Harold Washington's time in office, serving as a member of the Chicago City Council from 1979 to 1990 and on the Cook County Board of Commissioners from 1994 to 1997.⁵⁶⁰
- **1997-Harold Ford, Jr. (Tennessee)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Tennessee and remained in office until 2007. As a member of the **Blue Dog Coalition**, a group that seeks to move the Democratic Party further to the right, he had a moderate voting record that included opposing marriage equality, supporting the Iraq War, limiting abortion rights, embracing universal healthcare, and opposing the death penalty. His father, **Harold Ford, Sr.**, held the same congressional seat from 1975 to 1997.⁵⁶¹
- **1997-Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick (Michigan)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Michigan and remained in office until 2011. While in Congress, she became the first African American woman to serve on the House Appropriations Committee, advocated for aid to Africa while on the Foreign Operations Subcommittee, and was the first African American congressperson to sit on the U.S. Air Force Academy Board. She served as the chairperson of **Congressional Black Caucus** from 2006 to 2007.⁵⁶²



Eric Holder



Danny K. Davis



Harold Ford, Jr.

- **1998-Barbara Lee (HM) (California)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from California and remained in office as of 2020. She advocated for issues such as education, public safety, environmental protection, health, labor, and women’s rights. Immediately after the September 11 attacks, she was the only member of Congress to vote against the **Authorization of Use for Military Force Against Terrorists** because she believed it gave the president unnecessarily broad power to wage war.⁵⁶³



Barbara Lee

- **1998-Gregory W. Meeks (New York)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from New York and remained in office as of 2020. He previously served in the New York legislature from 1993 to 1998. He earned a J.D. degree from Howard University in 1978 and worked as an assistant district attorney before going into politics. He was elected to Congress in a special election after the resignation of **Floyd H. Flake**, and he has a liberal voting record that supports abortion rights, gay marriage, and affirmative action.⁵⁶⁴



Gregory W. Meeks

- **1998-Dr. David Satcher (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the sixteenth Surgeon General of the United States by **President Bill Clinton**, and he remained in office until 2002. In this role, he generated reports on tobacco, mental health, race and ethnicity, suicide prevention, sexual health, and youth violence prevention, prioritizing the elimination of racial and ethnic disparities in the health care system. He held the rank of full admiral in the U.S. Public Health Corps.⁵⁶⁵

- **1999-Stephanie Tubbs Jones (Ohio)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Ohio to fill the seat of **Louis Stokes** upon his retirement, and she remained in office until 2008. She was the first black woman elected to Congress from Ohio. She was active in the **Congressional Black Caucus** and chaired the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct from 2007 to 2008. She supported legislation focused on education, healthcare, and economic development.⁵⁶⁶



Stephanie Tubbs Jones

- **1990-Pamela Bridgewater (South Africa)** becomes the first African American woman appointed to serve in South Africa after she joined the Foreign Service in 1980. She helped the country transition away from apartheid and, from 1993 to 1996, became the U.S. consul general and worked closely with **Nelson Mandela**.⁵⁶⁷



Pamela Bridgewater

- **1990-Aurelia E. Brazeal (Micronesia)** is appointed ambassador to Micronesia by **President George H.W. Bush** and remained in office until 1993, making her the first ambassador to Micronesia. She earned a M.A. degree in international affairs from Columbia University in 1967 before joining the Foreign Service. While in the Economic Bureau of the Department of State, she helped expand a free market in democracy in Latin American and Southeast Asia to combat the Cold War.⁵⁶⁸



Aurelia E. Brazeal

- **1990-Steven J. Rhodes (Zimbabwe)** is appointed ambassador to Zimbabwe by **President George H. W. Bush** and remained in office for sixteen months, resigning due to personal and health reasons. He earned a M.S. degree from Pepperdine University in 1977 and, in 1981, was appointed to the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs by **President Ronald Reagan**. He then served as chief domestic policy advisor to Vice **President George H. W. Bush** from 1983 to 1985.⁵⁶⁹



Steven J. Rhodes

- **1990-Leonard O. Spearman, Sr. (Lesotho)** is appointed ambassador to Lesotho by **President George H.W. Bush** and remained in office until 1993. He subsequently directed the nonprofit Rural Electrification Program for the African Development Bank (1993-2001) and lead the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (2001-2005).⁵⁷⁰

- **1990-Arlene Render (Gambia)** is appointed ambassador to Gambia by **President Bill Clinton**, and she remained in office until 1993. She graduated with her M.A. degree in public health from the University of Michigan in 1967 and, in 1970, joined the Foreign Service, making her one of only thirty-seven African American career foreign service officers at the time.⁵⁷¹



Arlene Render

- **1991-Charles R. Baquet, III (Djibouti)** is appointed ambassador to the Republic of Djibouti by **President George H. W. Bush**, and he remained in office until 1993. He earned an M.A. degree in public administration from the Maxwell School of Government at Syracuse University in 1975 after working in the **Peace Corps** and entering the Foreign Service in 1968. He served in a number of diplomatic positions in China, Lebanon, France, and South Africa. As ambassador, he oversaw aid programs, famine relief, healthcare, education, and regional security as the country experienced a violent civil war.⁵⁷²



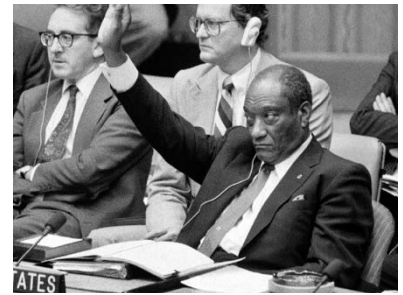
Charles R. Baquet, III

- **1991-Johnnie Carson (Uganda)** is appointed ambassador to Uganda by **President George H. W. Bush** and, later, **President Bill Clinton**, and he remained in office until 1994. He earned his M.A. degree in international relations from the University of London in 1975. After serving in the Peace Corps from 1965 to 1968, he joined the Foreign Service in 1967, serving in Nigeria, Mozambique, Portugal, and Botswana between the 1960s and 1990s.⁵⁷³



Johnnie Carson

- **1992-Edward Joseph Perkins, Jr. (HM) (Washington, D.C. and Australia)** is appointed U.S. permanent representative to the United Nations at the rank of ambassador by **President George H.W. Bush** and, in 1993, is appointed ambassador to Australia by **President Bill Clinton**.⁵⁷⁴



Edward Joseph Perkins, Jr.

- **1992-Joseph Monroe Segars (HM) (Cape Verde)** is appointed ambassador to Cape Verde by **President George H. W. Bush**, and he remained in office until 1996. After teaching in the Philadelphia public school system, he joined the Foreign Service in 1970 and was the first African American assigned to the embassy in Austria. Throughout his diplomatic career, he served in a range of positions in Liberia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Jamaica, Zimbabwe, Lesotho, Swaziland, Nigeria, and Tanzania.⁵⁷⁵

- **1992-Kenton Wesley Keith (Qatar)** is appointed ambassador to Qatar by **President George H. W. Bush**, and he remained in office until 1995. He was the first African American ambassador on the Arabian Peninsula. After serving in the navy, he joined the United States Information Agency in 1965 and was stationed in Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Morocco, and Syria. As ambassador to Qatar, he helped diffuse a border dispute with Saudi Arabia, negotiated oil and gas prices, and befriended **Crown Prince Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani**. His father, **Jimmy Keith**, was a well-known jazz musician in Kansas City, Missouri.⁵⁷⁶



Kenton Wesley Keith

- **1992-Ruth A. Davis (HM)(Benin)** is appointed ambassador to Benin by **President George H. W. Bush**, and she remained in office until 1995. She graduated with her M.A. degree in social work from the University of California at Berkeley in 1968 and, the next year, joined the foreign service. She served in Zaire, Kenya, Japan, and Italy before returning to work in a number of roles in Washington, D.C.⁵⁷⁷



Ruth A. Davis

- **1993-Howard F. Jeter (Botswana)** is appointed ambassador to Botswana by **President Bill Clinton**, and he remained in office until 1996. He earned his M.A. degree in international relations and comparative politics from Columbia University and an M.A. degree in Africa area studies from the University of California at Los Angeles. He joined the foreign service and worked in Mozambique, Tanzania, Lesotho, and Namibia.⁵⁷⁸



Howard F. Jeter

- **1993-Arlene Render (Washington, D.C.)** leaves her post as ambassador to Gambia to become the director of the **Office of Central African Affairs** within the State Department, traveling to Rwanda to advocate for peace between the Hutus and Tutsis.

- **1993-Leslie M. Alexander (Mauritius and the Comoros)** is appointed ambassador to Mauritius and the Comoros by **President Bill Clinton**, and he remained in office until 1996. He was born in Germany to an African American father (who was in the U.S. Army stationed in Europe) and a French mother, and he grew up in France and Germany. He joined the Foreign Service in 1971 and completed an M.A. degree from the U.S. Naval War College in 1986.⁵⁷⁹
- **1993-President Bill Clinton (Washington, D.C.)**, a Democrat, appoints an **African American to an ambassadorship forty times** between 1993 and 2001.⁵⁸⁰
- **1993-Walter Carrington (HM) (Nigeria)** is appointed ambassador to Nigeria by **President Bill Clinton**, and he remained in office until 1997. As ambassador, he opposed the abuses of **President Sani Abacha**.⁵⁸¹
- **1993-Aurelia E. Brazeal (HM) (Kenya)** is appointed ambassador to Kenya by **President Bill Clinton** and remained in office until 1996. She helped smooth tensions left between Kenya and her predecessor, **Smith Hempstone**, while urging economic and political reform.⁵⁸²
- **1994-Charles R. Stith (South Africa)** is appointed as a U.S. delegate by **President Bill Clinton** to help monitor South Africa's first democratic election and subsequently served as ambassador to South Africa. A minister at the **Union United Methodist Church** in Boston, he founded the **Organization for New Equality**, which advocated for investing in inner city neighborhoods and creating economic opportunities.⁵⁸³
- **1994-Irvin Hicks (Ethiopia)** is appointed ambassador to Ethiopia by **President Bill Clinton** and remained in office until 1996. His son, **Irvin Hicks, Jr.**, also joined the Department of State in 1999.⁵⁸⁴
- **1994-Carl Stokes (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** serves as ambassador to the Republic of Seychelles under the Clinton administration.⁵⁸⁵
- **1994-Charles R. Baquet, III (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed deputy director of the Peace Corps by **President Bill Clinton**, and he remained in this role until 2001. He focused on recruiting people of color to the **Peace Corps**: helping establish, for example, the only international program at a HBCU through a partnership between **Florida A&M University** and University of California, Davis.⁵⁸⁶
- **1994-Sidney "Sid" Williams (Bahamas)** is appointed the first African American ambassador to the Bahamas by **President Bill Clinton**, and he remained in office until 1998. After graduating from Southern University in 1959, he played **professional football** with the **Cleveland Browns**, going on to play with the Washington Redskins, Baltimore Colts, and Pittsburgh Steelers before retiring in 1969. He worked for the **Black Economic Union** in the late 1960s and then was chief of staff for **Los Angeles City Councilman David S. Cunningham** from 1974 to 1976.⁵⁸⁷
- **1994-Jerome Gary Cooper (Jamaica)** is appointed ambassador to Jamaica by **President Bill Clinton**, and remained in office until 1997. He was the first African American ambassador to Jamaica. He earned a B.S. degree in



Sidney "Sid" Williams (*left*) and Maxine Waters (HM) (*right*)

finance from the University of Notre Dame in 1958, and immediately joined the Marine Corps where he served from 1958 to 1970. In 1973, he was elected to the Alabama state legislature and, from 1989 to 1992, he was appointed assistant secretary to the air force by **President George H. W. Bush**.⁵⁸⁸

- **1994-Johnny Young (Togo)** is appointed ambassador to Togo by **President Bill Clinton**, and remained in office until 1997. He graduated with his degree from Temple University in 1966 and joined the Foreign Service. He served in a range of diplomatic posts in Madagascar, Guinea, Kenya, Qatar, Barbados, Jordan, and Netherlands. In 1988, he participated in the Foreign Service Institute's Senior Seminar that prepares State Department employees for ambassador posts.⁵⁸⁹
- **1995-Bismarck Myrick (Lesotho)** is appointed ambassador to Lesotho by **President Bill Clinton**, and remained in office until 1998. He served in the army (1959-1979) during the Vietnam War, and earned his B.A. degree in history from Syracuse University in 1973. He subsequently served in a range of governmental and diplomatic roles, including witnessing the dismantling of **apartheid** in South Africa while working at the U.S. Consulate in Cape Town.⁵⁹⁰
- **1995-James A. Joseph (HM) (South Africa)** is appointed ambassador to South African by **President Bill Clinton** and remained in office until 1999. He served in the army and earned a degree in divinity from Yale Divinity School in 1963, becoming an ordained minister with the United Church of Christ. His experience in business, philanthropy, and public activism resulted in various appointments under the presidential administrations of **Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, and Bill Clinton**. Serving after the fall of apartheid, he was the first ambassador to present credentials to South African **President Nelson Mandela**.⁵⁹¹
- **1995-Mosina H. Jordan (Central African Republic)** is appointed ambassador to the Central African Republic by **President Bill Clinton** and remained in office until 1997. She graduated with a J.D. degree from American University in 1973 and began her civil service career, eventually joining the Foreign Service in 1982. As the Central African Republic transitioned from a dictatorship to a democracy, she promoted economic diversification, a free market, democracy, and human rights. She closed the embassy and evacuated Americans in 1996 when CAR soldiers carried out a mutiny at the capital over unpaid wages.⁵⁹²
- **1995-Johnnie Carson (Zimbabwe)** is appointed ambassador to Zimbabwe by **President Bill Clinton** and remained in office until 1997.⁵⁹³
- **1996-Arlene Render (Zambia)** is appointed ambassador to Zambia by **President Bill Clinton** and remained in office until 1999. Throughout the 1980s, she served in a number of diplomatic positions in Iran, Italy, Congo, Jamaica, and Ghana. As ambassador to Zambia, she challenged anti-democratic policies of President **Frederick Chiluba**.⁵⁹⁴
- **1996-Leslie M. Alexander (Ecuador)** is appointed ambassador to Ecuador by **President Bill Clinton** and remained in office until 1999. Throughout his career, he held a number of diplomatic positions in Guyana, Norway, Poland, Mexico, Spain, Brazil, and Italy. He achieved proficiency in Portuguese, Italian, French, Spanish, Polish, and Norwegian languages.⁵⁹⁵

- **1996-John F. Hicks (Eritrea)** is appointed ambassador to Eritrea by **President Bill Clinton** and remained in office until he resigned in 1997. He earned his M.A. degree from John's Hopkins University and began his diplomatic career in 1973 with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), serving in Ethiopia, Liberia, Malawi, Zambia, and Egypt. Hicks resigned from office after a report by federal investigator Jacquelyn L. Williams-Bridgers found that he engaged in sexual misconduct, including sexually harassing two secretaries in the Eritrea embassy.⁵⁹⁶
- **1996-Sharon P. Wilkinson (Burkina Faso)** is appointed ambassador to Burkina Faso by **President Bill Clinton** and remained in office until 1999. She earned an M.A. degree in social science and education from the University of Chicago in 1970 and began working in the Foreign Service in 1971. Fluent in Portuguese, Spanish, and French, she has served in Brazil, Ghana, Portugal, and Mexico.⁵⁹⁷
- **1997-Johnny Young (Bahrain)** is appointed ambassador to Bahrain by **President Bill Clinton** and, later, **President George W. Bush**, and remained in office until 2001. This made him the third African American appointed ambassador by three presidents.⁵⁹⁸
- **1998-Carol Moseley Braun (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is nominated to the post of U.S. ambassador to New Zealand and Samoa by **President Bill Clinton** and remained in that role until 2001.⁵⁹⁹
- **1998-Elizabeth McKune (Qatar)** is appointed ambassador to Qatar by **President Bill Clinton**, and she remained in office until 2001. She earned an M.A. degree in advanced international studies from Johns Hopkins University in 1972 and, the next year, joined the Foreign Service. Fluent in Arabic, French, and Italian, she has served in Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Tunisia, Iraq, and Great Britain.⁶⁰⁰
- **1998-George Williford Boyce Haley (HM) (Gambia)** is appointed ambassador to Gambia by **President Bill Clinton** and remained in office until 2001.⁶⁰¹
- **1998-Shirley E. Barnes (Madagascar)** is appointed ambassador to Madagascar by **President Bill Clinton** and remained in office until 2001. Through **Crossroads Africa** (an exchange program for college students) and the **Ford Foundation**, she travelled to Africa in the 1950s and 1960s to help with housing, education, environmental issues, and civil unrest. In 1983, she joined the Foreign Service and worked in various positions around the world.⁶⁰²
- **1998-William D. Clarke (Eritrea)** is appointed ambassador to Eritrea by **President Bill Clinton** and remained in office until his retirement in 2001. He earned a B.A. degree at Howard University in 1963 and began working in the Foreign Service in 1967, serving in Japan, France, Germany, Ivory Coast, Egypt, and Panama. He was the first member of the **Bureau of Diplomatic Security** to be named an ambassador. He helped build U.S. aid to Eritrea (which had gained independence from Ethiopia in 1991), including low-interest loans, development assistance, food and medical programs.⁶⁰³
- **1998-Charles R. Stith (Tanzania)** is appointed ambassador to Tanzania by **President Bill Clinton** and remained in office until 2001 where he stabilized relations with Tanzania after an **Al Qaeda bombing** that killed twenty-two people at the U.S. embassy in Dar es Salaam. He also helped strengthen the economy and democracy in the country.⁶⁰⁴
- **1998-George McDade Staples (Rwanda)** is appointed ambassador to Rwanda by **President Bill Clinton** and remained in office until 2001. He earned his M.A. degree in business from Central Michigan University before beginning a twenty-five-year career in the Foreign Service, serving in Bahrain, Zimbabwe, Turkey, the Bahamas, Uruguay, and El Salvador.⁶⁰⁵
- **1998-Robert C. Perry (Central African Republic)** is appointed ambassador to the Central African Republic by **President Bill Clinton** and remained in office until 2001. He helped direct U.S. contributions to the United Nation's peace keeping efforts in the country. He graduated with his M.A. degree in international relations from American University in 1968 and,

that same year, joined the Foreign Service, working with the U.S. Agency for International Development. Fluent in Spanish and French, he served in a number of roles in Bolivia, Mexico, Ethiopia, and Chile.⁶⁰⁶

- **1999-Delano Eugene Lewis, Sr. (South Africa)** is appointed ambassador to South Africa by **President Bill Clinton** and remained in office until 2001. He earned his law degree from Washburn University School of Law in 1963 and worked as an attorney in the Justice Department and the Office of Compliance in the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). He then served as the associate director and country director of the **Peace Corps** in Nigeria and Uganda from 1966 to 1969.⁶⁰⁷
- **1999-Gregory L. Johnson (Swaziland)** is appointed ambassador to Swaziland by **President Bill Clinton** and remained in office until 2001. He earned his M.A. degree in international relations from American University in 1968 and began his Foreign Service career, serving in Vietnam, Japan, Somalia, Brazil, and Moscow between 1969 and 1983. As ambassador, he helped Swaziland manage its **HIV/AIDS epidemic** that spread to one-fifth of the population. His peacekeeping efforts helped connect the nation to the **United Nations** and the **Organization of African Unity**.⁶⁰⁸
- **1999-Harriet Elam-Thomas (HM) (Senegal)** is appointed ambassador to Senegal by **President Bill Clinton** and remains in office until 2002. She earned her M.A. degree in public diplomacy from Tufts University in 1981 and was fluent in French, Greek, and Turkish. Throughout her foreign service career, she worked in Greece, Turkey, Cyprus, France, Belgium, Mali, Senegal, and the Ivory Coast.⁶⁰⁹
- **1999-Sylvia Gaye Stanfield (Brunei)** is appointed ambassador to Brunei by **President Bill Clinton** and remained in office until 2002, making her the first African American woman ambassador to Brunei. She earned her M.A. degree in Asian Studies from the University of Hawaii and studied at the University of Hong Kong School of Oriental Studies and Linguistics from 1966 to 1967. She joined the Department of State in 1968 and served in a number of roles throughout Asia.⁶¹⁰
- **1999-Bismarck Myrick (Liberia)** is appointed ambassador to Liberia by **President Bill Clinton** and, later, **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2002. With Liberia at the end of a violent civil war, he helped the country establish peace and democracy.⁶¹¹
- **1999-Diane Watson (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed U.S. ambassador to Micronesia by **President Bill Clinton** and remained in office until 2000.⁶¹²
- **1999-Johnnie Carson (Kenya)** is appointed ambassador to Kenya by **President Bill Clinton** and, later, **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2003.⁶¹³
- **1999-Leslie M. Alexander (Haiti)** is appointed ambassador to Haiti by **President Bill Clinton** and remained in office until 2000.⁶¹⁴
- **1990-Roland Burriss (HM) (Illinois)** is elected state attorney general for Illinois and serves until 1995.
- **1990-L. Douglas Wilder (HM) (Virginia)** is elected governor of Virginia, becoming the first African American elected as a governor of a U.S. state.
- **1990-Howard Nathaniel Lee (Chapel Hill, NC)** is elected to the North Carolina Senate and serves from 1990 to 1994 and again from 1996 to 2002.⁶¹⁵
- **1990-Barbara Lee (HM) (California)** is elected to the California legislature, serving in the assembly from 1990 to 1996 and the Senate from 1996 to 1998. In the 1960s and 1970s, she was active in the civil rights movement, volunteering with the **Black Panther Party** and working on the Oakland mayoral campaign of the party co-founding **Bobby Seale** in 1973. She then joined the staff of **U.S. Representative Ron Dellums**, eventually becoming a senior advisor.⁶¹⁶
- **1990-Julius Caesar "J.C." Watts, Jr. (HM) (Oklahoma)** is elected to the Oklahoma Corporate Commission, which regulates utilities and oil and gas industries in the state. This made him the first black Republican elected to a

statewide political office in Oklahoma. He served on the commission until 1995 and as the chairman from 1993 to 1995. His father, **Julius Caesar “Buddy” Watts**, served on the Eufaula city council and was active in the Democratic Party and the NAACP.⁶¹⁷

- **1991-Henry L. Marsh III (HM) (Virginia)** is elected to the Virginia senate and remained in office until 2014.⁶¹⁸
- **1992-Marc H. Morial (HM) (Louisiana)** is elected to the Louisiana senate and remained in office until 1994. He earned a J.D. degree from Georgetown University Law Center in 1983 and practiced law.⁶¹⁹
- **1992-Henry L. Marsh III (HM) (Virginia)** is elected to the Virginia senate to represent the sixteenth district, and he remained in office until 2014 after winning re-election ten times.⁶²⁰
- **1993-Pamela Carter (Indiana)** is elected attorney general of Indiana and remained in office until 1997, making her the first black woman to serve in this role and the second African American elected to statewide office in Indiana. She earned a J.D. degree from Indiana University School of Law and worked as a state enforcement attorney prior to taking public office.⁶²¹
- **1994-Ronald “Ron” Kirk (HM) (Texas)** becomes the first African American to serve as the secretary of state of Texas, and he remained in the position until 1995.⁶²² He was a 1979 graduate of the **University of Texas School of Law**.
- **1994-Barack Obama (HM) (Illinois)** is elected to the Illinois senate and remained in office until 2004. He supported legislation that reduced taxes for working class families, funded early education for working-class families, and required videotaping interrogations and confessions for capital cases. He graduated from **Harvard Law School** in 1992.⁶²³
- **1994-Kendrick Meek (Florida)** is elected to the Florida legislature, serving in the House from 1994 to 1998 and in the Senate from 1998 to 2002. He was a strong advocate for education reform and affirmative action programs, opposing the One Florida program of **Governor Jeb Bush** that would have discontinued affirmative action for college admissions (Meek participated in a 25-hour sit-in of Bush’s office).⁶²⁴
- **1995-Vikki Buckley (Colorado)** is elected secretary of state of Colorado and remained in office until 1999, making her the first African American woman to hold a statewide office in Colorado. She began working as a state government clerk in 1974 and rose through the ranks until becoming deputy secretary of state in 1993. Despite having no political experience, she ran for secretary of state (and won) when **Natalie Meyer** announced she would not run for re-election.⁶²⁵
- **1995-Roland Burris (HM) (Illinois)** campaigns to be the Democratic nominee for governor of Illinois in 1995, 1998, and 2002 but does not secure the nomination.⁶²⁶
- **1998-Bonnie Watson Coleman (New Jersey)** is elected to the New Jersey General Assembly and remained in office until 2015. She served as the majority leader of the state legislature from 2006 to 2010. The daughter of well-known state legislator **John S. Watson**, she graduated from Thomas Edison State College in 1985. In 2002, she became the first African American woman to chair the New Jersey Democratic State Committee.⁶²⁷
- **1999-Loretta Lynch (New York)** is nominated by **President Bill Clinton** to serve as the U.S. attorney for the eastern district of New York and serves in that role from 1999 to 2001, and she then returns to that role from 2010 to 2015 upon nomination by **President Barack Obama**. Lynch graduated from **Harvard Law School** in 1984, where she was a member of the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau. Along with intermittently working in private practice, Lynch worked as a federal prosecutor before becoming a state attorney.
- **1999-Ray Miller (HM) (Ohio)** is re-elected to the Ohio House of Representatives and remained in office until 2002.⁶²⁸
- **1990-Douglas H. Palmer (Trenton, NJ)** is elected the first African American mayor of Trenton and remained in office until 2010. He served as



Kendrick Meek

the 65th president of the **United States Conference of Mayors** from 2006 to 2008. He graduated from Hampton University, a private black college in Virginia, in 1973. He helped establish the John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy at Thomas Edition State University, which is a think tank partnership between the mayor, the university, and foundations to support research on the administration of small cities.⁶²⁹

- **1990-Lee P. Brown (HM) (New York, NY)** is appointed police commissioner of New York City by **Mayor David Dinkins**, where he heads the nation's largest police force (seven times the size of Houston where he was previous police commissioner). He implemented community policing, increased the number of police officers on foot patrol to encourage community engagement, and opposed Mayor Dinkins investigations of drug dealing and bribery among officers. Brown resigned in 1992 to care for his ill wife.⁶³⁰
- **1990-Unita Blackwell (Mississippi)** becomes the first woman elected president of the **National Conference of Black Mayors** and serves in this role until 1992. In 1991, she co-founded the Black Women Mayors' Conference as a corollary to the NCBM.⁶³¹
- **1990-Sharon Sayles Belton (Minneapolis, MN)**, a member of the Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, becomes president of the Minneapolis City Council and remained in that position until 1993. She served on the city council from 1983 to 1993, which she joined after being inspired by **Donald M. Fraser**. After participating in the civil rights movement, she attended Macalester College and worked as a parole officer.⁶³²
- **1991-Emanuel Cleaver (Kansas City, MO)** is elected mayor of Kansas City, Missouri, and he remained in office until 1999, making him the first African American mayor of the city. He was a pastor at **St. James United Methodist Church** in Kansas City from 1972 to 2009, and he previously served on the city council from 1979 to 1991.⁶³³
- **1991-Preston A. Daniels (Des Moines, IA)** is elected to the De Moines City Council and remained in office until 1997, making him the first African American in this position. He was a political ally of **Mayor Arthur Davis**. He served in the army and earned an M.S. degree in health science from Drake University.⁶³⁴
- **1991-Myron Lowery (HM) (Memphis, TN)** is elected to the Memphis City Council and, five years later, is a speaker for the **Democratic National Convention** when **President Bill Clinton** wins the Democratic primary. He later served as a superdelegate at the 2008 **Democratic National Convention** where **Barack Obama** won the Democratic primary. He earned an M.S. degree in urban education from the University of Tennessee and a M.S. degree in education from New York University.⁶³⁵
- **1991-Wellington Webb (HM) (Denver, CO)** is elected mayor of Denver and remained in office until 2003, making him the first African American mayor of the city. As mayor he focused on parks and open spaces, public safety, economic development, and children.⁶³⁶
- **1991-Willie W. Herenton (Memphis, TN)** is elected mayor of Memphis and remained in office until 2009, making him the first African American mayor of the city. After earning a PhD in education from Southern Illinois University, he became the first black superintendent of the Memphis public school system.⁶³⁷
- **1991-Sharon Pratt Kelly (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is elected mayor of Washington D.C. and is the first African American woman mayor of a major U.S. city. She was the first woman member of the Democratic National Committee from the District of Columbia (1977-1990) where she served as treasurer from 1985 to 1989. She graduated **Howard University Law School** in 1968 and is the daughter of Washington D.C. lawyer and judge **Carlisle E. Pratt**.⁶³⁸
- **1993-Hon. Dennis W. Archer (HM) (Detroit, MI)** is elected mayor of Detroit and remained in office until 2001. He graduated from **Detroit**

College of Law (now **College of Law of Michigan State University**) in 1970 and served as a Michigan Supreme Court justice.⁶³⁹

- **1993-Freeman Bosley, Jr. (HM) (St. Louis, MO)** is elected mayor of St. Louis, Missouri and remained in office until 1997, making him the city's first African American mayor. He earned his JD from Saint Louis University School of Law in 1979 and became the first African American chairman for the Democratic Party in St. Louis. As mayor, he oversaw the city during the 1993 flood, increased property taxes, and faced corruption scandals.⁶⁴⁰
- **1994-William "Bill" Craig Campbell (Atlanta, GA)** is elected mayor of Atlanta and remained in office until 2002. He was endorsed by outgoing **Mayor Maynard Jackson**. He earned a J.D. degree from Duke University Law School. As mayor, he overhauled the city's finance department, orchestrated infrastructure improvements for the 1996 Olympics, rebuilt public housing, and modernized public utilities.⁶⁴¹
- **1994-Marc H. Morial (HM) (New Orleans, LA)** is elected mayor of New Orleans and remained in office until 2002. As mayor, he addressed corruption in the police department, launched youth initiatives, reduced violent crime and unemployment, and boosted tourism. He served as the 59th president of the **United States Conference of Mayors** from 2001 to 2002. His father, **Earnest N. Morial**, was the first African American mayor of New Orleans (1978-1986).⁶⁴²
- **1994-Sharon Sayles Belton (Minneapolis, MN)** is elected mayor of Minneapolis, Minnesota and remained in office until 2001, making her the first African American and first woman mayor of the city. As mayor, she advocated for police reform, updated public utilities, supported the school system, and promoted downtown development.⁶⁴³
- **1994-Dennis Archer (HM) (Detroit, MI)** is elected mayor of Detroit and remained in office until 2001. He first ran against **Mayor Coleman Young** (who dropped out due to illness) and ultimately defeated **Sharon McPhail**. As mayor, he supported construction projects (including two new stadiums) and decreased crime and unemployment. He graduated from Detroit College of Law in 1970, practiced law, and served as an associate judge on the Michigan Supreme Court (1986-1990) before entering politics.⁶⁴⁴
- **1995-Keiffer Mitchell, Jr. (Baltimore, MD)** is elected to the Baltimore City Council and remained in office until 2007. He is the grandson of civil rights activist **Clarence M. Mitchell, Jr.** and the grandnephew **U.S. Congressman Parren Mitchell**. He earned a law degree from the District of Columbia School of Law in 1994 and served as a White House intern during the **Clinton administration**.⁶⁴⁵
- **1995-Anthony A. Williams (Washington, D.C.)** serves as the chief financial officer of the District of Columbia upon nomination by **Mayor Marion Barry**. He previously served on the Board of Aldermen in New Haven, Connecticut from 1979 to 1982.⁶⁴⁶
- **1995-Ronald "Ron" Kirk (HM) (Dallas, TX)** becomes the first African American mayor of Dallas and remained in office until 2002, when he unsuccessfully ran for the U.S. Senate.⁶⁴⁷
- **1995-Mark Mallory (Cincinnati, OH)** is elected to the Ohio House of Representatives where he serves from 1995 to 1998, and he is then elected to the Ohio senate where he serves from 1999 to 2005. He was the assistant minority leader for the Senate Democratic Caucus throughout his seven years in the general assembly. He earned a B.S. degree in administrative management from the University of Cincinnati. He replaced his father, **William Leslie Mallory, Sr.**, who served in the Ohio legislature for thirty years (1967-1994) and, in 1974, became the first African American Majority Floor Leader.
- **1995-Stephanie Rawlings-Blake (Baltimore, MD)** becomes the youngest person, at twenty-five years old, elected to the Baltimore City Council. She later served as the vice president of the council from 1999 to 2007 and



Marc H. Morial

became president in 2007 after then-president **Sheila Dixon** stepped down to become mayor. Rawlings-Blake remained president of the council until her election to mayor in 2010. Her father, **Pete Rawlings**, served on the Maryland House of Delegates from 1979 to 2003.⁶⁴⁸

- **1996-Willie L. Brown, Jr. (HM) (San Francisco, CA)** is elected the first black mayor of San Francisco, California and remained in office until 2004.⁶⁴⁹
- **1997-Preston A. Daniels (Des Moines, IA)** is elected the first African American mayor of Des Moines, Iowa and remained in office until 2004. He was later appointed as the director of the Iowa Department of Human Rights by **Governor Chet Culver** (2009-2011).⁶⁵⁰
- **1998-Cory Booker (Newark, NJ)** wins a seat on the Newark city council after running against a longtime incumbent, and he remained in office until 2002.⁶⁵¹ He graduated from of **Yale Law School** in 1997.
- **1998-Lee P. Brown (HM) (Houston, TX)** is elected mayor of Houston, Texas and remained in office until 2004, making him the city's first African American mayor. As mayor, he invested in infrastructure, opened new professional sports facilities, revitalized the downtown area, and advanced the city's affirmative action program.⁶⁵²
- **1999-Wellington E. Webb (Denver, CO)** serves as the 57th president of the **United States Conference of Mayors** from 1999 to 2000.⁶⁵³
- **1999-Anthony A. Williams (Washington, D.C.)** is elected mayor of Washington, D.C. and remained in office until 2007. As mayor, he improved the city budget so that it had surpluses every year, brought investment to the city, and encountered scandal related to false signatures for his entry onto the Democratic primary ballot.⁶⁵⁴
- **1999-Denise Nappier (Connecticut)** is elected treasurer of Connecticut and remained in office until 2019, making her the first African American woman elected to statewide office in Connecticut. She oversaw \$64 billion in state funds and managed the state's retirement plans and trust funds. She earned an M.A. in city planning from the University of Cincinnati in 1975. She entered politics in 1989 when she was elected as the city treasurer of Hartford from 1989 to 1998.⁶⁵⁵

2000-2009

- **2001-George W. Bush (Texas)** is elected the 43rd president of the United States and remained in office until 2009. Bush appointed a number of African Americans to top government positions, including General **Colin Powell** as secretary of state where he served from 2001 to 2005. He then appointed **Condoleezza Rice** to serve as secretary of state from 2005 to 2009. Bush faced intense criticism for his response to **Hurricane Katrina**, which devastated black communities in the gulf coast, particularly New Orleans, Louisiana.

- **2009-Barack Obama (HM) (Illinois)** is elected the 44th president of the United States and remained in office until 2017, making him the first African American president. He advocated expanding economic and educational opportunities, healthcare reform, LGBTQ rights and reforming the criminal justice system. He appointed the first African American **Attorney General Eric Holder** who served from 2009 to 2015 and then the first African American female U.S. Attorney General **Loretta Lynch**, the first African American head of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) **Lisa P. Jackson**, and the first African American Head of Homeland Security **Jeh Johnson**.
- **2000-Donna Brazile (Washington, D.C.?)** acts as campaign manager for **Al Gore's** 2000 presidential run, making her the first African American woman to direct a major presidential campaign.⁶⁵⁶
- **2000-Carol Moseley Braun (HM) (Washington, D.C.?)** announces her candidacy for the Democratic nomination for the presidency in both the 2000 and 2004 but does not get adequate funding or support.⁶⁵⁷
- **2001-Alfonso E. Lenhardt (Washington, D.C.)** becomes the first African American appointed as an officer to the United States Congress and remained in office until 2003. In this capacity, serving as the senate's Sergeant-at-Arms and Doorkeeper, he provided protection to the Senate during the September 11 terrorist attacks and the 2001 anthrax mail threat.
- **2001-Rod R. Paige (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the seventh U.S. Secretary of Education by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2005, making him the first African American and the first school superintendent to serve in this role. In this role, he helped draft and institute the **No Child Left Behind** legislation. He earned doctorate degree in physical education in 1970, worked as a coach and athletic director, and was elected to the Houston Independent School District Board in 1989.⁶⁵⁸
- **2001-Diane Watson (HM) (California)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from California during a special election following the death of U.S. Representative **Julian Dixon**, and she remained in office until 2011. She was a member of the **Congressional Black Caucus** and her legislative focus included welfare reform, civil rights, foreign aid, health care, and education.⁶⁵⁹
- **2001-William Lacy Clay, Jr. (Missouri)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Missouri and remained in office as of 2020, filling the seat vacated by his father, **William L. Clay, Sr.** A member of the **Congressional Black Caucus**, he has supported curbing gun violence, defending voting rights, helping low-income families, environmental protections and renewable energy, and the articles of impeachment against **President Donald Trump**.⁶⁶⁰
- **2001-Condoleezza Rice (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the twentieth U.S. National Security Advisor by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2005, making her the first woman and the second African American (after **Colin Powell**) to serve in this role. She was security advisor during the September 11 attacks and supported the 2003 invasion of Iraq.⁶⁶¹
- **2001-General Colin Powell (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the sixty-fifth U.S. Secretary of State by **President George W. Bush**, and he remained in office until 2005. He was the first African American Secretary of State and served during the September 11 attacks and the subsequent "War on Terrorism."⁶⁶²
- **2003-Donald M. Payne (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed as one of two congressional delegates to the United Nations by **President George W. Bush** in 2003 and 2005.⁶⁶³
- **2003-Artur Davis (Alabama)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Alabama and remained in office until 2011. He earned a J.D. degree from Harvard Law School in 1993, clerked for Judge Myron Thompson, worked as an assistant U.S. Attorney, and entered politics. While in office, he was liberal on economic issues and a moderate conservative on



Barack Obama (HM) (1961-)

social issues, focusing on transportation infrastructure, medical care, education, and economic support for low-income communities. In 2012, he switched to the Republican Party and, in 2015, unsuccessfully ran for mayor of Montgomery, Alabama.⁶⁶⁴

- **2003-Kendrick Meek (Florida)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Florida to fill the seat vacated by his mother, **Congresswoman Carrie P. Meek**, and he remained in office until 2011. He has supported legislation related to minimum wages, abortion rights, marriage equality, education access, healthcare, and HIV/AIDS.⁶⁶⁵
- **2004-Alphonso Jackson (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the thirteenth U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development by **President George W. Bush** and remained in this role until 2008. He previously served as the fifth Deputy Secretary of Housing and Urban Develop from 2001 to 2004 under the Bush administration.⁶⁶⁶
- **2004-Barack Obama (HM) (Illinois)** is elected to the U.S. Senate from Illinois.⁶⁶⁷
- **2005-Emanuel Cleaver (Missouri)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives to represent Missouri and remained in office as of 2020. He served on the Committee on Financial Services and the Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress. On December 18, 2019, he voted for two articles of impeachment against President Donald Trump, and, along with **Lacy Clay**, was one of only two representatives from Missouri to do so.⁶⁶⁸
- **2005-Condoleezza Rice (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the sixty-sixth U.S. Secretary of State by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2009, making her the first African American woman in this role.⁶⁶⁹
- **2005-Alexander “Al” N. Green (Texas)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Texas and remained in office as of 2020. He earned a J.D. degree from the Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University in 1974, worked as a lawyer and judge, and became a civil rights activist who ran the Houston NAACP for ten years. While in Congress, he has supported fair housing and hiring practices, reducing biological nuclear threats, increasing border and port security, a living wage, abortion rights, and gun control.⁶⁷⁰
- **2005-Gwendolynne “Gwen” S. Moore (Wisconsin)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Wisconsin and remained in office as of 2020. She was the second woman (after Tammy Baldwin) and the first African American elected to Congress from Wisconsin. She has sponsored and supported legislation to protect victims of domestic abuse, stop predatory lending, expand Medicaid, remove troops from Iraq, and advance human rights.⁶⁷¹
- **2006-Avoice Virtual Library Project (Washington, D.C.)** is launched by the **Congressional Black Caucus Foundation** to capture the history of the participation of African American politicians in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate.⁶⁷²
- **2007-Charles B. Rangel (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** serves as the first African American chair of the House Ways and Means Committee from 2007 to 2010, which gives him influence over tax policy, anti-drug policies, and health care reform. In 1975, he was also the first African American member of the committee.⁶⁷³
- **2007-Keith Ellison (Minnesota)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Minnesota and remained in office until 2019. He was the first African American representative from Minnesota and the first Muslim elected to Congress. He graduated from the University of Minnesota Law School in 1990 and worked in private practice and for nonprofits. He served in the Minnesota House of Representatives from 2003 to 2007. While in Congress, he opposed the Iraq War, supported immigration reform, and advocated for civil rights legislation.⁶⁷⁴
- **2007-Bennie G. Thompson (Washington, D.C.)** becomes the first Democrat and the first African American to chair the House Homeland

Security Committee, a position he holds from 2007 to 2011 and again starting in 2019.⁶⁷⁵

- **2008-Jesse Jackson, Jr. (HM) (Illinois)**, a U.S. Representative from Illinois, serves as national co-chair of Barack Obama’s presidential campaign. He began such political campaigning work when he worked on the presidential campaign of his father, **Jesse Jackson**, a well-known civil rights activist and shadow senator from Washington, D.C. (1991-1997), who ran for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1984 and 1988.⁶⁷⁶
- **2008-Roland Burris (HM) (Illinois)** is named by **Governor Rod Blagojevich** to fill **Barack Obama**’s unexpired term in the U.S. Senate representing Illinois, making him the sixth African American to serve in the U.S. Senate.⁶⁷⁷
- **2008-Andre Carson (Indiana)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Indiana and remained in office as of 2020, making him the second Muslim elected to Congress. He was elected during a special election to fill the seat vacated by his grandmother, **Julia Carson**. He previously served on the Indianapolis City-County Council from 2007 to 2008. His legislative focus has included economic growth, healthcare reform, clean energy, and effective law enforcement.⁶⁷⁸
- **2009-Donna Edwards (Maryland)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Maryland and remained in office until 2017, making her the first black woman to represent Maryland in Congress. She earned a J.D. degree in 1989 from Franklin Pierce Law Center (later the University of New Hampshire School of Law) and worked in a variety of community organizations. While in Congress, she focused on protecting women from domestic violence, passing mass transit legislation, and boosting science and mathematics education.⁶⁷⁹
- **2009-Marcia Fudge (Ohio)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Ohio and remained in office until 2020. She previously served as the first African American woman mayor of Warrensville Heights, Ohio from 2000 to 2008. She earned a J.D. degree from Cleveland State University in 1983, worked as a lawyer, and was chief of staff for **Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones**. When Jones died in 2008, a committee of Democratic leaders selected Fudge as her replacement on the November ballot and she was elected with 85 percent of the vote.⁶⁸⁰
- **2009-Ronald “Ron” Kirk (HM) (Washington, D.C.)**, a trained lawyer and former mayor of Dallas, is confirmed as U.S. Trade Representative after being nominated by President Obama, making him the first African American to hold this Cabinet-level post.⁶⁸¹
- **2009-Valerie Jarrett (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** becomes a senior advisor and assistant for public engagement and intergovernmental affairs to **President Barack Obama** after helping him build important political connections between 1991 and 2004.⁶⁸² She graduated from the **University of Michigan Law School** in 1981.
- **2009-Valerie Jarrett (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed **Director of the Office of Public Engagement and Intergovernmental Affairs** by **President Barack Obama** and remained in that role until 2017.
- **2009-Lisa Perez Jackson (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the twelfth Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency by **President Barack Obama** and remained in this role until 2013, making her the first African American to head this agency. She focused on air and water quality, preventing toxic contamination in residential areas, and reducing greenhouse gases.⁶⁸³
- **2009-Regina Marcia Benjamin (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed Surgeon General of the United States by **President Barack Obama**, and she remained in office until 2013. She addressed issues such as cost and access to healthcare, rates of obesity, support for breastfeeding, and suicide



Valerie Jarrett

prevention. She earned her medical degree from the University of Alabama, Birmingham and served in the National Health Service Corps for three years.⁶⁸⁴

- **2009–Eric Holder (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** becomes the first African American United States attorney general and serves in this capacity from 2009 to 2015. In 1976, Holder graduated from **Columbia Law School**. Holder has held a number of notable positions throughout his legal career.
- **2009-Patrick Gaspard (Washington, D.C.)** serves as the White House Director of Political Affairs during the administration of **President Barack Obama**, remaining in office until 2011. Born in the Democratic Republic of Congo to Haitian parents, he began working in politics in the 1980s, including as a community organizer, on **Jesse Jackson's** 1988 presidential campaign, and **David Dinkins'** 1989 campaign for New York City mayor. He continued in a number of political advisory rolls, including working as national political director for **Senator Barack Obama's** 2008 presidential campaign.⁶⁸⁵
- **2010-Terrycina "Terri" Sewall (Alabama)(HM)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Alabama and remained in office as of 2020, making her the first black woman elected to Congress from Alabama. Her mother, **Nancy Sewell**, was the first black woman elected to the Selma, Alabama city council. A member of the **Congressional Black Caucus**, she has supported legislation on abortion rights, civil rights, education and HBCUs, and healthcare access.⁶⁸⁶
- **2000-Howard F. Jeter (Nigeria)** is appointed ambassador to Nigeria by **President Bill Clinton**, and he remained in office until 2003. He retired in 2003 at the rank of Career Minister after twenty-seven years in the foreign service.⁶⁸⁷
- **2000-Sharon P. Wilkinson (Mozambique)** is appointed ambassador to Mozambique by **President Bill Clinton**, and she remained in office until 2003.⁶⁸⁸
- **2000-Pamela Bridgewater (Benin)** is appointed ambassador to Benin by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2002. She earned her M.A. degree in political science at the University of Cincinnati in 1970 and taught at the college level for ten years. She joined the Foreign Service in 1980.⁶⁸⁹
- **2001-President George W. Bush (Washington, D.C.)**, a Republican, appoints an **African American to an ambassadorship forty-four times** between 2001 and 2009.⁶⁹⁰
- **2001-George McDade Staples (Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea)** is appointed ambassador to Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2004. He then served as the director general of the foreign service from May 2006 to June 2007.⁶⁹¹
- **2001-Johnny Young (Slovenia)** is appointed ambassador to Slovenia by **President George W. Bush**, and he remained in office until 2004. He is among only a handful of African American ambassadors who have served in four countries. He helped convince Slovenia to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the European Union. He left this post to retire as a Career Ambassador.⁶⁹²
- **2001-Arlene Render (Ivory Coast)** is appointed ambassador to Ivory Coast by **President George H. W. Bush**, and she remained in office until 2004. She coordinated the use of U.S. troops to protect foreign nationals when a violent civil war began in 2002, and she helped provide aid to refugees from Liberia.⁶⁹³
- **2001-Ruth A. Davis (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is nominated Director General of the Foreign Service by **Secretary of State Colin Powell** and appointed by **President George W. Bush**, making her the first African American to serve in this role. She held the post from 2001 to 2003. Upon her retirement from the Foreign Service in 2009, she was the longest serving Career Ambassador.⁶⁹⁴

- **2001-Mattie R. Sharpless (Central African Republic)** is appointed ambassador to the Central African Republic by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2003. After earning a B.S. degree in business education from North Carolina College (HBCU), she joined the United States Foreign Agriculture Service and worked in that agency for forty years.⁶⁹⁵
- **2001-Roy L. Austin (Trinidad and Tobago)** is appointed ambassador to Trinidad and Tobago by **President George W. Bush** and, later, **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2009. He earned his Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Washington in 1973 and joined the faculty at Pennsylvania State University where he remained until his ambassador appointment. As ambassador, he promoted trade with the United States and encouraged democracy in the region.⁶⁹⁶
- **2002-James David McGee (Swaziland)** is appointed ambassador to Swaziland by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2004. He served in the air force from 1968 to 1974 after graduating from Indiana University in 1968. He joined the Foreign Service in 1982, working in Nigeria, Pakistan, Netherlands, India, Jamaica, and Côte d'Ivoire.⁶⁹⁷
- **2002-James Irving Gadsen (Iceland)** is appointed ambassador to Iceland by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2005. He earned his M.A. degree in Chinese studies from Stanford University in 1972 and began his career in the state department, serving in Taiwan, Hungary, and France. He helped broker trade agreements and encouraged Iceland to fully join the European Union.⁶⁹⁸
- **2002-Joseph Huggins (Botswana)** is appointed ambassador to Botswana by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2005. He joined the Foreign Service in 1977, serving in Guinea, Jordan, Kenya, and Togo. As ambassador, he helped promote trade and investment between the United States and Botswana.⁶⁹⁹
- **2002-Larry Palmer (Honduras)** is appointed ambassador to Honduras by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2005. He earned his B.A. degree in history from Emory University and served in the Peace Corps in Liberia from 1971 to 1973. He earned an M.A. degree and a Doctorate of Education before teaching. He joined the Foreign Service in 1982, serving in the Dominican Republic, Uruguay, Paraguay, Sierra Leone, Korea, and Ecuador. From 2005 to 2010, he headed the Inter-American Foundation government agency that distributes financial aid to Latin America.⁷⁰⁰
- **2002-Wanda L. Nesbitt (Madagascar)** is appointed ambassador to Madagascar by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2004. She earned an M.A. degree in national security strategies from the National Defense University in 1997 and became a career foreign service officer, serving in Haiti, France, Rwanda, and Tanzania. As ambassador, she promoted environmental protection and poverty reduction.⁷⁰¹
- **2002-Aurelia E. Brazeal (Ethiopia)** is appointed ambassador to Ethiopia by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2005. Already a career diplomat, this appointment made her the first African American woman named ambassador by three presidents. After leaving office, she became a Diplomat-in-Residence at **Howard University**.⁷⁰²
- **2002-Charles Aaron Ray (Cambodia)** is appointed ambassador to Cambodia by **President George W. Bush** and remained in this role until 2005. As ambassador, he focused on cultural preservation and ending human trafficking, while also improving relations with the U.S. after decades of communist dictatorship under Khmer Rouge (1975-1979) and Vietnamese occupation (1978-1989).⁷⁰³
- **2002-Gail Denise Mathieu (Niger)** is appointed ambassador to Niger by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2005. She earned her J.D. degree from Rutgers University School of Law in 1976 and worked as a city prosecutor before joining the Foreign Service in 1978. Her overseas assignments included Switzerland, Saudi Arabia, France, Trinidad and Tobago, Santo Domingo, and the Dominican Republic. While ambassador,

Niger experienced a severe drought and she addressed poverty, malnutrition, food insecurity, and trade growth.⁷⁰⁴

- **2002-Richard Lewis Baltimore (Oman)** is appointed ambassador to Oman by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2006. He earned his J.D. degree from Harvard Law School in 1969 and joined the Foreign Service, working in Portugal, Zambia, South Africa, Egypt, Hungary, Costa Rica, and Saudi Arabia. He is fluent in French, Hungarian, Spanish, and Portuguese. While he was ambassador, Oman became the first country in the Middle East to host a U.S. government-sponsored library and computer reference center.⁷⁰⁵
- **2003-Harry K. Thomas, Jr. (Bangladesh)** is appointed ambassador to Bangladesh by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2005. He earned his B.A. degree in 1978 from the College of the Holy Cross and his M.A. degree in urban planning from Columbia University before joining the Foreign Service in 1984, serving in Peru, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, and India.⁷⁰⁶
- **2003-Margarita Ragsdale (Djibouti)** is appointed ambassador to Djibouti by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2006. She earned M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Virginia and a J.D. degree from Columbia University. In 1984, she joined the Foreign Service, working in Kuwait, Somalia, United Arab Emirates, Oman, Qatar, South Africa, and Sudan. At the time, Djibouti housed the only U.S. military base in Africa and, during her tenure, the U.S. increased training and resources for the Djibouti navy. She also oversaw \$27 million in monetary aid for healthcare and education.⁷⁰⁷
- **2003-Roland W. Bullen (Guyana)** is appointed ambassador to Guyana by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2008. Born in Grenada, he came to the United States in 1966 and earned his M.A. degree in city planning from Alliant International University in 1973. He joined the Foreign Service in 1977 and worked primarily in nations on the Caribbean Sea, including Belize, Venezuela, Costa Rica, Colombia, and the Dominican Republic. As ambassador, he worked to reduce narcotics trafficking, increase support for HIV/AIDS treatment, and coordinate emergency planning for hurricanes.⁷⁰⁸
- **2004-James David McGee (Madagascar)** is appointed ambassador to Madagascar by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2007. While in this role he represented US interests to the nation of Comoros. He speaks Vietnamese and French.⁷⁰⁹
- **2004-Jendayi E. Frazier (South Africa)** is appointed ambassador to South Africa by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2005, making her the first woman to hold this position. She earned her Ph.D. degree in political science at Stanford University in 1994 before researching and teaching at universities in Kenya, Colorado, and Massachusetts. As ambassador, she expanded HIV/AIDS programs and orchestrated peacekeeping through a bilateral agreement for the African Contingency Operations Training Assistant program.⁷¹⁰
- **2004-June Carter Perry (Lesotho)** is appointed ambassador to Lesotho by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2007. She earned her M.A. degree in history from the University of Chicago in 1967 before working in a variety of roles related broadcasting, community services, anti-poverty efforts, and the Peace Corps. She joined the foreign service in 1983, working in Zambia, Zimbabwe, France, Madagascar, and Central African Republic. As ambassador, she focused on healthcare, education, water systems, and economic infrastructure.⁷¹¹
- **2004-Joyce A. Barr (Namibia)** is appointed ambassador to Namibia by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2007. She earned an M.A. degree in public administration from Harvard University and joined the Foreign Service in 1979, working in Sweden, Hungary, Kenya, Sudan, Turkmenistan, and Malaysia. She has worked in a number of domestic roles

in Washington, D.C., including serving as assistant secretary of state for administration from 2011 to 2017.⁷¹²

- **2005-Harry K. Thomas, Jr. (Washington, D.C.)** serves as executive secretary to the Department of State during the administration of **President George W. Bush** from 2005 to 2007. He previously served as National Security Council Director for South Asia under U.S. National Security Advisor **Condoleezza Rice** starting in 2001.⁷¹³
- **2005-Roger D. Pierce (Cape Verde)** is appointed ambassador to Cape Verde by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2008. He earned his M.A. degree in Latin American literature from the University of Maryland and achieved fluency in Spanish, Turkish, and Portuguese. He joined the Foreign Service in 1987 and worked in Mexico, Chile, India, Turkey, Netherlands, Egypt, and Honduras. As ambassador, he focused on economic programs, particularly those related to low-income women and salt exportation to the United States.⁷¹⁴
- **2005-Pamela Bridgewater (Ghana)** is appointed ambassador to Ghana by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2008. Just prior to her appointment, she worked as the State Department's Special Coordinator for Peace in Liberia, helping the country establish peaceful elections after its civil war.⁷¹⁵
- **2006-Bernadette Allen (Niger)** is appointed ambassador to Niger by President George W. Bush and remained in office until 2010. After earning her B.A. degree in French civilization and linguistics from Central College in 1978, she joined the Foreign Service in 1980. Fluent in French and Mandarin Chinese, she served in Burundi, Philippines, Japan, China, and Canada.⁷¹⁶
- **2006-Eric M. Bost (South Africa)** is appointed ambassador to South Africa by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2009. He earned his M.A. degree in special education from the University of South Florida in 1985, subsequently working in various human services offices, the Department of Economic Security in Arizona, and the United States Department of Agriculture. As ambassador, he focused on education and healthcare. In 2006, he organized an HIV treatment facility in Johannesburg due, in part, to criticism from **U.S. Senator Barack Obama** that U.S. officials were not adequately combating South Africa's AIDS epidemic.⁷¹⁷
- **2006-Gayleatha B. Brown (Benin)** is appointed ambassador to Benin by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2009. She earned her M.A. degree from Howard University in 1970, and she worked for the Agency for International Development before joining the Foreign Service in 1982. Her overseas appointments included France, Côte d'Ivoire, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Canada, Senegal, Guinea, and Mauritania. She was fluent in French and Swahili.⁷¹⁸
- **2006-Clyde Bishop (Marshall Islands)** is appointed ambassador to the Marshall Islands by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until his retirement in 2009. He earned his Ph.D. in public policy analysis from the University of Delaware in 1976 before working in academia and joining the Foreign Service in 1981. Fluent in Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish, he served in Italy, India, China, Brazil, and South Korea. As ambassador, he faced criticism and managed projects related to the history of Cold War U.S. nuclear testing on the Marshall Islands.⁷¹⁹
- **2007-Barry L. Wells (Gambia)** is appointed ambassador to Gambia by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2010. He earned his M.A. degree in social work from the University of Pittsburgh in 1970 and worked as a professor and university administrator. He worked for the Peace Corps (1978-1988) before joining the Department of State's Foreign Service Institute in 1988.⁷²⁰
- **2007-Eunice Reddick (Republic of Gabon, Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe)** is appointed ambassador to both the Republic of Gabon and the Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe by **President George W. Bush** and, later, **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2010. She earned her M.A. degree in international affairs from

Columbia University in 1975, worked at the Africa-America Institute in New York City, and then joined the Foreign Service in 1980.⁷²¹

- **2007-John Withers II (Albania)** is appointed ambassador to Albania by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2010. As a child he lived in a variety of countries in Southeast Asia and East Africa because his father, **John L. Withers, Sr.**, was a diplomat with the United States Agency for International Development. He earned his Ph.D. degree in modern Chinese history from Yale University in 1983 and joined the Foreign Service, working in countries such as Netherlands, Lagos, Nigeria, Russia, Ireland, and Iceland. As ambassador, he supported poverty reduction and economic growth while critiquing political corruption.⁷²²
- **2007-Maurice S. Parker (Swaziland)** is appointed ambassador to Swaziland by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2009. He earned his M.A. degree in education administration from San Francisco State University in 1974 and, that same year, joined the Foreign Service. He served in a variety of roles throughout Guyana, Spain, Mexico, Colombia, Scotland, Nigeria, and Mexico.⁷²³
- **2007-Gail Denise Mathieu (Namibia)** is appointed ambassador to Namibia by **President George W. Bush** and, later, **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2010. As ambassador, she focused on strengthening democracy, human rights, HIV/AIDS treatment, and economic growth.⁷²⁴
- **2007-Harry K. Thomas, Jr. (Washington, D.C.)** serves as the director general of the Foreign Service from 2007 to 2009 during the administration of **President George W. Bush**.⁷²⁵
- **2007-June Carter Perry (Sierra Leone)** is appointed ambassador to Sierra Leone by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2009. As Sierra Leone had just emerged from a decade-long civil war, she primarily focused on peacekeeping and transition back to democratic rule. She also brought the Peace Corps to Sierra Leone and a U.S. government program that funded agricultural and infrastructure development.⁷²⁶
- **2007-James David McGee (Zimbabwe)** is appointed ambassador to Zimbabwe by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2009. In 2008, he spoke to the press about government attacks against opposition candidate **Morgan Tsvangirai** and, as a result, **President Robert Mugabe** threatened to expel him from Zimbabwe.⁷²⁷
- **2007-Wanda L. Nesbitt (Ivory Coast)** is appointed ambassador to Ivory Coast by **President George W. Bush** and, later, by **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2010. As ambassador she addressed child labor, orphan care, coffee and cocoa trade, and electoral reform.⁷²⁸
- **2008-John Jones (Guyana)** is appointed ambassador to Guyana by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2009. He attended law school at Howard University and earned his M.A. degree in business administration from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. After teaching and practicing law, he joined the Foreign Service in 1981 and served in Honduras, Burkina Faso, Belgium, Thailand, Santo Domingo, the Dominican Republic, and Costa Rica. As ambassador, he promoted education, mass communication, and economic growth.⁷²⁹
- **2008-Linda Thomas-Greenfield (Liberia)** is appointed ambassador to Liberia by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2012. She earned her M.A. degree in political science from the University of Wisconsin in 1975 and, in 1982, joined the Foreign Service, working in Jamaica, Nigeria, Gambia, Kenya, Pakistan, Switzerland, and Rwanda. As ambassador, she encouraged democracy after decades of civil wars.⁷³⁰
- **2008-Marcia S. Bernicat (Senegal and Guinea-Bissau)** is appointed ambassador to Senegal and Guinea-Bissau by **President George W. Bush** and remained in office until 2011. She earned her M.A. degree in foreign service from Georgetown University in 1980 and, the next year, joined the Foreign Service, working in Mali, France, Morocco, Malawi, and Barbados. As ambassador, she oversaw a \$540 million grant for infrastructure and broke ground on a new embassy.⁷³¹

- **2008-C. Steven McGann (Fiji, Tuvalu, Tonga, Nauru, and Kiribati)** is appointed ambassador to five South Pacific island nations—Fiji, Tuvalu, Tonga, Nauru, and Kiribati—by **President George W. Bush** and, later, **President Barack Obama**, and he remained in office until 2011. He joined the Foreign Service in 1992, serving in Taiwan, Zaire, South Africa, Australia, and Kenya. He was a member of the U.S. Mission to the United Nations from 1998 to 2000, and held a number of other roles in the diplomatic corps. While ambassador, he was the first U.S. representative to the **Pacific Islands Forum**, an intergovernmental organization focused on cooperation among nations in the Pacific Ocean. He also focused on democracy, law enforcement, maritime security, humanitarian assistance, and disaster response.⁷³²
- **2009-Alfonso E. Lenhardt (Tanzania)** is appointed ambassador to Tanzania by **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2013. He earned M.A. degrees in administration of justice from Wichita State University and in public administration from Central Michigan University. He served in the army from 1966 to 1997, then transitioning to nonprofit work. Later, in 2014, he became the deputy administrator of United States Agency for International Development.⁷³³
- **2009-Mary Jo Wills (Mauritius and the Seychelles)** is appointed ambassador Mauritius and Seychelles by **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2011. She earned M.A. degrees in business administration from Virginia Tech and in national security strategy from the National War College. She joined the Foreign Service in 1980, serving in Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Gambia, and Italy. As ambassador, she focused on pollution, climate change, piracy, human trafficking, and maritime security.⁷³⁴
- **2009-Nicole Avant (Bahamas)** is appointed ambassador to Bahamas by **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2011. The daughter of **Clarence Avant** and **Jacqueline Avant**, both recording industry veterans, she both acted and worked as vice president for interior music publishing at A&M records. She used her connections in the entertainment industry to fundraise for **Congressman Harold Ford, Jr.** and **President Barack Obama**. As ambassador, she focused on education, economic and small business growth, women’s issues, disabilities, and alternative energy. She was the first black woman and the youngest American ambassador to the Bahamas.⁷³⁵
- **2009-Teddy B. Taylor (Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu)** is appointed ambassador to Papua New Guinea, Solomon Island, and Vanuatu by **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2012. He earned his B.A. degree in political science from Florida A&M University in 1975, and, in 1978, began his diplomatic career. He speaks Spanish, Turkish, and Hungarian, and has served in Guatemala, Panama, Honduras, Hungary, and Cuba. As ambassador, he focused on economic improvements and women’s issues. His wife, **Antoinette Corbin-Taylor**, is also a foreign service officer. In 2001, he became the first African America director of the U.S. Foreign Service Institute.⁷³⁶
- **2009-President Barack Obama (Washington, D.C.)**, a Democrat, appoints an **African American to an ambassadorship forty-one times** between 2009 and 2015.⁷³⁷
- **2009-Susan Rice (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations by **President Barack Obama**, and she remained in office until 2013. After serving as a senior fellow at the **Brookings Institute** (2001) and a foreign policy advisor for the **John Kerry** presidential campaign (2004), she publicly endorsed Obama for president and he, the next year, gave her a cabinet appointment.⁷³⁸
- **2009-Johnnie Carson (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs by **President Barack Obama**, and he remained in office until his retirement from the Foreign Service in 2013.⁷³⁹
- **2009-Pamela Bridgewater (Jamaica)** is appointed ambassador to Jamaica by **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2013.⁷⁴⁰

- **2009-Charles Aaron Ray (Zimbabwe)** is appointed ambassador to Zimbabwe by **President Barack Obama** and remained in this role until 2012. After earning his M.S. degree in national security strategy from the National Defense University and serving in the army from 1962 to 1982, he joined the Foreign Service where he worked in China, Thailand, Sierra Leone, and Vietnam.⁷⁴¹
- **2009-Harry K. Thomas, Jr. (Philippines)** is appointed ambassador to Philippines by **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2013, making him the first African American in this post. As ambassador, he focused on mutual defense treaties, immigration concerns, and economic relationships. He speaks Spanish, Hindi, and Bengali.⁷⁴²
- **2000-Karen Freeman-Wilson (Indiana)** is elected attorney general of Indiana and remained in office until 2001. She was subsequently elected mayor of Gary, Indiana and remained in office until 2019. She earned a J.D. degree from Harvard Law School and served as a judge in Gary from 1995 to 2000.⁷⁴³
- **2003-Jeannette Bradley (Ohio)** is elected lieutenant governor of Ohio as the running mate of **Governor Bob Taft** and she remained in office until 2005, making her the first African American lieutenant governor of any state. She previously served as the first African American woman on the Columbus City Council from 1991 to 2003. Governor Taft appointed her state treasurer from 2005 to 2007.⁷⁴⁴
- **2003-Ray Miller (HM) (Ohio)** is elected to the Ohio State Senate and remained in office until 2010. In 2008, he replaced minority leader **Teresa Fedor**. He sponsored legislation that helped created the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services, the Community Mental Health Act of 1988 and the Ohio Commission on Minority Health.⁷⁴⁵
- **2006-Lisa Perez Jackson (New Jersey)** serves as the Commissioner of Environmental Protection of New Jersey under **Governor Jon Corzine**, and she remained in this role until 2008. In this role, she headed programs regulation land use, water supply, geological surveys, water monitoring, and watershed management. She earned an M.A. degree in chemical engineering from Princeton University in 1986 and worked for the Environmental Protection Agency developing hazardous waste cleanup regulations.⁷⁴⁶
- **2007-Deval Patrick (HM) (Massachusetts)** becomes the first African American of governor of Massachusetts and remained in office until 2015.⁷⁴⁷
- **2007-David A. Paterson (HM) (New York)** is elected lieutenant governor of New York.⁷⁴⁸
- **2007-Hakeem Jeffries (New York)** is elected to the New York legislature and remained in office until 2012, when he is elected to Congress. He proposed a bill that ended New York's stop-and-frisk database. He earned a J.D. degree from New York University School of Law in 1997 and worked as a corporate lawyer in prestigious New York firms.⁷⁴⁹
- **2008-David A. Paterson (HM) (New York)** is sworn in as governor of New York after the resignation of **Governor Eliot Spitzer**, becoming the first legally blind governor, the first black governor of New York, and the fourth black governor of any state.⁷⁵⁰
- **2009-Velda Jones Potter (Delaware)** is appointed state treasurer of Delaware to finish the term of **Jack Markell** who is elected governor. This made her the first African American woman to hold statewide office in Delaware, and she remained in this role until 2011 when she lost the election to **Chipman "Chip" L. Flowers, Jr.**⁷⁵¹
- **2000-Michael B. Coleman (HM) (Columbus, OH)** is elected mayor of Columbus, Ohio and remained in office until 2016, making him the city's first African American mayor. He served on the city council from 1992 to 1999, where he was president from 1997 to 1999. He earned a JD from the University of Dayton School of Law in 1980 and worked as a legislative aide for **Councilman Ben Epsy**. As mayor, he reduced the city budget, boosted



Deval Patrick

the city's police and fire services, was a member of the **Mayors Against Illegal Guns Coalition**.⁷⁵²

- **2001-Mohammed Kasim Reed (Atlanta, GA)** serves as campaign manager for **Shirley Franklin's** successful campaign for mayor of Atlanta, Georgia.⁷⁵³
- **2002-A. C. Warton, Jr. (HM) (Shelby County, TN)** is elected as the first African American mayor of Shelby County, Tennessee and remained in office until 2009. "As Shelby County Mayor, he established Operation Safe Community, the area's first comprehensive crime-fighting plan, developed the community's first smart growth and sustainability plan, and tackled education and early childhood development issues with programs like "Books from Birth" and "Ready, Set, Grow."⁷⁵⁴
- **2002-Kwame Kilpatrick (Detroit, MI)** is elected mayor of Detroit and remained in office until 2008, making him the youngest mayor of Detroit at thirty-one years old. His mother, **Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick**, served in the Michigan House of Representatives (1979-1996) and the U.S. House of Representatives (1996-2010), and his father, **Bernard Kilpatrick**, served on the Wayne County Commission. Kwame Kilpatrick resigned as mayor after being convicted of perjury and obstruction of justice.⁷⁵⁵
- **2002-Shirley Clarke Franklin (Atlanta, GA)** is elected mayor of Atlanta and remained in office until 2010, making her the first African American woman to become mayor of a major Southern city. She previously served as commissioner of cultural affairs under **Mayor Maynard Jackson** and as chief administrative officer and city manager under **Mayor Andrew Young**. As mayor, she reduced the number of government employees and raised taxes to balance the city budget, prioritized repairing the sewer system, and received 90% of the vote for reelection in 2005.⁷⁵⁶
- **2005-Mark Mallory (Cincinnati, OH)** is elected mayor of Cincinnati, Ohio and remained in office until 2013, making him the city's first directly elected African American mayor. As mayor, he focused on bipartisanship, cut property tax, increase police and fire services, funded local arts, supported environmental measures, and improved public transportation.⁷⁵⁷
- **2006-Cory Booker (Newark, NJ)** is elected mayor of Newark, New Jersey and remained in office until 2013.⁷⁵⁸
- **2007-Ronald V. Dellums (HM) (Oakland, CA)** is elected mayor of Oakland, California and remained in office until 2011.⁷⁵⁹
- **2007-Muriel Bowser (Washington, D.C.)** is elected to the Council of the District of Columbia representing Ward 4 to replace **Adrian Fenty**, who left the council after being elected mayor. Bowser had been Fenty's campaign coordinator for Ward 4, and he supported her run for the council.⁷⁶⁰
- **2007-Adrian Fenty (Washington, D.C.)** is elected mayor of Washington, D.C. and remained in office until 2011. He served on the Council of the District of Columbia from 2000 to 2006. As mayor, he focused on education reform (improving student test scores and graduation rates), overhauled district agencies, expanded community policing initiatives, and oversaw community and infrastructure development.⁷⁶¹
- **2007-Sheila Ann Dixon (Baltimore, MD)**, first in the mayoral line of succession as city council president, becomes mayor of Baltimore when Martin O'Malley resigned to become governor. She remained in office until 2010, making her the city's first woman and African American woman mayor. She resigned as mayor as part of a plea agreement after facing felony and misdemeanor counts related to perjury, theft, and misconduct. City Council President **Stephanie Rawlings-Blake** succeeded her as mayor.⁷⁶²
- **2007-Carl Brewer (Wichita, KA)** is elected mayor of Wichita and remained in office until 2015, making him the city's first elected African American mayor (**A. Price Woodward, Jr.** served one term as mayor in 1970 upon appointment by the city council). He previously served on the city council from 2001 to 2007, and he unsuccessfully ran for the Democratic nomination for governor in 2017 (losing to state senator **Laura Kelly**, who, after she won the election, appointed him to the Governor's Council on Tax Reform).⁷⁶³



Mark Mallory

- **2008-Kevin Johnson (Sacramento, CA)** is elected mayor of Sacramento, California and remained in office until 2016, making him the city's first African American mayor. Before his political career, he played professional basketball in the **National Basketball Association** for the **Cleveland Cavaliers** and the **Phoenix Suns**. As mayor, he launched initiatives to encourage public service, support local art, reduce homelessness, improve education, support environmental efforts, and reduce gang violence. He encountered controversy related to sexual assault and harassment allegations and code violations related to real estate holdings.⁷⁶⁴
- **2008-Michael A. Nutter (HM) (Philadelphia, PA)** is elected mayor of Philadelphia and remained in office until 2016. As mayor, he worked to reform the police department, increased sustainability measures, and commissioned "the PhillyRising Collaborative" to help reduce crime by improving quality of life (including public computer labs, community swimming pools, among other neighborhood improvement projects). He served as the 70th president of the **United States Conference of Mayors** from 2012 to 2013. He also served on the Philadelphia City Council from 1992 to 2006.⁷⁶⁵
- **2008-Kenneth Cockrel, Jr. (Detroit, MI)**, the president of the Detroit City Council (2005-2008), becomes interim mayor of Detroit after **Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick** pleads guilty to perjury and obstruction of justice and resigns from office. He ran for a full term in office in 2009 but lost to **Dave Bing**.⁷⁶⁶
- **2009-Myron Lowery (HM) (Memphis, TN)** becomes the interim mayor of Memphis from July 31, 2009 to October 26, 2009, following the retirement of **Willie W. Herenton**. He then ran for mayor in a special election in 2009 but lost to **A.C. Wharton**.⁷⁶⁷
- **2009-Anthony Foxx (Charlotte, NC)** is elected mayor of Charlotte, North Carolina and he remained in office until 2013. He earned a law from the New York University School of Law in 1996 and practiced law before entering politics by serving as campaign manager for **Congressman Mel Watt**. He was elected to the Charlotte City Council (2005-2009) where he chaired the Transportation Committee. He was the second African American mayor of Charlotte after **Harvey Gantt**.⁷⁶⁸
- **2009-Dave Bing (Detroit, MI)** is elected mayor of Detroit and remained in office until 2013. He played for twelve seasons in the **National Basketball Association** with the **Detroit Pistons**, **Washington Bullets**, and **Boston Celtics**.⁷⁶⁹
- **2009-A. C. Warton, Jr. (HM) (Memphis, TN)** becomes the mayor of Memphis (defeating interim mayor **Myron Lowery**) and remained in office until 2015. As mayor he pledged to build fifty miles of bicycle lanes, promoted employment in the city, and faced criticism for awarding contracts to friends.⁷⁷⁰
- **2009-Ayanna Pressley (Boston, MA)** becomes the first black woman elected to the Boston City Council.⁷⁷¹

2010-2019

- **2017-Donald J. Trump (New York)** is elected the 45th president of the United States. Trump has faced criticism for his treatment of African Americans and other minorities, his failure to condemn the white supremacist "**Unite the Right rally**" (Charlottesville, VA, 2017), and his efforts to close the U.S. border to immigration. In 2017, he appointed African American neurosurgeon **Benjamin Solomon Carson, Sr.** as the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.
- **2011-Tim Scott (South Carolina)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives to represent South Carolina and remained in office until 2013. A member of the Republican Party who declined to join the

Congressional Black Caucus, he supported welfare reform that reduced food stamps, reduction in federal spending and taxes, and repealing the Affordable Care Act. He previously served in the South Carolina House of Representatives (2009-2011) and the Charleston County Council (1995-2009).⁷⁷²

- **2011-Patrick Gaspard (Washington, D.C.)** serves as the executive director of the Democratic National Committee from 2011 to 2013.⁷⁷³
- **2011-Donna Brazile (Washington, D.C.)**, a political strategist and campaign manager, serves as the chair of the **Democratic National Committee** from April 2011 to May 2011 and from July 2016 to February 2017.⁷⁷⁴
- **2011-Higher Heights (location unknown)** is founded by **Glynda C. Carr** and **Kimberly Peeler-Allen** to support and promote black women elected officials.⁷⁷⁵
- **2012-Ludmya “Mia” Love (Utah)** gains national prominence when she serves as a keynote speaker at the 2012 **Republican National Convention** in Tampa, Florida where **Mitt Romney** accepted the party nomination. In 2014, she was then appointed to the RNC’s National Advisory Council of African American Outreach.⁷⁷⁶
- **2013-Cory Booker (New Jersey)** is elected to the U.S. Senate, becoming the first African American U.S. senator from New Jersey. While in office, he supported legislation related to women’s rights, affirmative action, same-sex marriage, healthcare reform, criminal justice reform, and climate change.⁷⁷⁷
- **2013-Joyce Beatty (Ohio)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Ohio and remained in office as of 2020. She previously served in the Ohio House of Representatives from 1999 to 2008, succeeding her husband, **Otto Beatty, Jr.**, who held that seat from 1980 to 1999. She was also the first woman Democratic House Leader in the history of the Ohio legislature. In the U.S. Congress, she served on the Committee on Finance Services and the Joint Economic Committee.⁷⁷⁸
- **2013-Hakeem Jeffries (New York)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from New York and remained in office as of 2020. He joined the Congressional Black Caucus and served as its Whip. While in office, he has addressed criminal justice, public housing, voting rights, and LGBTQ discrimination.⁷⁷⁹
- **2013-Maxine Waters (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** becomes the ranking member of the House Financial Services Committee and remained in that position until 2019.⁷⁸⁰
- **2013-Anthony Foxx (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed U.S. Secretary of Transportation by **President Barack Obama**, and he remained in office until 2017. While in this role, he prepared and supported the Grow America Act (2014), consolidated financial programs, and established new rules for drones.⁷⁸¹
- **2013-Susan Rice (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed the twenty-fourth U.S. National Security Advisor by **President Barack Obama**, and she remained in office until 2017. She was the first African American, the third woman, and the second youngest person to hold this position. She previously served as a foreign policy advisor for the Obama campaign during the 2008 presidential race.⁷⁸²
- **2013-Tim Scott (South Carolina)** is appointed to the U.S. Senate from South Carolina by **Governor Nikki Haley** to replace retiring **Senator Jim DeMint**. He won a special election in 2014, was re-elected in 2014, and remained in office as of 2020. He is only the seventh African American to serve in the senate, the first black senator from South Carolina, and the first African American senator elected from the South since 1881.⁷⁸³
- **2013-Jeh C. Johnson (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security by **President Barack Obama**, and he remained in office until 2017. He previously served as general counsel of the Department of Defense under **President Barack Obama** (2009-2012) and general



Susan Rice

counsel of the Air Force under **President Bill Clinton** (1998-2010). He obtained his J.D. degree from Columbia University in 1982 and began his career at the New York law firm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton, and Garrison LLP, where he became the first African American partner in 1994.⁷⁸⁴

- **2014-Melvin “Mel” Watt (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency by President Barack Obama and remained in this role until 2019.⁷⁸⁵
- **2014-The Center for Analysis and Research (CPAR) (Washington, D.C.)** is created by the **Congressional Black Caucus Foundation** to create and disseminate policy research.⁷⁸⁶
- **2015-John Conyers, Jr. (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** becomes the first African American Dean of the U.S. House of Representatives, a largely symbolic post that recognizes the longest continuously serving member of the House. He resigned from the House on December 5, 2017 amid news reports that he had used funds from his congressional office in a settlement over sexual harassment charges brought a former woman staff assistant.⁷⁸⁷
- **2015-Ludmya “Mia” Love (Utah)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Utah and remained in office until 2019. Along with being the first black person from Utah elected to Congress, she was the first black Republican woman and the first Haitian American elected to Congress. While in office, she supported cuts to federal spending, increased border control, gun rights, and repeal of the Affordable Care Act. During her campaign for office, she said she would take the **Congressional Black Caucus** “apart from the inside out,” but she quickly built relationships within the CBC once a member.⁷⁸⁸
- **2015-Bonnie Watson Coleman (New Jersey)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from New Jersey and remained in office as of 2020, making her the first black women in Congress from New Jersey. A member of the Congressional Black Caucus, she has supported criminal justice reform, legislation against child exploitation and sex crimes, and bans on assault rifles.⁷⁸⁹
- **2015-Benjamin S. Carson, Sr. (HM) (Cincinnati, OH)** announces that he is running for the Republican nomination for the 2016 presidential election. After criticizing **President Barack Obama** at the 2013 National Prayer Breakfast, he became a public political figure and favorite of conservatives like the **Conservative Political Action Conference**. His positions on Islam, healthcare, gun violence, terrorism, and immigration garnered him supporters, but his poll numbers declined after he began contradicting information in his autobiography and appeared weak on international affairs. He ended his campaign on March 2, 2016.⁷⁹⁰
- **2015-Loretta Lynch (Washington, D.C.)** becomes United States attorney general in 2015. This made Lynch the second African American, the second woman, and the first African American woman to serve in this role.
- **2016-Representatives Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-NJ), Robin Kelly (D-ILL), and Yvotte D. Clarke (D-NY) (Washington, D.C.)** found the **Congressional Caucus on Black Women and Girls**, which focuses on policy and legislation related to the welfare of women and girls of African descent. They were inspired to create this caucus by the #SheWoke committee comprised of black women activists, including **Ifeoma Ike, Nakisha M. Lewis, Tiffany D. Hightower, Shambulia Gadsden Sams, Sharisse Stancil-Ashford, Dr. Avis Jones-DeWeever, and Sharon Cooper.**⁷⁹¹
- **2017-Benjamin S. Carson, Sr. (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** is appointed U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development by **President Donald Trump**, and he remained in office as of 2020. He graduated from the University of Michigan



Congressional Caucus on Black Women and Girls co-chairs representatives Bonnie Watson Coleman, Robin Kelly, and Yvotte D. Clarke

Medical School with an M.D. degree in 1977 and became a neurosurgeon well-known for separating conjoined twins in 1987.⁷⁹²

- **2017-Kamala Harris (California)** is elected to the U.S. Senate from California and remained in office as of 2020, making her the second African American woman and the first South Asian American to serve in the senate. She supported healthcare reform, descheduling cannabis, paths to citizenship for undocumented immigrants, bans on assault weapons, and progressive tax reform.⁷⁹³
- **2017-Keith Ellison (Washington, D.C.)** becomes the deputy chair of the **Democratic National Committee**, and he remained in this role until 2018. He ran for the chair of the DNC and lost to **former Secretary of Labor Tom Perez**, who subsequently appointed him deputy chair.⁷⁹⁴
- **2018-Jahana Hayes (Connecticut)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives and becomes the first black congresswoman from Connecticut.⁷⁹⁵
- **2018-Ayanna Pressley (Massachusetts)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives and becomes the first black congresswoman from Massachusetts.⁷⁹⁶
- **2018-Hakeem Jeffries (Washington, D.C.)** is elected chair of the **House Democratic Caucus** by his colleagues in the House, making him three steps away from becoming the first black Speaker of the House.⁷⁹⁷
- **2018-Ilhan Omar (Minnesota)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives and becomes the first Somali-American, the first naturalized citizen of African birth, and the first woman of color to serve as a U.S. Representative from Minnesota.⁷⁹⁸
- **2019-Maxine Waters (HM) (Washington, D.C.)** becomes the chair of the House Financial Services Committee and remained in that position as of 2020.⁷⁹⁹
- **2019-Elijah E. Cummings (Washington, D.C.)** serves as chair of the **Committee on Oversight and Government Reform** from January 3, 2019 to October 17, 2019, during impeachment inquiry against **President Donald Trump**.⁸⁰⁰ He died on October 17, 2019, at Johns Hopkins Hospital.
- **2019-Cory Booker (New Jersey)** campaigns for the Democratic nomination for president of the United States but fails to meet the polling thresholds to participate in the sixth Democratic Party debate and ends his campaign in January 2020.⁸⁰¹
- **2019- Kamala Harris (Oakland, CA)** campaigns for the Democratic nomination for president but, facing criticism for her tough-on-crime policies as California's attorney general, her poll numbers drop and she withdraws from the campaign on December 3, 2019.⁸⁰²
- **2019-Joseph "Joe" Neguse (Colorado)** is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Colorado and remained in office as of 2020, making him the first Eritrean American to serve in Congress and the first black Congressperson from Colorado. He earned a J.D. degree from the University of Colorado Law School in 2009 and was appointed to Colorado's consumer protection agency, making him one of the youngest people in the country to serve in a state cabinet position. While in Congress, he has supported clean air and water, health care, fair wages, reproductive rights, education, and voter rights.⁸⁰³
- **2010-Ambassador Betty King, ambassador Susan Rice, and Ambassador Ertharin Cousin (United Nations)**, all African American women ambassadors to **United States Mission to the United Nations**, are the three most powerful Americans in the U.N. system.⁸⁰⁴
- **2010-Wanda L. Nesbitt (Cote d'Ivoire and Namibia)** is appointed ambassador to Cote d'Ivoire and Namibia by **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2013. In this role, she coordinated President Bush's **Emergency Plans for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)** and contributed to World AIDS Day.⁸⁰⁵



Ilhan Omar

- **2010-Beatrice Welters (Trinidad and Tobago)** is appointed ambassador to Trinidad and Tobago by **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2012. She earned her M.A. degree in criminal justice from the City University of New York and worked for IBM while establishing herself as a philanthropist. Her work with the AnBryce Foundation, which runs academic and leadership programs for underserved youth, brought her into contact with President Obama and led to her diplomatic appointment. As ambassador, she worked on the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative, the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas, and the U.S. Partnership Framework on HIV/AIDS.⁸⁰⁶
- **2010-Bisa Williams (Niger)** is appointed ambassador to Niger by **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2013. She earned M.A. degrees from the University of California, Los Angeles and the National Defense University. She joined the Foreign Service in 1984, serving in Guinea, Panama, France, Mauritius and working in a number of positions in the United States. She is proficient in French, Portuguese, and Spanish.⁸⁰⁷
- **2010-Helen Reed-Rowe (Palau)** is appointed ambassador to Palau by **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2013, making her the first U.S. ambassador to small island republic. She earned her B.A. degree from the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore (HBCU) and joined the Foreign Service in 1986, serving in Jamaica, the Marshall Islands, Ecuador, and Niger. As ambassador, she focused on regional security, sustainable development, the fishing industry, environmental regulations, education, and women's issues. She is fluent in Spanish and French.⁸⁰⁸
- **2011-Adrienne S. O'Neal (Cape Verde)** is appointed ambassador to Cape Verde by **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2015. She earned her M.A. degree in Spanish language and literature from Middlebury College in 1978 and, in 1983, joined the Foreign Service. She held a variety of roles in Washington, D.C., Italy, Argentina, Mozambique, Brazil, and Portugal. As ambassador, she promoted democracy, anti-drug trafficking efforts, and gender equality.⁸⁰⁹
- **2011-Frankie A. Reed (Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Tonga, and Tuvalu)** is appointed ambassador to Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Tonga, and Tuvalu by **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2015. She earned her J.D. degree from the University of California, Berkeley in 1978, served in the Peace Corps from 1981 to 1983, and then joined the Foreign Service. She has worked in a variety of roles, serving in Kenya, Cameroon, Senegal, Guinea, Samoa, and France. As ambassador, she promoted democratic elections, climate change regulations, and actions against HIV/AIDS.⁸¹⁰
- **2011-Pamela Spratlen (Kyrgyzstan)** is appointed ambassador to Kyrgyzstan by **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2014. She earned her M.A. degree in public policy from the University of California, Berkeley in 1981 and worked for the California Legislature's Joint Legislative Budget and Assembly Ways and Means Committee. She joined the Foreign Service in 1990, serving in Guatemala and Washington, D.C. She is fluent in Russian, French, and Spanish.⁸¹¹
- **2011-Susan Page (South Sudan)** is appointed ambassador to South Sudan by **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2014, making her the first U.S. ambassador to the newly formed nation. She earned her J.D. degree from Harvard Law School in 1990, joined the State Department as a legal adviser in 1991, and joined the Foreign Service in 1993. Prior to becoming ambassador, she worked in Rwanda monitoring the war in the Democratic Republic of Congo, later drafting the U.S. State Department Human Rights Report for Rwanda.⁸¹²
- **2011-Larry Palmer (Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean)** is appointed ambassador to Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean by **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2016. Among the nations in the Eastern Caribbean, he was ambassador to **Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Lucia**, and **Dominica**. President Obama nominated him as ambassador to Venezuela but

- President Hugo Chavez** refused to allow him to take the post because of his critical comments about the Chavez government.⁸¹³
- **2012-Gina Albercrombie-Winstanley (Malta)** is appointed ambassador to Malta by **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2016. She joined the Foreign Service in 1985, serving in Iraq, Indonesia, Egypt, and Israel. She served on the National Security Council during the administration of **President Bill Clinton** from 1998 to 2000.⁸¹⁴
 - **2012-Malika James (Swaziland)** is appointed ambassador to Swaziland by **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2015. She earned her J.D. degree from Columbia Law School in 1982 and joined the Foreign Service in 1988, serving in Jamaica, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, and Sudan. She subsequently served as deputy assistant secretary for Fast Africa and the Sudans Bureau of Africa Affairs beginning in 2018, and she remains in this role as of 2020.⁸¹⁵
 - **2012-Sue K. Brown (Montenegro)** is appointed ambassador to Montenegro by **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2015, making her the first African American to hold this post. She joined the Foreign Service in 1980, serving in France, Liberia, Kenya, Nigeria, Côte d'Ivoire, and Indonesia. As ambassador, she oversaw responses to natural disasters and the coordination of humanitarian assistance, and she guided the nation towards joining the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. She is fluent in French and Bahasa Indonesian.⁸¹⁶
 - **2013-Patrick Gaspard (South Africa)** is appointed ambassador to South Africa by **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2016. He previously served as the White House Director of Political Affairs during the Obama administration from 2009 to 2011. As ambassador, he supported healthcare infrastructure, local governance, renewable energy, and ending wildlife trafficking.⁸¹⁷
 - **2013-Tuli Mushingi (Burkina Faso)** is appointed ambassador to Burkina Faso by **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2016. Born in what was then the Belgian Congo, he was the first African-born, naturalized U.S. citizen to return to that continent as an ambassador. He earned multiple degrees in the Congo and United States, including a Ph.D. degree in linguistics from Georgetown University in 1989. He taught language and cultural for the Peace Corps before joining the Foreign Service in 1993, serving in Mozambique, Morocco, Tanzania, and Ethiopia.⁸¹⁸
 - **2014-Brian A. Nichols (Peru)** is appointed ambassador to Peru by **President Barack Obama** and, later, **President Donald Trump** and remained in office until 2017. He earned his B.S. degree from Tufts University in 1987 and, the next year, joined the Foreign Service, serving in Peru, El Salvador, Mexico, Indonesia, and Colombia. As ambassador, he helped stabilize democratic institutions, supported education programs, and encouraged social inclusion for the nation's indigenous population.⁸¹⁹
 - **2014-Cynthia Akuettah (Gabon and São Tomé and Príncipe)** is appointed ambassador to Gabon by **President Barack Obama** and, later, **President Donald Trump** and remained in office until 2018. She earned her M.A. degree in national security resource policy from the National Defense University in 1973 and worked as a program officer for the Peace Corps from 1973 to 1984. She joined the Foreign Service in 1984, serving in Niger, Tanzania, Canada, Venezuela, Burkina Faso, and Cote d'Ivoire. As ambassador to Gabon, she worked to prevent popular unrest, promoted U.S. trade and tourism, and urged the nation to accept U.S. naval assistance to reduce human, diamond, and weapons trafficking. As ambassador to São Tomé and Príncipe, she focused on alleviating poverty.⁸²⁰
 - **2014-Dwight L. Bush, Sr. (Morocco)** is appointed ambassador to Morocco by **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2017. He earned his B.A. degree in government from Cornell University in 1979, and he worked in international corporate banking and advanced to the executive level with various companies. He was active in non-profit organizations and became a leading contributor and fundraiser for **President Barack Obama's** 2012 re-election. His wife, **Antoinette Cook Bush**, is a communications law

specialist and cousin to **Valerie Jarrett**, an aide to President Barack Obama.⁸²¹

- **2014-Todd D. Robinson (Guatemala)** is appointed ambassador to Guatemala by **President Barack Obama** and, later, **President Donald Trump** and remained in office until 2017. He earned his M.A. degree from Georgetown University in 1985 and joined the Foreign Service the next year, serving in Colombia, El Salvador, Italy, Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, Albania, and Spain. As ambassador, he focused on human rights, economic development, and migration concerns.⁸²²
- **2014-African American U.S. ambassadors (Washington, D.C.)** total **148 out of 2,171** total ambassadors catalogued throughout U.S. history by the State Department Office of Historian and the American Foreign Service Association. At least forty of these African American ambassadors were appointed to multiple postings. Democratic Party presidents have appointed African American ambassadors 107 times, and Republican presidents have made 98 appointments. The majority of these appointments—127—have been to countries in Africa south of the Sahara Desert.⁸²³
- **2014-Eunice Reddick (Niger)** is appointed ambassador to Niger by **President Barack Obama** and, later President Donald Trump and remained in office until 2018.⁸²⁴
- **2015-Marcia S. Bernicat (Bangladesh)** is appointed ambassador to Bangladesh by **President Barack Obama** and remained in office until 2018. She speaks French, Hindi, and Russian.⁸²⁵
- **2015-Harry K. Thomas, Jr. (Zimbabwe)** is appointed ambassador to Zimbabwe by **President Barack Obama** and, later, **President Donald Trump** and remained in office until 2018.⁸²⁶
- **2015-Pamela Spratlen (Uzbekistan)** is appointed ambassador to Uzbekistan by **President Barack Obama** and, later, President Donald Trump and remained in office until 2018.⁸²⁷
- **2017-Todd R. Robinson (Venezuela)** is appointed ambassador to Venezuela by **President Donald Trump** and remains in office until 2018. In January 2018, he began working to obtain the release of U.S. citizen Joshua Holt from jail, who was released several days after Robinson was expelled from the country by **President Nicolas Maduro** in May 2020. He is a career diplomat at the rank of Minister Counselor.⁸²⁸
- **2017-Tuli Mushingi (Guinea-Bissau)** is appointed ambassador to Guinea-Bissau by President Donald Trump and remains in office as of 2020.⁸²⁹
- **2017-Tuli Mushingi (Senegal)** is appointed ambassador to Senegal by President Donald Trump and remains in office as of 2020.⁸³⁰
- **2018-Brian A. Nichols (Zimbabwe)** is appointed ambassador to Zimbabwe by **President Donald Trump** and remains in office as of 2020. During the 2020 George Floyd protests, the Zimbabwe government summoned him after **U.S. Security Advisor Robert C. O'Brien** called Zimbabwe a “foreign adversary” that encouraged violent protests.⁸³¹
- **2019-Eunice Reddick (Burundi)** is appointed Chargé d’Affaires to Burundi by **President Donald Trump** and remains in office as of 2020.⁸³²
- **2011-Jennifer Carroll (Florida)** is elected lieutenant governor of Florida and remained in office until 2013, making her the first black person, woman, and Trinidadian-American to hold this position. She previously served as a Republican member of the Florida House of Representatives from 2003 to 2011. She served in the U.S. Navy from 1979 until 1999 when she retired as a lieutenant commander. In 2016, she worked on the presidential campaign of **Donald Trump** and, in 2018, he appointed her to the American Battle Monuments Commission.⁸³³
- **2011-Keiffer Mitchell, Jr. (Maryland)** is elected to the Maryland House of Delegates and remained in office until 2015. He unsuccessfully ran for mayor of Baltimore against interim mayor **Sheila Dixon** in 2007.⁸³⁴
- **2011-Kamala Harris (California)** is elected attorney general of California and remained in office until 2017. She focused on anti-truancy efforts for school children, law enforcement accountability, LGBTQ rights, criminal

justice reform, and consumer protection. She faced criticism for tough-on-crime policies. She graduated from the University of California's Hastings College of Law and worked as a lawyer in various city offices before being elected the district attorney of San Francisco from 2003 to 2011.⁸³⁵

- **2015-Jenean Michelle Hampton (Kentucky)** is elected lieutenant governor of Kentucky, making her the first African American to hold statewide office in Kentucky and the third African American woman lieutenant governor of any U.S. state.⁸³⁶
- **2017-Ilhan Omar (Minnesota)** is elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives on the Democratic-Farmer-Labor ticket.⁸³⁷
- **2018-Stacey Yvonne Abrams (Georgia)** becomes the first African American female major-party gubernatorial nominee in the United States.⁸³⁸
- **2018-Juliana Stratton (Illinois)** is elected as the first African American lieutenant governor of Illinois.⁸³⁹
- **2018-Letitia James (New York)** is elected attorney general of New York, making her the first African American and the first woman elected to this role.⁸⁴⁰
- **2018-Sheila Oliver (New Jersey)** is elected lieutenant governor of New Jersey and remained in office as of 2020, making her the fourth African American lieutenant governor in the country (the first who is a Democrat). **Governor Phil Murphy** simultaneously appointed her commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs, a cabinet appointment. She previously served in the New Jersey General Assembly from 2004 to 2018, including serving as the speaker of the assembly from 2010 to 2014.⁸⁴¹
- **2019-Carolyn Stanford Taylor (Wisconsin)** is appointed superintendent of public instruction of Wisconsin by **Governor-elect Tony Evers** and she remained in office as of 2020, making her the first African American to serve in this role in Wisconsin. She worked as a teacher and principal for twenty years before she became the first black woman appointed assistant state superintendent (a position she held for seventeen years).⁸⁴²
- **2019-Keith Ellison (Minnesota)** is elected attorney general of Minnesota, making him the first African American elected to statewide office in Minnesota and the first Muslim in the U.S. elected to statewide office.⁸⁴³
- **2010-Stephen K. Benjamin (Columbia, SC)** is elected the first African American mayor of Columbia, South Carolina and remained in office as of 2020. As mayor, he has focused on job creation and reducing unemployment and increased training and community engagement for the police force. He served as the 76th president of the **United States Conference of Mayors** from 2018 to 2019.⁸⁴⁴
- **2010-Ludmya "Mia" Love (Saratoga Springs, UT)** is elected mayor of Saratoga Springs, Utah and remained in office until 2014, making her the first African American woman elected mayor in the state of Utah. She began her political career on the city council (2004-2001) after she worked at the community level. She saw the city through the Great Recession and overcame a \$3.5 million budget shortfall.⁸⁴⁵
- **2010-Kasim Reed (Atlanta, GA)** is elected mayor of Atlanta and remained in office until 2018. He served in the Georgia house from 1999 to 2003 and in the Georgia senate from 2003 to 2009. As mayor, he balanced the city budget by limiting employee pensions, allocated money to the police force and community centers in poor neighborhoods, and helped remove the Confederate flag from the state flag.⁸⁴⁶
- **2010-Stephanie Rawlings-Blake (Baltimore, MD)** is elected mayor of Baltimore and remained in office until 2016, making her the second woman to hold that office. She served as the 73rd president of the **United States Conference of Mayors** from 2015 to 2016, and she was the secretary of the **Democratic National Committee** from 2013 to 2017.⁸⁴⁷
- **2011-Vincent C. Gray (Washington, D.C.)** is elected mayor of Washington, D.C. and remained in office until 2015. As mayor, he instituted a furlough of District employees to save \$19 million, garnered controversy for hiring a large senior staff (including his former opponent **Sulaimon Brown** who

later alleged he was hired in exchange for attacking their opponent **Adrian Fenty** during the campaign), and was investigated for campaign finance violations. He also served on the Council of the District of Columbia (2005 to 2007, 2017 -) and was chair of the Council of the District of Columbia (2007 to 2011). He was appointed director of the Washington, D.C. Department of Human Services by **Mayor Sharon Pratt Kelly** in 1991.⁸⁴⁸

- **2011-Michael Hancock (Denver, CO)** is elected mayor of Denver and remained in office as of 2020, making him the city's second African American mayor after **Wellington Webb**. He served on the Denver City Council from 2003 to 2011, where he served as president from 2006 to 2008.⁸⁴⁹
- **2012-Kevin Johnson (Sacramento, CA and Atlanta, GA)** is elected the first vice president of the **National Conference of Black Mayors**. His tenure proved controversial as he fired the executive director **Vanessa Williams**, the NCBM filed for bankruptcy in 2014, and he founded a competing organization—the **African American Mayors Association**—that purchased the NCBM's assets and naming rights in 2016.⁸⁵⁰
- **2014-Chirlane Irene McCray (HM) (New York, NY)** becomes the first lady of New York City when her husband, **Bill de Blasio**, is elected mayor. She was a member of the **Combahee River Collective** in the 1970s while at Wellesley College, worked as a writer and editor, and was speechwriter for **New York Mayor David Dinkins**. As first lady, she chairs the Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City and leads ThriveNYC.⁸⁵¹
- **2014-The African American Mayors Association (AAMA) (Washington, D.C.)** is founded by **Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson** after his controversial tenure as president of the **National Conference of Black Mayors**, which ceased operation in 2016.⁸⁵² The founding board of trustees of the AAMA included:

Mayor Kevin Johnson, President (Sacramento, CA)

Mayor William Bell, First Vice President (Birmingham, AL)

Mayor Steve Benjamin, Second Vice President (Columbia, SC)

Mayor Michael Coleman (Columbus, OH)

Mayor Patrick Green, Treasurer (Normandy, MO)

Mayor William Johnson, Secretary (Holly Hill, SC)

Mayor Alvin Brown (Jacksonville, FL)

Mayor Ed Brown (St. Joseph, LA)

Mayor William V. Bell (Durham, NC)

Mayor Johnny Ford (HM) (Tuskegee, AL)

Mayor Oliver Gilbert (Miami Gardens, FL)

Mayor Cedric B. Glover (Shreveport, LA)

Mayor Sly James (Kansas City, MO)

Mayor Jacqueline Goodall (Forest Heights, MD)

Mayor John White (Ames, TX)

Mayor Tony Yarber (Jackson, MS)

Founding Executive Director: **Stephanie Mash Sykes**

- **2015-Muriel Bowser (Washington, D.C.)** is elected mayor of the District of Columbia and remained in office as of 2020, making her the second woman (after **Sharon Pratt Kelly**) and first woman reelected mayor of Washington, D.C. **William Lightfoot**, a former council member (1989-1997), chaired her campaign.⁸⁵³
- **2018-Keisha Lance Bottoms (Atlanta, GA)** is elected mayor of Atlanta, Georgia and remained in office as of 2020. A 1994 graduate of Georgia State University College of Law, she was elected to the Atlanta City Council in 2009 and served until 2013.⁸⁵⁴
- **2019-Lori Lightfoot (Chicago, IL)** is elected mayor of Chicago and remained in office as of 2020, making her the first openly gay African American woman elected mayor of a major city. A 1989 graduate of the University of Chicago Law School, she worked as an assistant U.S. attorney (1996-2002), was appointed the chief administrator of the Chicago Police Department Office of Professional Standards (2002-2004), and then worked in several other roles within city government.⁸⁵⁵



Lori Lightfoot

2020-Present

- **2020-Kamala Harris (Oakland, CA)**, on August 11, 2020, is announced by Democratic presidential candidate **Joe Biden** as his vice-presidential running mate for the 2020 presidential election, making her the first African American and south Asian American woman to run on a major party's presidential ticket.
- **2020-Black women (nationwide)** are currently 4.3% of all state legislators compared to 2.3% in 1999.⁸⁵⁶
- **2020-A black woman (nationwide)** has yet to serve as a governor anywhere in the United States.⁸⁵⁷
- **2020-Black women (nationwide)** serve as mayors in seven of the nation's 100 most populous cities compared to just one in 2014. These mayors include **Muriel Bowser**, Washington, D.C.; **Sharon Weston Broome**, Baton Rouge, LA; **Vi Alexander Lyles**, Charlotte, NC; **Keisha Lance Bottoms**, Atlanta, GA; **LaToya Cantrell**, New Orleans, LA; **London Breed**, San Francisco, CA; and **Lori Lightfoot**, Chicago, IL.⁸⁵⁸



Kamala Harris

BIBLIOGRAPHY

“Black Legislators in the Massachusetts General Court, 1867-Present,” State Library of Massachusetts, 2010.

Brown, Canter Jr. *Florida's Black Public Officials, 1867-1924*. Tuscaloosa: The University of Alabama Press, 1998.

Clay, William. *Just Permanent Interests: Black Americans in Congress, 1870-1991*. New York: Amistad Press, 1992.

Clemons, Michael, ed. *African Americans in Global Affairs: Contemporary Perspectives*. Boston: Northeastern University Press, 2010.

Colburn, David, and Jeffrey Adler, eds. *African-American Mayors: Race, Politics, and the American City*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2001.

Congressional Black Caucus. *Memories of the Past, Visions of the Future: The Congressional Black Caucus, 1971-1990*. Washington, D.C.: Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, 1990?

Foner, Eric. *Freedom's Lawmakers: A Directory of Black Officeholders During Reconstruction*. Louisiana State University Press, 1993.

Hamilton, Charles. *Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.: The Political Biography of an American Dilemma*. New York: Cooper Square Press, 2002.

Heywood, Linda, Allison Blakely, Charles Stith, and Joshua Yesnowitz. *African Americans in U.S. Foreign Policy: From the Era of Frederick Douglass to the Age of Obama*. Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 2015.

Kremer, Gary. *James Milton Turner and the Promise of America: The Public Life of a Post-Civil War Black Leader*. University of Missouri, 2020.

Lawson, Steven. *Black Ballots: Voting Rights in the South, 1944-1969*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1976.

Lawson, Steven. *In Pursuit of Power: Southern Blacks and Electoral Politics, 1965-1982*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1985.

Lawson, Steven. *Running for Freedom: Civil Rights and Black Politics in American Since 1941*. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley, 2014.

Lynch, Matthew, ed. *Before Obama: A Reappraisal of Black Reconstruction Era Politicians*. Praeger, 2012.

McCain Gill, Laverne. *African American Women in Congress: Forming and Transforming History*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1997.

Rivers, Christina. *The Congressional Black Caucus, Minority Voting Rights, and the U.S. Supreme Court*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2012.

Singh, Robert. *The Congressional Black Caucus: Racial Politics in the US Congress*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage, 1997.

United States Congress House Office of History and Preservation. *Black Americans in Congress, 1870-2007*. Washington, D.C.: United States Government Printing Office, 2008. <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/GPO-CDOC-108hdoc224/pdf/GPO-CDOC-108hdoc224.pdf>.

Walton, Hanes, Jr. and William H. Boone. "Black Political Parties: A Demographic Analysis." *Journal of Black Studies* 5, no. 1 (September 1974): 86-95.

Young, Darius J. "Henry S. Harmon: Pioneer African American Attorney in Reconstruction-era Florida." *The Florida Historical Quarterly* 85, no. 2 (Fall 2006): 177-196.

Young, Darius J. *Robert R. Church, Jr. and the African American Political Struggle*. Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2019.

ARCHIVAL COLLECTIONS

California

Oakland Public Library

African American Museum and Library at Oakland Oral History Collection. Oakland Public Library, Oakland, California. <http://www.oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/c87m0dcs/>. Includes interview with Maudelle Shirek.

Ronald V. Dellums Congressional Papers. Oakland Public Library, Oakland, California. <https://oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/c8w09c3w/admin/>.

University of California, Los Angeles

Diane E. Watson (HM) Papers, 1978-2011. University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California. <http://www.oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/c89k48nh/>.

University of California, San Francisco

Senator Diane E. Watson (HM) Papers, 1987-1996. University of California, San Francisco, Tobacco Control Archives, San Francisco, California. <http://www.oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/kt6w1015n8/>.

University of Southern California

Yvonne Brathwaite Burke (HM) Papers. Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California. <http://www.oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/kt8m3nf8hh/>.

Illinois

Chicago Historical Society

Arthur W. Mitchell papers, 1898-1968, bulk 1934-1942. Chicago Historical Society, Chicago, Illinois. <http://chsmmedia.org/media/fa/fa/M-M/MitchellArthur-inv.htm>.

Chicago History Museum

Visual Material Relating to Oscar Stanton De Priest. Chicago History Museum, Chicago, Illinois. <https://researchworks.oclc.org/archivegrid/collection/data/992441242>.

Chicago Public Library

Dewey Roscoe Jones Papers. Chicago Public Library, Chicago, Illinois. <https://www.chipublib.org/fa-dewey-roscoe-jones-papers/>.

Kansas

University of Kansas

Robert C. Caldwell Family Papers. University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas. <https://archives.lib.ku.edu/repositories/3/resources/5028>.

Louisiana

Louisiana State University

Burke E.A. Papers. Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. <https://www.lib.lsu.edu/sites/default/files/sc/findaid/0547m.pdf>.

Donna Brazile (HM) Papers. Louisiana State University Libraries Special Collections, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. This collection remains uncatalogued as of December 2020.

James B. Aswell Papers. Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. <https://www.lib.lsu.edu/sites/default/files/sc/findaid/1408.pdf>.

New Orleans Public Library

Mayor Marc H. Morial (HM) Papers. City Archives of New Orleans Public Library, New Orleans, Louisiana. <http://archives.nolalibrary.org/~nopl/ead/igr.htm>.

Tulane University

Arnold Hirsch Collection of Ernest N. "Dutch" Morial Oral History Interviews, 1987. Amistad Research Center, Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana.
<https://researchworks.oclc.org/archivegrid/collection/data/1099679349>.

Daisy Young (Mrs. Andrew Young, Sr.) Collection ca. 1951-ca.1977. Amistad Research Center, Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana.
<https://researchworks.oclc.org/archivegrid/collection/data/20387215>.

Edgar G. Brown Papers, 1936-1981. Amistad Research Center, Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana.
<http://amistadresearchcenter.tulane.edu/archon/?p=collections/findingaid&id=206&q=&rootcontentid=81568>.

Edward R. Dudley Papers, 1942-1973. Amistad Research Center, Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana.
<http://amistadresearchcenter.tulane.edu/archon/index.php?p=collections/controlcard&id=198>.

Ernest "Dutch" Morial Papers, 1929-1995. Amistad Research Center, Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana.
<http://amistadresearchcenter.tulane.edu/archon/?p=collections/findingaid&id=5&q=&rootcontentid=20783>.

George Washington Lee Papers, 1923-1968. Amistad Research Center, Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana.
<https://researchworks.oclc.org/archivegrid/collection/data/1038078539>.

Massachusetts

Boston University

Alfred P. Russell Collection, 1897-1978. Department of Special Collections, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts. http://archives.bu.edu/finding-aid/finding_aid_122695.pdf.

Harvard University

Papers of Pauli Murray, 1827-1985. Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe Institute; Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.
<https://hollisarchives.lib.harvard.edu/repositories/8/resources/4874>.

New York

New York Public Library

Barbara Mae Watson Papers, 1929-1984. New York Public Library, New York, New York.
<http://archives.nypl.org/scm/20813>

Franklin Williams Papers, 1917-1990. New York Public Library, New York, New York.
<https://researchworks.oclc.org/archivegrid/collection/data/122465909>.

Yvonne Brathwaite Burke Portrait Collection. New York Public Library, New York, New York.
<https://researchworks.oclc.org/archivegrid/collection/data/84672464>.

North Carolina

Duke University

Brenda Schoonover Papers, 1994-2008. Duke University, Durham, North Carolina.
<https://archives.lib.duke.edu/catalog/schoonoverbrenda>

James A. Joseph Papers, 1961-2004. Duke University, Durham, North Carolina.
<https://archives.lib.duke.edu/catalog/josephjames>.

Ohio

Oberlin College

Carl T. Rowan Papers, 1946-1992. Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio.
<https://researchworks.oclc.org/archivegrid/collection/data/29173409>.

Wright State University

Don L. Crawford Papers. Libraries Special Collections and Archives, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio.
<https://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/ms332.pdf>.

Oklahoma

University of Oklahoma

Edward Perkins (HM) Papers. Bizzell Memorial Library, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma. <https://researchworks.oclc.org/archivegrid/collection/data/1137549858>.

Tennessee

Fisk University

John Mercer Langston Papers, 1846-1930. Library and Media Center, Special Collections, Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee.

<https://researchworks.oclc.org/archivegrid/collection/data/70972586>.

William Levi Dawson Papers, 1938-1970. Library and Media Center, Special Collections, Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee.

<https://researchworks.oclc.org/archivegrid/collection/data/70971640>.

Texas

Houston Public Library

1984 Texas Jackson-for-President Campaign Collection (Jesse Jackson). Houston Public Library, Houston, Texas. <https://legacy.lib.utexas.edu/taro/houpub/00068/hpub-00068.html>.

Virginia

Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training

Oral Histories of African American Ambassadors. Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training, National Foreign Affairs Training Center, Arlington, Virginia.

<https://adst.org/african-american-ambassadors/>.

Washington, D.C.

Howard University

Blanche Kelso Bruce Papers, 1870-1891. Moorland-Spingarn Research Center, Howard University, Washington, D.C.

<https://researchworks.oclc.org/archivegrid/collection/data/785137639>.

Congressional Black Caucus Preliminary Inventory. Moorland-Spingarn Research Center, Howard University, Washington, D.C. https://dh.howard.edu/finaid_manu/233/

John Mercer Langston Collection, 1870-1891. Moorland-Spingarn Research Center, Howard University, Washington, D.C.

<https://researchworks.oclc.org/archivegrid/collection/data/70941249>.

Mercer Cook Papers, 1890-1985. Moorland-Spingarn Research Center, Howard University, Washington, D.C.

<https://researchworks.oclc.org/archivegrid/collection/data/70939788>.

Library of Congress

Carl Thomas Rowan Papers, 1946-1991. National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
<https://researchworks.oclc.org/archivegrid/collection/data/28425366>.

Hugh H. Smythe and Mabel M. Smythe Papers. Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
https://www.loc.gov/folklife/civilrights/survey/view_collection.php?coll_id=3120.

W. Beverly Carter Papers. Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
<https://www.loc.gov/item/mm2011085604/>.

NAACP

The Papers of Clarence Mitchell, Jr. NAACP Washington Bureau Historical Papers, Washington, D.C. <https://www.clarencemitchellpapers.com>.

¹ Maria A. Day, "Mathias de Sousa," Archives of Maryland, accessed July 24, 2020, <https://msa.maryland.gov/megafile/msa/speccol/sc3500/sc3520/002800/002810/html/2810bio.html>; Felix Brenton, "Matthias de Sousa," Black Past, December 29, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/de-souza-matthias-circa-1642/>.

² Lindsay M. Chervinsky, "The Households of President John Adams," The White House Historical Association, last modified January 3, 2020, <https://www.whitehousehistory.org/the-households-of-john-adams>.

³ Euella A. Nielsen, "Wentworth Cheswell (1746-1817)," Black Past, June 9, 2019, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/people-african-american-history/wentworth-cheswell-1745-1817/>.

⁴ "Jefferson's Attitudes Toward Slavery," The Jefferson Monticello, accessed May 2020, <https://www.monticello.org/thomas-jefferson/jefferson-slavery/jefferson-s-attitudes-toward-slavery/>; "The Life of Sally Hemmings," The Jefferson Monticello, accessed May 2020, <https://www.monticello.org/sallyhemmings/>.

⁵ Noah Feldman, "James Madison's Lessons in Racism," *The New York Times*, October 28, 2017, <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/10/28/opinion/sunday/james-madison-racism.html>.

⁶ Audra D. S. Burch, "James Monroe Enslaved Hundreds. Their Descendants Still Live Next Door," *The New York Times*, July 7, 2019, <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/07/07/us/politics/monroe-slavery-highland.html>; Matthew Costello, "The Enslaved Households of President James Monroe," The White House Historical Association, last modified February, 25, 2020, <https://www.whitehousehistory.org/the-enslaved-households-of-president-james-monroe>.

⁷ Lindsay M. Chervinsky and Callie Hopkins, "The Enslaved Household of President John Quincy Adams," The White House Historical Society, last modified January 3, 2020, <https://www.whitehousehistory.org/the-enslaved-household-of-john-quincy-adams>.

⁸ "Ruffin's Decision in State v. Mann," North Carolina State University, accessed May 2020, <https://cwnc.omeka.chass.ncsu.edu/exhibits/show/thomas-ruffins-decision/ruffins-decision/ruffins-decision>.

⁹ "Alexander Twilight," Wikipedia, accessed June 6, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander_Twilight; Kari J. Winter, "Alexander Twilight (1795-1857)," BlackPast, January 17, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/twilight-alexander-1795-1857/>.

¹⁰ "Alexander Twilight: The First African-American to Earn a Baccalaureate Degree from an American College or University," VCU Libraries Social Welfare History Project, accessed July 28, 2020, <https://socialwelfare.library.vcu.edu/religious/twilight-alexander-1795-1857-early-african-american-educator-minister-and-politician/>; Angel Sloss, "Twilight, Alexander," in Benjamin A. Lawson, ed., *Race and Ethnicity in America: From Pre-contact to the Present* (New York: ABC-CLIO, 2019), 205.

¹¹ Matthew Costello, "The Enslaved Households of President John Tyler," The White House Historical Society, last modified January 3, 2020, <https://www.whitehousehistory.org/the-enslaved-households-of-president-john-tyler>.

-
- ¹² Lina Mann, "The Enslaved Households of President James K. Polk," The White House Historical Society, last modified January 3, 2020, <https://www.whitehousehistory.org/the-enslaved-households-of-james-k-polk>.
- ¹³ Sarah Fling, "The Enslaved Households of President Zachary Taylor," The White House Historical Society, last modified December 9, 2019, <https://www.whitehousehistory.org/the-enslaved-households-of-president-zachary-taylor>.
- ¹⁴ Guy M. Washington, "William Alexander Leidesdorff (1810-1848)," Black Past, January 26, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/leidesdorff-william-alexander-1810-1848/>.
- ¹⁵ Kat Eschner, "President James Buchanan Directly Influenced the Outcome of the Dred Scott Decision," *Smithsonian Magazine*, March 6, 2017, <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/president-james-buchanan-directly-influenced-outcome-dred-scott-decision-180962329/>.
- ¹⁶ Aaron Gordon, "Remember that Time Abraham Lincoln Tried to get the Slaves to Leave America?," *Pacific Standard Magazine*, last modified May 3, 2017, <https://psmag.com/news/remember-that-time-abraham-lincoln-tried-to-get-the-slaves-to-leave-america-55802>.
- ¹⁷ "Andrew Johnson," History Channel, last modified August 21, 2018, <https://www.history.com/topics/us-presidents/andrew-johnson>.
- ¹⁸ Joan Waugh, "Ulysses S. Grant: Impact and Legacy," Miller Center University of Virginia, accessed May 2020, <https://millercenter.org/president/grant/impact-and-legacy>; "Knowing the Presidents: Ulysses S. Grant," Smithsonian, accessed May 2020, <https://www.si.edu/spotlight/knowing-the-presidents-ulysses-s-grant>.
- ¹⁹ Smith, *Emancipation*, 5.
- ²⁰ Elizabeth Winter, "Robert Smalls (1839-1915)," Black Past, December 15, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/smalls-robert-1839-1915/>; "Smalls, Robert," United States House of Representatives, accessed August 12, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/21764>.
- ²¹ "Langston, John Mercer," History, Art & Archives United States House of Representatives, accessed May 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/16682>.
- ²² "Rainey, Joseph Hayne," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 27, 2020, [https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/R/RAINEY-Joseph-Hayne-\(R000016\)/](https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/R/RAINEY-Joseph-Hayne-(R000016)/).
- ²³ Christopher Teal, "Ebenezer D. Bassett (1833-1908)," Black Past, July 2, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/bassett-ebenezer-d-1833-1908/>.
- ²⁴ Victor Tolly, "Robert Carlos DeLarge (1842-1874)," Black Past, December 16, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/delarge-robert-carlos-1842-1874/>; "De Large, Robert," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 27, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12090>.
- ²⁵ Smith, *Emancipation*, 100; Ryan Hurst, "Edwin Garrison Walker (1830-1901)," Black Past, June 11, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/walker-edward-garrison-1831-1901/>.
- ²⁶ "Rainey, Joseph Hayne," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 27, 2020, [https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/R/RAINEY-Joseph-Hayne-\(R000016\)/](https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/R/RAINEY-Joseph-Hayne-(R000016)/).
- ²⁷ Victor Tolly, "Robert Carlos DeLarge (1842-1874)," Black Past, December 16, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/delarge-robert-carlos-1842-1874/>; "De Large, Robert," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 27, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12090>.
- ²⁸ Ryan Hurst, "Edwin Garrison Walker (1830-1901)," Black Past, June 11, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/walker-edward-garrison-1831-1901/>; "Aaron Alpeoria Bradley," Wikipedia, accessed June 25, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aaron_Alpeoria_Bradley; Keri Leigh Merritt, "Aaron Alpeoria Bradley and Black Power during Reconstruction," *Black Perspectives*, June 21, 2017, <https://www.aaihs.org/aaron-alpeoria-bradley-and-black-power-during-reconstruction/>; Smith, *Emancipation*, 193.
- ²⁹ Smith, *Emancipation*, 321.
- ³⁰ "William Henry Grey (1829-1888)," *Encyclopedia of Arkansas*, accessed July 8, 2020, <https://encyclopediaofarkansas.net/entries/william-henry-grey-5696/>; Judith Kilpatrick, "William H. Grey," *Arkansas Black Lawyers*, accessed July 8, 2020, <https://arkansasblacklawyers.uark.edu/lawyers/whgrey.html>.
- ³¹ Robert B. Elliott," Wikipedia, accessed July 9, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_B._Elliott.
- ³² Robert B. Elliott," Wikipedia, accessed July 9, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_B._Elliott.
- ³³ Smith, *Emancipation*, 194.
- ³⁴ Young, "Henry S. Harmon," 185; "Josiah T. Walls," Wikipedia, accessed July 7, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Josiah_T._Walls.
- ³⁵ "Stephen Atkins Swails," Wikipedia, accessed July 8, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stephen_Atkins_Swails; Audie Cornish, "Black Civil-War Solider Gets Overdue Honors," *National Public Radio*, November 1, 2006, <https://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=6417951>.
- ³⁶ Darius J. Young, "Henry S. Harmon: Pioneer African American Attorney in Reconstruction-era Florida," *The Florida Historical Quarterly* 85, no. 2 (Fall 2006): 184.
- ³⁷ "Original 33," Wikipedia, July 6, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Original_33.
- ³⁸ Euell A. Neilsen, "The Camilla Massacre (1868)," BlackPast, June 19, 2020, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/events-african-american-history/the-camilla-massacre-1868/>.

³⁹ Kaitlin Connolly, "Massachusetts Legislators: John James Smith," State Library of Massachusetts, March 4, 2013, <http://mastatelibrary.blogspot.com/2013/03/massachusetts-legislators-john-james.html>.

⁴⁰ Herbert G. Ruffin II, "Oscar J. Dunn (Ca. 1825-1871)," Black Past, February 21, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/dunn-oscar-j-ca-1825-1871/>.

⁴¹ Michel Fabre, "Pinchback, P. B. S.," In *Encyclopedia of African-American Culture and History*, 2nd ed., edited by Colin A. Palmer vol. 4 (Detroit, MI: Macmillan Reference USA, 2006), 1782; Victor Tolly, "Pinckney Benton Stewart Pinchback," Black Past, December 18, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/pinchback-pinckney-benton-stewart-1837-1921/>.

⁴² Victor Tolly, "Robert Carlos DeLarge (1842-1874)," Black Past, December 16, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/delarge-robert-carlos-1842-1874/>; "De Large, Robert," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 27, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12090>.

⁴³ Victor Tolly, "Robert Carlos DeLarge (1842-1874)," Black Past, December 16, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/delarge-robert-carlos-1842-1874/>; "De Large, Robert," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 27, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12090>.

⁴⁴ "Original 33," Wikipedia, July 6, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Original_33.

⁴⁵ "William Henry Grey (1829-1888)," Encyclopedia of Arkansas, accessed July 8, 2020, <https://encyclopediaofarkansas.net/entries/william-henry-grey-5696/>.

⁴⁶ "Long, Jefferson," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 27, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/17115>.

⁴⁷ Euell A. Nielsen, "Hiram Rhodes Revels (1827-1901)," Black Past, accessed July 8, 2020, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/revels-hiram-rhodes-1827-1901/>.

⁴⁸ "George Lewis Ruffin," Wikipedia, accessed July 8, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Lewis_Ruffin; "George Lewis Ruffin, Mass. State rep, district judge," The Bay State Banner, February 7, 2014, <https://www.baystatebanner.com/2014/02/07/george-lewis-ruffin-mass-state-rep-district-judge/>.

⁴⁹ "Josiah T. Walls," Wikipedia, accessed July 7, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Josiah_T._Walls.

⁵⁰ "John R. Lynch," Wikipedia, accessed July 8, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_R._Lynch; "Lynch, John Roy," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 8, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/17259>.

⁵¹ Stanley Turkel, *Heroes of the American Reconstruction: Profiles of Sixteen Educators, Politicians, and Activists* (Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Co., 2005), 34; "Blanche Bruce," Wikipedia, accessed July 16, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blanche_Bruce; Eric Foner, "Rise and Fall of the House of Bruce and How a Former Slave Built a Huge Fortune and How his Descendants Lost it," Washington Post, July 2, 2006, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/entertainment/books/2006/07/02/rise-and-fall-of-the-house-of-bruce-span-classbankheadhow-a-former-slave-built-a-huge-fortune-and-how-his-descendants-lost-itspan/b0385dec-1577-4f69-9b83-816f57a3248c/>.

⁵² "Oscar Dunn," Wikipedia, accessed July 24, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oscar_Dunn.

⁵³ "Turner, Benjamin Sterling," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 27, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/23140>.

⁵⁴ Euell A. Nielsen, "Pierre Caliste Landry (1841-1921)," Black Past, July 13, 2016, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/landry-pierre-caliste-1841-1921/>.

⁵⁵ "Stephen Atkins Swails," Wikipedia, accessed July 8, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stephen_Atkins_Swails.

⁵⁶ "Turner, Benjamin Sterling," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 27, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/23140>.

⁵⁷ Euell A. Nielsen, "Hiram Rhodes Revels (1827-1901)," Black Past, accessed July 8, 2020, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/revels-hiram-rhodes-1827-1901/>.

⁵⁸ Joseph Bernardo, "Robert Wood (1844-?)," Black Past, December 30, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/wood-robert-1844/>.

⁵⁹ "William B. Scott," School of Journalism and Electronic Media at the University of Tennessee Knoxville, accessed July 8, 2020, <https://jem.utk.edu/tn-newspaper-hall-of-fame/william-b-scott>.

⁶⁰ "Compromise of 1877," History Channel, last modified November 27, 2019, <https://www.history.com/topics/us-presidents/compromise-of-1877>; Ari Hoogenboom, "Rutherford B. Hayes and African-Americans," Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library and Museum, accessed June 2020, <https://www.rbhayes.org/hayes/rutherford-b.-hayes-and-african-americans-by-ari-hoogenboom/>.

⁶¹ "Long, Jefferson," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 27, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/17115>.

⁶² "Turner, Benjamin Sterling," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 27, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/23140>.

⁶³ Victor Tolly, "Robert Carlos DeLarge (1842-1874)," Black Past, December 16, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/delarge-robert-carlos-1842-1874/>; "De Large, Robert," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 27, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12090>.

⁶⁴ Robert B. Elliott," Wikipedia, accessed July 9, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_B._Elliott.

⁶⁵ Euell A. Nielsen, "Hiram Rhodes Revels (1827-1901)," Black Past, accessed July 8, 2020, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/revels-hiram-rhodes-1827-1901/>; "Revels, Hiram Rhodes," United States House of Representatives, accessed January 6, 2021, [https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/R/REVELS,-Hiram-Rhodes-\(R000166\)/](https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/R/REVELS,-Hiram-Rhodes-(R000166)/).

⁶⁶ "Elliott, Robert Brown," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 9, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12753>.

⁶⁷ "Long, Jefferson," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 27, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/17115>.

⁶⁸ "Josiah T. Walls," Wikipedia, accessed July 7, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Josiah_T._Walls.

⁶⁹ "John R. Lynch," Wikipedia, accessed July 8, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_R._Lynch; "Lynch, John Roy," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 8, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/17259>.

⁷⁰ Michel Fabre, "Pinchback, P. B. S," In *Encyclopedia of African-American Culture and History*, 2nd ed., edited by Colin A. Palmer vol. 4 (Detroit, MI: Macmillan Reference USA, 2006), 1782.

⁷¹ "Cain, Richard Harvey," United States House of Representatives, accessed August 12, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/10470>.

⁷² "Elliott, Robert Brown," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 9, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12753>.

⁷³ "Rainey, Joseph Hayne," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 27, 2020, [https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/R/RAINEY,-Joseph-Hayne-\(R000016\)/](https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/R/RAINEY,-Joseph-Hayne-(R000016)/).

⁷⁴ "John R. Lynch," Wikipedia, accessed July 8, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_R._Lynch; "Lynch, John Roy," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 8, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/17259>.

⁷⁵ "Blanche Bruce," Wikipedia, accessed July 16, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blanche_Bruce.

⁷⁶ Elizabeth Winter, "Robert Smalls (1839-1915)," Black Past, December 15, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/smalls-robert-1839-1915/>; "Smalls, Robert," United States House of Representatives, accessed August 12, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/21764>.

⁷⁷ "John R. Lynch," Wikipedia, accessed July 8, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_R._Lynch; "Lynch, John Roy," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 8, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/17259>.

⁷⁸ "Blanche Bruce," Wikipedia, accessed July 16, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blanche_Bruce.

⁷⁹ Gary Zellar, "James Milton Turner (1840-1915)," Black Past, January 30, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/turner-james-milton-1840-1915/>.

⁸⁰ Shirley Yee, "John Mercer Langston (1829-1897)," Black Past, October 1, 2017, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/langston-john-mercer-1829-1897/>.

⁸¹ Smith, *Emancipation*, 289. Cannot locate more specific information about him.

⁸² "Rainey, Joseph Hayne," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 27, 2020, [https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/R/RAINEY,-Joseph-Hayne-\(R000016\)/](https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/R/RAINEY,-Joseph-Hayne-(R000016)/).

⁸³ "Elliott, Robert Brown," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 9, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12753>.

⁸⁴ Victor Tolly, "Pinckney Benton Stewart Pinchback," Black Past, December 18, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/pinchback-pinckney-benton-stewart-1837-1921/>.

⁸⁵ Marcus B. Christian, "The Theory of the Poisoning of Oscar J. Dunn," *Phylong (1940-1956)*, vol 6, no. 3 (1945), pp 254-266.

⁸⁶ Young, "Henry S. Harmon," 187.

⁸⁷ Smith, *Emancipation*, 276.

⁸⁸ "John R. Lynch," Wikipedia, accessed July 8, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_R._Lynch; "Lynch, John Roy," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 8, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/17259>.

⁸⁹ Euell A. Nielsen, "Hiram Rhodes Revels (1827-1901)," Black Past, accessed July 8, 2020, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/revels-hiram-rhodes-1827-1901/>.

⁹⁰ "Lewis [Grant] Hayden," Notable Kentucky African Americans Database accessed July 7, 2020, <https://nkaa.uky.edu/nkaa/items/show/13>; "Lewis Hayden," Wikipedia, accessed July 7, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lewis_Hayden.

⁹¹ Euell A. Nielsen, "Pierre Caliste Landry (1841-1921)," Black Past, July 13, 2016, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/landry-pierre-caliste-1841-1921/>.

⁹² Robert B. Elliott," Wikipedia, accessed July 9, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_B._Elliott.

⁹³ Robert B. Elliott," Wikipedia, accessed July 9, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_B._Elliott.

⁹⁴ "Stephen Atkins Swails," Wikipedia, accessed July 8, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stephen_Atkins_Swails; Audie Cornish, "Black Civil-War Solider Gets Overdue Honors," National Public Radio, November 1, 2006, <https://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=6417951>.

⁹⁵ Stephanie Knight, "George Lewis Ruffin (1834-1886)," Black Past, accessed July 8, 2020, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/ruffin-george-lewis-1834a-1886/>.

⁹⁶ Richard White, "Ned Sherman: Early African-American Mayor," *New York Almanack*, March 12, 2018, <https://newyorkalmanack.com/2018/03/ned-sherman-early-african-american-mayor/>; "Edward Sherman," *Cleveland Historical Society*, accessed July 9, 2020, <https://tree.clevelandhistoricalsociety.com/getperson.php?personID=I464&tree=CHSTree01>.

⁹⁷ "James Garfield: The Great 'What If' President," *National Park Service*, last modified July 1, 2018, <https://www.nps.gov/articles/james-garfield-the-great-what-if-president.htm>.

⁹⁸ "Chester Alan Arthur," *Historical Society of the New York Courts*, accessed May 2020, <https://history.nycourts.gov/figure/chester-alan-arthur/>; "Chester A. Arthur," *Wikipedia*, accessed May 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chester_A._Arthur.

⁹⁹ Stanley Turkel, *Heroes of the American Reconstruction: Profiles of Sixteen Educators, Politicians, and Activists* (Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Co., 2005), 34; "Blanche Bruce," *Wikipedia*, accessed July 16, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blanche_Bruce.

¹⁰⁰ Stanley Turkel, *Heroes of the American Reconstruction: Profiles of Sixteen Educators, Politicians, and Activists* (Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Co., 2005), 42; "Blanche Bruce," *Wikipedia*, accessed July 16, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blanche_Bruce.

¹⁰¹ Shirley Yee, "John Mercer Langston (1829-1897)," *Black Past*, October 1, 2017, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/langston-john-mercator-1829-1897/>; "Langston, John Mercer," *United States House of Representatives*, accessed July 8, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/16682>.

¹⁰² "Henry P. Cheatham," *Wikipedia*, accessed August 6, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_P._Cheatham; "Cheatham, Henry Plummer," *United States House of Representatives*, accessed August 6, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/10878>.

¹⁰³ Shirley Yee, "Henry Highland Garnet (1815-1882)," *Black Past*, January 17, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/garnet-henry-highland-1815-1881/>.

¹⁰⁴ Austen Meek, "John Edward West Thompson (1855-1918)," *Black Past*, January 28, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/thompson-john-edward-west-1855-1918/>.

¹⁰⁵ Malik Simba, "Frederick Douglass (1817-1895)," *Black Past*, February 12, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/douglass-frederick-1817-1895/>.

¹⁰⁶ "White, George Henry," *United States House of Representatives*, accessed August 6, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/23657>.

¹⁰⁷ Ryan Hurst, "Edwin Garrison Walker (1830-1901)," *Black Past*, June 11, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/walker-edward-garrison-1831-1901/>.

¹⁰⁸ "John R. Lynch," *Wikipedia*, accessed July 8, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_R._Lynch; "Lynch, John Roy," *United States House of Representatives*, accessed July 8, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/17259>.

¹⁰⁹ Smith, *Emancipation*, 245.

¹¹⁰ "Edwin Archer Randolph," *Wikipedia*, accessed July 9, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edwin_Archer_Randolph; Smith, *Emancipation*, 225-6.

¹¹¹ "Edwin Archer Randolph," *Wikipedia*, accessed July 9, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edwin_Archer_Randolph; Smith, *Emancipation*, 225-6.

¹¹² "White, George Henry," *United States House of Representatives*, accessed August 6, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/23657>.

¹¹³ "Edward Duplex," *Wikipedia*, accessed July 9, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edward_Duplex; Joseph Bernardo, "Edward Park Duplex (1831-1900)," *Black Past*, November 26, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/edward-park-duplex-1831-1900/>.

¹¹⁴ "Knowing the Presidents: William McKinley," *Smithsonian*, accessed May 2020, <https://www.si.edu/spotlight/knowning-the-presidents-william-mckinley>.

¹¹⁵ David B. Wilkins, Elizabeth Chambliss, Lisa A. Jones, and Halie Adamson, "Harvard Law School Report on the State of Black Alumni, 1869-2000," *Harvard Law School Center on the Legal Profession*, 2002, 9.

¹¹⁶ Ryan Hurst, "Edwin Garrison Walker (1830-1901)," *Black Past*, June 11, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/walker-edward-garrison-1831-1901/>.

¹¹⁷ "Langston, John Mercer," *United States House of Representatives*, accessed July 8, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/16682>.

¹¹⁸ Willard B. Gatewood, Jr., "Edward A. Johnson," *Documenting the American South*, accessed July 29, 2020, <https://docsouth.unc.edu/church/johnson/bio.html>.

¹¹⁹ Smith, *Emancipation*, 197.

¹²⁰ "White, George Henry," *United States House of Representatives*, accessed August 6, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/23657>.

¹²¹ "Henry P. Cheatham," *Wikipedia*, accessed August 6, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_P._Cheatham; "Cheatham, Henry Plummer," *United States House of Representatives*, accessed August 6, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/10878>.

¹²² "Who is Judson Lyons," *Judson Lyons Society*, accessed June 2020, <http://www.judsonlyonsociety.com>.

¹²³ “William Ferguson,” Historic Elmwood Cemetery and Foundation, accessed July 7, 2020, <https://www.elmwoodhistoriccemetery.org/biographies/william-ferguson/>; “Legislator Details,” Michigan Legislative Biography, accessed July 9, 2020, <https://mdoe.state.mi.us/legislators/Legislator/LegislatorDetail/1204>.

¹²⁴ Smith, *Emancipation*, 464.

¹²⁵ Adam Fletcher Sasse, “A Biography of Silas Robbins,” North Omaha History, February 19, 2019, <https://northomahahistory.com/2019/02/19/a-biography-of-silas-robbins/>.

¹²⁶ Willard B. Gatewood, Jr., “Edward A. Johnson,” Documenting the American South, accessed July 29, 2020, <https://docsouth.unc.edu/church/johnson/bio.html>.

¹²⁷ Smith, *Emancipation*, 464.

¹²⁸ “De Priest, Oscar Stanton,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 6, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12155>.

¹²⁹ “Woodrow Wilson and Race in America,” PBS, accessed May 2020, <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/wilson-and-race-relations/>; “Woodrow Wilson,” Wikipedia, accessed May 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Woodrow_Wilson#Race_relations.

¹³⁰ Willard B. Gatewood, Jr., “Edward A. Johnson,” Documenting the American South, accessed July 29, 2020, <https://docsouth.unc.edu/church/johnson/bio.html>.

¹³¹ “Frederick Madison Roberts,” Wikipedia, accessed September 25, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frederick_Madison_Roberts.

¹³² “De Priest, Oscar Stanton,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 6, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12155>.

¹³³ “The Inventory of the Alfred P. Russell Collection,” Howard Gotlieb Archive Research Center, Boston University, http://archives.bu.edu/finding-aid/finding_aid_122695.pdf.

¹³⁴ “President Calvin Coolidge: Civil Rights Pioneer,” Calvin Coolidge Presidential Foundation, accessed May 2020, <https://www.coolidgefoundation.org/blog/president-calvin-coolidge-civil-rights-pioneer/>.

¹³⁵ Spencer Howard, “Desegregating the Commerce Department,” National Archives, last modified February 18, 2018, <https://hoover.blogs.archives.gov/2018/02/21/desegregating-the-commerce-department/>; “Herbert Hoover,” Wikipedia, accessed May 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herbert_Hoover.

¹³⁶ “William J. Thompkins,” Wikipedia, accessed August 6, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_J._Thompkins.

¹³⁷ “De Priest, Oscar Stanton,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 6, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12155>.

¹³⁸ Smith, *Emancipation*, 417-18.

¹³⁹ “J. Raymond Jones,” Wikipedia, accessed July 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J._Raymond_Jones.

¹⁴⁰ William E. Leuchtenburg, “Franklin D. Roosevelt: The American Franchise,” Miller Center University of Virginia, accessed May 2020, <https://millercenter.org/president/fdroosevelt/the-american-franchise>; “Franklin D. Roosevelt and Civil Rights,” Wikipedia, accessed May 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Franklin_D._Roosevelt_and_civil_rights.

¹⁴¹ Johanna Phillips, “Ambrose Caliver (1894-1962),” Black Past, February 12, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/caliver-ambrose-1894-1962/>.

¹⁴² Alys Beverton, “Crystal Bird Fauset (1894-1966),” Black Past, September 26, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/fauset-crystal-bird-1894-1965/>.

¹⁴³ Samantha Kealoha, “William Henry Hastie (1904-1976),” Black Past, April 15, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/hastie-william-henry-1904-1976/>; “William H. Hastie,” Wikipedia, accessed August 5, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_H._Hastie.

¹⁴⁴ “Henry A. Hunt,” Wikipedia, accessed August 6, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_A._Hunt.

¹⁴⁵ “Eugene Kinckle Jones,” Wikipedia, accessed August 6, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eugene_Kinckle_Jones.

¹⁴⁶ “Edgar G. Brown Papers, 1936-1981,” Amistad Research Center, accessed August 6, 2020, <http://amistadresearchcenter.tulane.edu/archon/?p=collections/findingaid&id=206&q=&rootcontentid=81568>.

¹⁴⁷ “Lawrence A. Oxley,” Wikipedia, accessed August 6, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lawrence_A._Oxley.

¹⁴⁸ “William J. Thompkins,” Wikipedia, accessed August 6, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_J._Thompkins.

¹⁴⁹ “Smith, Alfred Edgar, 1903-1986,” Civil Rights Digital Library, accessed August 6, 2020, http://crdl.usg.edu/people/s/smith_alfred_edgar_1903_1986/?Welcome; “Alfred Edgar Smith (1903-1986),” Encyclopedia of Arkansas, accessed August 6, 2020, <https://encyclopediaofarkansas.net/entries/alfred-edgar-smith-1766/>.

¹⁵⁰ “Robert C. Weaver,” Wikipedia, accessed August 6, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_C._Weaver.

¹⁵¹ “Dewey Roscoe Jones Papers,” Chicago Public Library, accessed August 6, 2020, <https://www.chipublib.org/fa-dewey-roscoe-jones-papers/>.

¹⁵² Alys Beverton, "Crystal Bird Fauset (1894-1966)," Black Past, September 26, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/fauset-crystal-bird-1894-1965/>.

¹⁵³ "Mitchell, Arthur Wergs," United States House of Representatives, accessed August 6, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/18340>.

¹⁵⁴ "William J. Thompkins," Wikipedia, accessed August 6, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_J._Thompkins.

¹⁵⁵ Keith A. Owens, "First black man to cast Electoral College ballot was a Detroit," Michigan Chronicle, December 2, 2016, <https://michiganchronicle.com/2016/12/02/first-black-man-to-cast-electoral-college-ballot-was-a-detroit/#/?playlistId=0&videoid=0>.

¹⁵⁶ "Mary McLeod Bethune," Wikipedia, accessed August 5, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mary_McLeod_Bethune#Black_Cabinet.

¹⁵⁷ Robert E. Weems, Jr., Robert E. Weems, and Lewis A. Randolph, *Business in Black and White: American Presidents and Black Entrepreneurs in the Twentieth Century* (New York: New York University Press, 2009), 38.

¹⁵⁸ Catherine Reef, *African Americans in the Military* (Facts on File, 2004), p. 40; "Roscoe C. Brown," The HistoryMakers, accessed August 6, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/roscoe-c-brown-39>.

¹⁵⁹ Carlton McLellan, "Lester Aglar Walton (1882-1965)," Black Past, February 23, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/walton-lester-aglar-1882-1965/>.

¹⁶⁰ "Harold E. Bledsoe '25," Detroit Mercy Law, accessed July 9, 2020, <https://lawschool.udmercy.edu/alumni-giving/get-involved/bledsoe.php>; Smith, *Emancipation*, 459.

¹⁶¹ "Hawkins, Augustus Freeman," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 31, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/14733>.

¹⁶² Smith, *Emancipation*, 330.

¹⁶³ Jimmy Fenison, "Charles W. Anderson, Jr. (1907-1960)," Black Past, March 28, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/anderson-charles-w-jr-1907-1960/>.

¹⁶⁴ Alys Beverton, "Crystal Bird Fauset (1894-1966)," Black Past, September 26, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/fauset-crystal-bird-1894-1965/>.

¹⁶⁵ "Nix, Robert Nelson Cornelius, Sr.," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 31, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/18971>.

¹⁶⁶ "Dawson, William Levi," United States House of Representatives, accessed August 5, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12028>; "William L. Dawson," Wikipedia, accessed August 5, 2020, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_L._Dawson_\(politician\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_L._Dawson_(politician)).

¹⁶⁷ "Harry S. Truman and Civil Rights," Harry S. Truman Library and Museum, accessed May 2020, <https://www.trumanlibrary.gov/education/presidential-inquiries/harry-s-truman-and-civil-rights>; "President Truman and Civil Rights," The White House Historical Association, accessed May 2020, <https://www.whitehousehistory.org/president-truman-and-civil-rights>; "Truman and the Civil Rights Movement," National Park Service, accessed May 2020, <https://www.nps.gov/hstr/planyourvisit/upload/Truman-and-civil-rights.pdf>.

¹⁶⁸ Samantha Kealoha, "William Henry Hastie (1904-1976)," Black Past, April 15, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/hastie-william-henry-1904-1976/>.

¹⁶⁹ Alys Beverton, "Crystal Bird Fauset (1894-1966)," Black Past, September 26, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/fauset-crystal-bird-1894-1965/>.

¹⁷⁰ "Dawson, William Levi," United States House of Representatives, accessed August 5, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12028>; "William L. Dawson," Wikipedia, accessed August 5, 2020, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_L._Dawson_\(politician\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_L._Dawson_(politician)).

¹⁷¹ "Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.," Wikipedia, accessed July 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adam_Clayton_Powell_Jr.

¹⁷² "Maceo W. Hubbard, Rights Activist," Daily Press, July 23, 1991, <https://www.dailypress.com/news/dp-xpm-19910723-1991-07-23-9107230057-story.html>; Smith, *Emancipation*, 187n.322.

¹⁷³ "Maceo W. Hubbard, Rights Activist," Daily Press, July 23, 1991, <https://www.dailypress.com/news/dp-xpm-19910723-1991-07-23-9107230057-story.html>; Smith, *Emancipation*, 187.

¹⁷⁴ Carlton McLellan, "America's Ambassadors of African Descent: A Brief History," *The Journal of Pan African Studies* 8, no. 1 (June 2015): 66.

¹⁷⁵ Carlton McLellan, "Edward Richard Dudley (1911-2005)," Black Past, April 1, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/dudley-edward-richard-1911-2005/>.

¹⁷⁶ Samantha Kealoha, "William Henry Hastie (1904-1976)," Black Past, April 15, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/hastie-william-henry-1904-1976/>.

¹⁷⁷ Carlton McLellan, "Jessie Dwight Locker (1891-1955)," Black Past, April 1, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/locker-jessie-dwight-1891-1955/>.

¹⁷⁸ "Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.," Wikipedia, accessed July 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adam_Clayton_Powell_Jr.

-
- ¹⁷⁹ "Robert C. Weaver," Wikipedia, accessed August 6, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_C._Weaver.
- ¹⁸⁰ Amy Brown, "Archibald J. Carey, Jr. (1908-1981)," Black Past, April 12, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/carey-archibald-1908-1981/>; "LISTEN: Rare Recording of '52 Speech that King Drew From," National Public Radio, August 28, 2013, <https://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2013/08/28/216466421/listen-rare-recording-of-52-speech-that-king-drew-from>; "Archibald Carey, Jr.," Wikipedia, accessed August 6, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Archibald_Carey_Jr.#'Let_Freedom_Ring".
- ¹⁸¹ "The Struggle for Civil Rights," UVA Miller Center, accessed June 2020, <https://millercenter.org/the-presidency/educational-resources/age-of-eisenhower/struggle-civil-rights>.
- ¹⁸² "Edith S. Sampson," Wikipedia, accessed June 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edith_S._Sampson.
- ¹⁸³ Amy Brown, "Archibald J. Carey, Jr. (1908-1981)," Black Past, April 12, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/carey-archibald-1908-1981/>; "LISTEN: Rare Recording of '52 Speech that King Drew From," National Public Radio, August 28, 2013, <https://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2013/08/28/216466421/listen-rare-recording-of-52-speech-that-king-drew-from>; "Archibald Carey, Jr.," Wikipedia, accessed August 6, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Archibald_Carey_Jr.#'Let_Freedom_Ring".
- ¹⁸⁴ "J. Earnest Wilkins, Sr.," Wikipedia, accessed June 26, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J._Earnest_Wilkins_Sr.; Aden Halpern, "J. Earnest Wilkins, Sr.: A Legacy of Labor and Civil Rights Advocacy," U.S. Department of Labor, March 28, 2019, <https://www.state.gov/j-ernest-wilkins-sr-a-legacy-of-labor-and-civil-rights-advocacy/>.
- ¹⁸⁵ "Diggs, Charles Coles, Jr.," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 30, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12254>.
- ¹⁸⁶ Barret Kaubisch, "Charles Diggs (1922-1998)," Black Past, December 16, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/diggs-charles-1922-1998/>.
- ¹⁸⁷ Amy Brown, "Archibald J. Carey, Jr. (1908-1981)," Black Past, April 12, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/carey-archibald-1908-1981/>; "LISTEN: Rare Recording of '52 Speech that King Drew From," National Public Radio, August 28, 2013, <https://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2013/08/28/216466421/listen-rare-recording-of-52-speech-that-king-drew-from>; "Archibald Carey, Jr.," Wikipedia, accessed August 6, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Archibald_Carey_Jr.#'Let_Freedom_Ring".
- ¹⁸⁸ "J. Earnest Wilkins, Sr.," Wikipedia, accessed June 26, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J._Earnest_Wilkins_Sr.; Aden Halpern, "J. Earnest Wilkins, Sr.: A Legacy of Labor and Civil Rights Advocacy," U.S. Department of Labor, March 28, 2019, <https://www.state.gov/j-ernest-wilkins-sr-a-legacy-of-labor-and-civil-rights-advocacy/>.
- ¹⁸⁹ "Nix, Robert Nelson Cornelius, Sr.," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 31, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/18971>.
- ¹⁹⁰ Jimmy Fenison, "Charles W. Anderson, Jr. (1907-1960)," Black Past, March 28, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/anderson-charles-w-jr-1907-1960/>.
- ¹⁹¹ McLellan, "America's Ambassadors of African Descent," 66.
- ¹⁹² Carlton McLellan, "Jessie Dwight Locker (1891-1955)," Black Past, April 1, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/locker-jessie-dwight-1891-1955/>.
- ¹⁹³ Carlton McLellan, "Richard Lee Jones (1893-1975)," Black Past, April 3, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/jones-richard-lee-1893-1975/>.
- ¹⁹⁴ Susan Griffith, "Clifton Reginald Wharton, Sr. (1899-1990)," Black Past, March 12, 2012, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/wharton-sr-clifton-reginald-1899-1990/>.
- ¹⁹⁵ Carlton McLellan, "John Howard Morrow (1910-2000)," Black Past, April 13, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/morrow-john-howard-1910-2000/>.
- ¹⁹⁶ "Diggs, Charles Coles, Jr.," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 30, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12254>.
- ¹⁹⁷ Victoria W. Wolcott, "Cora Mae Brown (1914-1972)," Black Past, January 19, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/brown-cora-mae-1914-1972/>.
- ¹⁹⁸ "Robert C. Weaver," Wikipedia, accessed August 6, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_C._Weaver.
- ¹⁹⁹ "Ivan Warner," Wikipedia, accessed July 22, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ivan_Warner.
- ²⁰⁰ "Verda Welcome," Wikipedia, accessed July 29, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Verda_Welcome; Paul McCardell, "Verda Freeman Welcome," Baltimore Sun, February 16, 2007, <https://www.baltimoresun.com/features/black-history-welcome-story.html>.
- ²⁰¹ David Bernstein, "Daley vs. Daley," Chicago Magazine, September 10, 2008, <https://www.chicagomag.com/Chicago-Magazine/September-2008/Daley-vs-Daley/index.php?cparticle=4&siarticle=3&requiressl=true>.
- ²⁰² "Thomas, Judge Lawson E." The Black Archives History and Research Foundation of South Florida, Inc., accessed June 2020, <http://www.theblackarchives.org/archon/?p=digitallibrary/digitalcontent&id=101>.
- ²⁰³ "Julian Steele," Wikipedia, accessed August 28, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julian_Steele.

²⁰⁴ “Collins, George Washington,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 30, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/11250>.

²⁰⁵ “Floyd J. McCree,” Wikipedia, accessed July 16, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Floyd_J._McCree.

²⁰⁶ “Vel Phillips,” Wikipedia, accessed August 11, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vel_Phillips; “A Brief Biography of Vel Phillips,” Wisconsin Historical Society, accessed August 11, 2020, <https://www.wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Article/CS4384>.

²⁰⁷ Victoria W. Wolcott, “Cora Mae Brown (1914-1972),” Black Past, January 19, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/brown-cora-mae-1914-1972/>.

²⁰⁸ “Clay, William Lacy, Sr.,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 30, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail?id=11058>.

²⁰⁹ “Nixon’s Record on Civil Rights,” Richard Nixon Foundation and Library, August 4, 2017, <https://www.nixonfoundation.org/2017/08/nixons-record-civil-rights-2/>.

²¹⁰ “Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.,” Wikipedia, accessed July 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adam_Clayton_Powell_Jr.

²¹¹ “Hawkins, Augustus Freeman,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 31, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/14733>.

²¹² “Patricia Roberts Harris,” Wikipedia, accessed August 5, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patricia_Roberts_Harris; Victor Okocha, “Patricia Roberts Harris (1924-1985),” Black Past, March 19, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/harris-patricia-roberts-1924-1985/>.

²¹³ Phyllis Fletcher, “Carl T. Rowan (1925-2000),” Black Past, November 26, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/rowan-carl-t-1925-2000/>.

²¹⁴ “Patricia Roberts Harris,” Wikipedia, accessed August 5, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patricia_Roberts_Harris; Victor Okocha, “Patricia Roberts Harris (1924-1985),” Black Past, March 19, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/harris-patricia-roberts-1924-1985/>.

²¹⁵ “Aileen Hernandez,” Wikipedia, accessed July 29, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aileen_Hernandez.

²¹⁶ “Conyers, John, Jr.,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 30, 2020, [https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/C/CONYERS,-John,-Jr--\(C000714\)/](https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/C/CONYERS,-John,-Jr--(C000714)/).

²¹⁷ “Conyers, John, Jr.,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 30, 2020, [https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/C/CONYERS,-John,-Jr--\(C000714\)/](https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/C/CONYERS,-John,-Jr--(C000714)/).

²¹⁸ “Voting Rights Act,” Avoice, accessed July 29, 2020, <http://www.avoiconline.org/voting/history.html>.

²¹⁹ “Robert C. Weaver,” Wikipedia, accessed August 6, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_C._Weaver.

²²⁰ Douglas Martin, “Edward W. Brooke III, 95, Senate Pioneer, Is Dead,” New York Times, January 3, 2015, <https://www.nytimes.com/2015/01/04/us/edward-brooke-pioneering-us-senator-in-massachusetts-dies-at-95.html>.

²²¹ “The Honorable Richard Hatcher,” The HistoryMakers, accessed July 16, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-richard-hatcher>; Trevor Goodloe, “Richard G. Hatcher (1933-2019),” Black Past, March 23, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/hatcher-richard-g-1933/>.

²²² “A.J. Cooper, Jr.” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 3, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/j-cooper-jr>.

²²³ Joyceann Gray, “Barbara Mae Watson (1918-1983),” Black Past, January 23, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/watson-barbara-mae-1918-1983/>.

²²⁴ *Black Women in American Politics, 2019*, Higher Heights Leadership Fund, Center for American Women and Politics, and Rutgers Eagleton Institute of Politics, accessed July 17, 2020, <https://cawp.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/resources/black-women-politics-2019.pdf>; “Shirley Chisholm,” Wikipedia, accessed July 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shirley_Chisholm.

²²⁵ “Louis Stokes,” Wikipedia, accessed July 16, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louis_Stokes; “Stokes, Louis,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 16, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/22311>.

²²⁶ “Bill Clay,” Wikipedia, accessed July 30, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Clay.

²²⁷ “Elizabeth Duncan Koontz,” Wikipeida, accessed July 29, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elizabeth_Duncan_Koontz.

²²⁸ Ayodale Braimah, “George Haley (1925-),” Black Past, May 17, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/haley-george-1925-/>; “George Haley,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 27, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/george-haley-38>.

²²⁹ “Our History,” Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, accessed July 28, 2020, <https://www.cbccfinc.org/learn-about-us/history/>; “Origins of the CBC,” Avoice, accessed July 28, 2020, <http://www.avoiconline.org/cbc/history.html>.

²³⁰ McLellan, “America’s Ambassadors of African Descent,” 66.

²³¹ Dwayne Mack, “Will Mercer Cook (1903-1987),” Black Past, February 24, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/cook-will-mercer-1903-1987/>.

²³² Susan Griffith, “Clifton Reginald Wharton, Sr. (1899-1990),” Black Past, March 12, 2012, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/wharton-sr-clifton-reginald-1899-1990/>.

- ²³³ Carlton McLellan, "John Howard Morrow (1910-2000)," Black Past, April 13, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/morrow-john-howard-1910-2000/>.
- ²³⁴ McLellan, "America's Ambassadors of African Descent," 66.
- ²³⁵ Phyllis Fletcher, "Carl T. Rowan (1925-2000)," Black Past, November 26, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/rowan-carl-t-1925-2000/>.
- ²³⁶ Dwayne Mack, "Will Mercer Cook (1903-1987)," Black Past, February 24, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/cook-will-mercer-1903-1987/>.
- ²³⁷ Austen Meek, "Clinton E. Knox (1908-1980)," Black Past, January 25, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/knox-clinton-e-1908-1980/>.
- ²³⁸ "Patricia Roberts Harris," Wikipedia, accessed August 5, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patricia_Roberts_Harris; Victor Okocha, "Patricia Roberts Harris (1924-1985)," Black Past, March 19, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/harris-patricia-roberts-1924-1985/>.
- ²³⁹ Robert Fikes, "Hugh Heyne Smythe (1913-1977)," Black Past, January 26, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/smythe-hugh-heyne-1913-1977/>.
- ²⁴⁰ Martin Schiesl, "Franklin Hall Williams (1917-1990)," Black Past, August 23, 2014, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/williams-franklin-hall-1917-1990/>.
- ²⁴¹ Dwayne Mack, "Elliot Percival Skinner (1924-2007)," Black Past, March 5, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/skinner-elliott-percival-1924-2007/>.
- ²⁴² Susan Bragg, "Arthur W. Lewis (1926-2019)," Black Past, March 22, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/lewis-arthur-w-1926/>.
- ²⁴³ Robert Fikes, "Hugh Heyne Smythe (1913-1977)," Black Past, January 26, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/smythe-hugh-heyne-1913-1977/>.
- ²⁴⁴ Amy Essington, "Samuel Clifford Adams, Jr. (1920-2001)," Black Past, May 29, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/adams-samuel-clifford-jr-1920-2001/>.
- ²⁴⁵ Austen Meek, "Clinton E. Knox (1908-1980)," Black Past, January 25, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/knox-clinton-e-1908-1980/>.
- ²⁴⁶ Charlotte Hinger, "Samuel Z. Westerfield (1920-1972)," Black Past, April 3, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/westerfield-samuel-z-1920-1972/>.
- ²⁴⁷ Marianne Hanson, "Terence A. Todman (1926-2014)," Black Past, September 7, 2014, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/todman-terence-1926-2014/>.
- ²⁴⁸ McLellan, "America's Ambassadors of African Descent," 66.
- ²⁴⁹ Tyson King-Meadows and Thomas F. Schaller, *Devolution and Black State Legislators: Challenges and Choices in the Twenty-first Century* (New York: State University of New York Press, 2012), chapter 7.
- ²⁵⁰ "Shirley Chisholm," National Park Service, accessed July 17, 2020, <https://www.nps.gov/people/shirley-chisholm.htm>; Dick Lee, "Harlem Dems Demand Negro for No. 2 Spot," Daily News (New York, NY), September 3, 1966, p. 33.
- ²⁵¹ "Edward Brooke," Wikipedia, accessed July 16, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edward_Brooke; "Nation: The Senate: An Individual Who Happens to be a Negro," Time Magazine, February 17, 1967, accessed July 16, 2020, <http://content.time.com/time/subscriber/printout/0,8816,839437,00.html>.
- ²⁵² "Ivan Warner," Wikipedia, accessed July 22, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ivan_Warner.
- ²⁵³ Douglas Martin, "Edward W. Brooke III, 95, Senate Pioneer, Is Dead," New York Times, January 3, 2015, <https://www.nytimes.com/2015/01/04/us/edward-brooke-pioneering-us-senator-in-massachusetts-dies-at-95.html>.
- ²⁵⁴ Neil Genzlinger, "Leroy Johnson, Barrier-Breaking Georgia Politician, Dies at 91," New York Times, October 25, 2019, <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/25/us/politics/leroy-johnson-barrier-breaking-georgia-politician-dies-at-91.html>.
- ²⁵⁵ "Carl Stokes," Wikipedia, accessed July 16, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carl_Stokes; "Carl B. Stokes," Ohio History Central, accessed July 16, 2020, https://ohiohistorycentral.org/w/Carl_B_Stokes.
- ²⁵⁶ "Verda Welcome," Wikipedia, accessed July 29, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Verda_Welcome; Paul McCardell, "Verda Freeman Welcome," Baltimore Sun, February 16, 2007, <https://www.baltimoresun.com/features/blackhistory-welcome-story.html>.
- ²⁵⁷ "Mitchell, Parren James," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 31, 2020, [https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/M/MITCHELL,-Parren-James-\(M000826\)/](https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/M/MITCHELL,-Parren-James-(M000826)/).
- ²⁵⁸ "The Honorable Mervyn M. Dymally," The HistoryMakers, accessed August 12, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-mervyn-m-dymally>; Abhinav Kaul, "Mervyn Dymally (1923-)," Black Past, December 18, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/dymally-mervyn-1923/>; "Dymally, Mervyn Malcolm," United States House of Representatives, accessed August 12, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12563>.
- ²⁵⁹ Alonzo Smith, "Tom Bradley (1917-1998)," Black Past, January 22, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/bradley-tom-1917-1998/>.

-
- ²⁶⁰ “Constance Baker Motley,” Wikipedia, accessed October 1, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constance_Baker_Motley.
- ²⁶¹ Ayodale Braimah, “George Haley (1925-),” Black Past, May 17, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/haley-george-1925/>; “George Haley,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 27, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/george-haley-38>.
- ²⁶² Angela Hornsby-Gutting, “Willie Brown, Jr. (1934-),” Black Past, February 24, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/brown-willie-lewis-jr-1934/>; “Willie Brown (politician),” Wikipedia, accessed July 28, 2020, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Willie_Brown_\(politician\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Willie_Brown_(politician)).
- ²⁶³ “Celebrating Black History Month in Washington,” NW Sidebar, accessed October 1, 2020, <https://nwsidebar.wsba.org/2016/02/17/black-history-month-washington/>.
- ²⁶⁴ “Harold Washington,” Wikipedia, accessed July 23, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harold_Washington.
- ²⁶⁵ Bunthay Cheam, “David N. Dinkins (1927-),” Black Past, April 8, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/dinkins-david-n-1927/>; “The Honorable David N. Dinkins,” The HistoryMakers, accessed July 29, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-david-n-dinkins>.
- ²⁶⁶ “Julian Bond,” Wikipedia, accessed July 29, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julian_Bond; “Howard Moore, Jr.,” The HistoryMakers, accessed July 14, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/howard-moore-jr>.
- ²⁶⁷ “Shirley Chisholm,” Wikipedia, accessed July 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shirley_Chisholm.
- ²⁶⁸ “Percy Sutton,” Wikipedia, accessed July 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Percy_Sutton.
- ²⁶⁹ “Coleman Young,” Wikipedia, accessed July 22, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coleman_Young.
- ²⁷⁰ Errin Jackson, “Yvonne Braithwaite Burke (1932-),” Black Past, April 8, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/burke-yvonne-braithwaite-1932/>; “Yvonne Braithwaite Burke,” Wikipedia, accessed August 11, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yvonne_Braithwaite_Burke#Terms_in_U.S._Congress.
- ²⁷¹ Katherine Anne Robinson, “Richard Newhouse, Jr., 1924-2002,” The Chicago Maroon, May 10, 2002, <https://www.chicagomaroon.com/2002/5/10/richard-newhouse-jr-1924-2002/>.
- ²⁷² “Barbara Jordan,” Wikipedia, accessed June 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barbara_Jordan.
- ²⁷³ “Basil A. Paterson,” Wikipedia, accessed July 24, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Basil_A._Paterson; Dwayne Mack, “Basil Alexander Paterson (1926-2014),” Black Past, August 22, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/paterson-basil-alexander-1926/>.
- ²⁷⁴ “CLBC History,” California Legislative Black Caucus, accessed September 25, 2020, <https://blackcaucus.legislature.ca.gov/members/history>.
- ²⁷⁵ Kenneth Robison, “Geraldine Washington Travis (1931-),” Black Past, August 15, 2018, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/travis-geraldine-washington-1931/>.
- ²⁷⁶ “Lena King Lee,” Wikipedia, accessed July 30, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lena_King_Lee.
- ²⁷⁷ “Rangel, Charles B.,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 31, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail?id=20144>.
- ²⁷⁸ Alonzo Smith, “Ernest Nathan Morial (1929-1989),” Black Past, January 22, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/morial-ernest-nathan-1929-1989/>.
- ²⁷⁹ Hanes Walton, Jr. and William H. Boone, “Black Political Parties: A Demographic Analysis,” *Journal of Black Studies* 5, no. 1 (September 1974): 88.
- ²⁸⁰ “Julian Steele,” Wikipedia, accessed August 28, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julian_Steele.
- ²⁸¹ “William Ferguson ‘Fergie’ Reid,” Wikipedia, accessed July 9, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Ferguson_Reid.
- ²⁸² “The Honorable L. Douglas Wilder,” The HistoryMakers, accessed June 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-l-douglas-wilder>; “The Honorable L. Douglas Wilder,” Howard University Office of the Secretary, accessed June 2020, <https://www.howard.edu/secretary/trustees/bios/wilder.htm>.
- ²⁸³ Nancy Cho, “Melvin Herbert Evans (1917-1984),” Black Past, June 30, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/evans-melvin-herbert-1917-1984/>; “Evans, Melvin Herbert,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 21, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12913>.
- ²⁸⁴ “Gang of Four,” Wikipedia, accessed July 17, 2020, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gang_of_Four_\(Harlem\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gang_of_Four_(Harlem)).
- ²⁸⁵ Carlton McLellan, “Edward Richard Dudley (1911-2005),” Black Past, April 1, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/dudley-edward-richard-1911-2005/>.
- ²⁸⁶ “Robert C. Henry,” Ohio History Central, accessed July 16, 2020, https://ohiohistorycentral.org/w/Robert_C._Henry; “Robert C. Henry,” Wikipedia, accessed July 16, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_C._Henry.
- ²⁸⁷ “Don L. Crawford,” Wikipedia, accessed July 16, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Don_L._Crawford.
- ²⁸⁸ “Collins, George Washington,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 30, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/11250>.

²⁸⁹ “The Honorable Richard Hatcher,” The HistoryMakers, accessed July 16, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-richard-hatcher>.

²⁹⁰ Alonzo Smith, “Tom Bradley (1917-1998),” Black Past, January 22, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/bradley-tom-1917-1998/>.

²⁹¹ Cade McNelly, “John Raymond Jones (1899-1991),” Black Past, April 3, 2017, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/jones-john-raymond-1899-1991/>.

²⁹² “Marion Barry,” Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marion_Barry.

²⁹³ “Constance Baker Motley,” Wikipedia, accessed October 1, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constance_Baker_Motley.

²⁹⁴ Alice Bonner, “From Poverty to World Peacemaker,” Washington Post, October 6, 1982, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/local/1982/10/06/from-poverty-to-world-peacemaker/a5e70ad2-855d-4592-aecf-de38c4798030/>. Committee member Jim Hudson provided the name of this law firm.

²⁹⁵ “Henry L. Marsh,” Wikipedia, accessed July 9, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_L._Marsh.

²⁹⁶ “Henry L. Marsh,” Wikipedia, accessed July 22, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_L._Marsh.

²⁹⁷ “Percy Sutton,” Wikipedia, accessed July 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Percy_Sutton; “Borough President,” Wikipedia, accessed July 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Borough_president.

²⁹⁸ Veronica Robinson, “John Burton, One of the First African American Mayors in Michigan,” Ypsilanti Gleanings, Winter 2008, accessed June 2020, <https://aadl.org/ypsiganings/19587>.

²⁹⁹ “Robert C. Henry,” Ohio History Central, accessed July 16, 2020, https://ohiohistorycentral.org/w/Robert_C._Henry.

³⁰⁰ Joe Lawlor, “Flint Made Civil Rights History 40 Years Ago,” Michigan Live, last modified April 5, 2019, https://www.mlive.com/flintjournal/newsnow/2008/02/flint_made_civil_rights_histor.html.

³⁰¹ “Carl Stokes,” Wikipedia, accessed July 16, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carl_Stokes; “Carl B. Stokes,” Ohio History Central, accessed July 16, 2020, https://ohiohistorycentral.org/w/Carl_B._Stokes.

³⁰² “The Honorable Richard Hatcher,” The HistoryMakers, accessed July 16, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-richard-hatcher>; Trevor Goodloe, “Richard G. Hatcher (1933-2019),” Black Past, March 23, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/hatcher-richard-g-1933/>.

³⁰³ “Matthew G. Carter,” Wikipedia, July 16, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matthew_G._Carter.

³⁰⁴ Sam Terry, “Luska Twyman: Kentucky’s First Black Mayor,” The Sentinel Echo, October 15, 2019, https://www.sentinel-echo.com/news/luska-twyman-kentucky-s-first-black-mayor/article_9bcd0266-6114-5ec9-948a-31b5e60a7548.html.

³⁰⁵ “Howard Nathaniel Lee,” Wikipedia, accessed July 16, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Howard_Nathaniel_Lee.

³⁰⁶ “Marvin S. Arrington, Sr.” Wikipedia, accessed July 23, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marvin_S._Arrington_Sr..

³⁰⁷ Don Gonyea, “The Civil Rights Stand of a Young Gerald Ford,” National Public Radio, July 14, 2013, <https://www.npr.org/2013/07/14/201946977/the-civil-rights-stand-of-a-young-gerald-ford>, “Black History Month,” the History Channel, last modified January 24, 2020, <https://www.history.com/topics/black-history/black-history-month>; “Black Americans,” For Library Museum, accessed May 2020, <https://www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov/library/document/factbook/black.htm>.

³⁰⁸ Ari Berman, “Op-Ed: How Jimmy Carter Championed Civil Rights,” Los Angeles Times, September 3, 2015, <https://www.latimes.com/opinion/op-ed/la-oe-0906-berman-carter-civil-rights-20150906-story.html>.

³⁰⁹ “Collins, George Washington,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 30, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/11250>.

³¹⁰ “Early History,” National Women’s Political Caucus, accessed July 17, 2020, <https://www.nwpc.org/about/>.

³¹¹ “Stokes, Louis,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 16, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/22311>.

³¹² “Rangel, Charles B.,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 31, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail?id=20144>.

³¹³ “Mitchell, Parren James,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 31, 2020, [https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/M/MITCHELL,-Parren-James-\(M000826\)/](https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/M/MITCHELL,-Parren-James-(M000826)/).

³¹⁴ “Fauntroy, Walker Edward,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 31, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/detail/13023>.

³¹⁵ Jimmy Elaine Wilkinson Meyer, “National Women’s Political Leadership Caucus,” in *Organizing Black America: An Encyclopedia of African American Associations*, ed. Nina Mjagkij (London: Taylor and Francis, 2003), 368-9.

³¹⁶ “Dellums, Ronald V.,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 30, 2020, [https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/D/DELLUMS,-Ronald-V--\(D000222\)/](https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/D/DELLUMS,-Ronald-V--(D000222)/).

³¹⁷ “Sallyanne Payton,” Wikipedia, accessed July 22, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sallyanne_Payton; Sharon Driscoll, “Sallyanne Payton: A Groundbreaking Legal Career,” *Stanford Lawyer*, Spring 2020, issue 102 (June 25, 2020), <https://law.stanford.edu/stanford-lawyer/articles/sallyanne-payton/>.

-
- ³¹⁸ “Ralph Metcalfe,” Wikipedia, accessed July 28, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ralph_Metcalfe.
- ³¹⁹ Nancy Cho, “Melvin Herbert Evans (1917-1984),” Black Past, June 30, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/evans-melvin-herbert-1917-1984/>; “Evans, Melvin Herbert,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 21, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12913>.
- ³²⁰ Errin Jackson, “Yvonne Braithwaite Burke (1932-),” Black Past, April 8, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/burke-yvonne-braithwaite-1932/>; “Yvonne Braithwaite Burke,” Wikipedia, accessed August 11, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yvonne_Braithwaite_Burke#Terms_in_U.S._Congress.
- ³²¹ “Barbara Jordan,” Wikipedia, accessed June 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barbara_Jordan; “Jordan, Barbara Charline,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 22, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/16031>.
- ³²² Jackson Landers, “‘Unbought and Unbossed’: When a Black Woman Ran for the White House,” *Smithsonian Magazine*, April 25, 2016, <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smithsonian-institution/unbought-and-unbossed-when-black-woman-ran-for-the-white-house-180958699/>.
- ³²³ “Gwendolyn Sawyer Cherry,” Gwen S. Cherry Black Women Lawyers Association, accessed July 17, 2020, <https://gscbwla.org/Gwendolyn-Sawyer>.
- ³²⁴ Sharon Driscoll, “Sallyanne Payton: A Groundbreaking Legal Career,” *Stanford Lawyer*, Spring 2020, issue 102 (June 25, 2020), <https://law.stanford.edu/stanford-lawyer/articles/sallyanne-payton/>.
- ³²⁵ Tiffany L. Pratt, “Togo D. West, Jr. (1942-),” Black Past, October 30, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/west-togo-d-jr-1942/>.
- ³²⁶ “Andrew Young,” Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andrew_Young; “The Honorable Andrew Young,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 4, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-andrew-young>.
- ³²⁷ Errin Jackson, “Yvonne Braithwaite Burke (1932-),” Black Past, April 8, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/burke-yvonne-braithwaite-1932/>; “Yvonne Braithwaite Burke,” Wikipedia, accessed August 11, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yvonne_Braithwaite_Burke#Terms_in_U.S._Congress.
- ³²⁸ Elizabeth Winter, “Cardiss Collins (1931-),” Black Past, December 15, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/collins-cardiss-1931/>.
- ³²⁹ Carlton McLellan, “America’s Ambassadors of African Descent: A Brief History,” *The Journal of Pan African Studies* 8, no. 1 (June 2015): 62.
- ³³⁰ “Jordan, Barbara Charline,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 22, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/16031>.
- ³³¹ “William Thaddeus Coleman, Jr.,” Wikipedia, accessed June 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Thaddeus_Coleman_Jr.
- ³³² Elwood Watson, “Harold Ford, Sr. (1945-),” Black Past, August 8, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/ford-harold-sr-1945/>; “Ford, Harold Eugene,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 12, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/13303>.
- ³³³ “Louis Stokes,” Wikipedia, accessed July 16, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louis_Stokes.
- ³³⁴ “Jordan, Barbara Charline,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 22, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/16031>.
- ³³⁵ “Our History,” Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, accessed July 28, 2020, <https://www.cbcfinc.org/learn-about-us/history/>.
- ³³⁶ Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, “CBCF Kicks off 40th Anniversary Honoring CMCF Founders and CBC,” Cision PR Newswire, February 23, 2016, <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/cbcf-kicks-off-40th-anniversary-honoring-cbcf-founders-and-cbc-300224822.html>.
- ³³⁷ “Shirley Chisholm,” Wikipedia, accessed July 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shirley_Chisholm.
- ³³⁸ Alonzo Smith, “Kurt L. Schmoke (1949-),” Black Past October 27, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/schmoke-kurt-l-1949/>; “The Honorable Kurt Schmoke,” The HistoryMakers, accessed July 27, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-kurt-schmoke>.
- ³³⁹ “Alexis Herman,” Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexis_Herman.
- ³⁴⁰ “Eleanor Holmes Norton,” Wikipedia, accessed July 29, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eleanor_Holmes_Norton.
- ³⁴¹ Allison Espiritu, “Hazel Rollins Reid O’Leary (1937-),” Black Past, March 19, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/o-leary-hazel-rollins-reid-1937/>; “The Honorable Hazel O’Leary,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 7, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-hazel-oleary>.
- ³⁴² “Patricia Roberts Harris,” Wikipedia, accessed August 5, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patricia_Roberts_Harris; Victor Okocha, “Patricia Roberts Harris (1924-1985),” Black Past, March 19, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/harris-patricia-roberts-1924-1985/>.

³⁴³ “Patricia Roberts Harris,” Wikipedia, accessed August 5, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patricia_Roberts_Harris; Victor Okocha, “Patricia Roberts Harris (1924-1985),” Black Past, March 19, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/harris-patricia-roberts-1924-1985/>.

³⁴⁴ “Gray, William Herbert, III,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 8, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/14072>; “William H. Gray III,” Wikipedia, accessed July 8, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_H._Gray_III.

³⁴⁵ Anthony Miles, “Ronald H. Brown (1941-1996),” Black Past, January 29, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/brown-ronald-h-1941-1996/>.

³⁴⁶ Nancy Cho, “Melvin Herbert Evans (1917-1984),” Black Past, June 30, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/evans-melvin-herbert-1917-1984/>; “Evans, Melvin Herbert,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 21, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12913>.

³⁴⁷ “Leland, George Thomas,” United State House of Representatives, accessed on August 12, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/16887>; Howard J. Jones, “Mickey Leland (1944-1989),” Black Past, February 12, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/leland-mickey-1944-1989/>.

³⁴⁸ Kevin Hodder, “Jerome Heartwell Holland (1916-1985),” Black Past, December 10, 2011, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/holland-jerome-heartwell-1916-1985/>.

³⁴⁹ Charlotte Hinger, “Clarence Clyde Ferguson, Jr. (1924-1983),” Black Past, May 6, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/ferguson-clarence-clyde-jr-1924-1983/>.

³⁵⁰ Linda Lewis, “Charles Joseph Nelson (1921-2011),” Black Past, May 6, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/nelson-charles-joseph-1921-2011/>.

³⁵¹ Minnie A. Collins, “John Edward Reinhardt (1920-),” Black Past, February 4, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/reinhardt-john-edward-1920/>.

³⁵² Herbert G. Ruffin II, “W. Beverly Carter (1921-1982),” Black Past, February 19, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/carter-w-beverly-1921-1982/>.

³⁵³ Angela Hornsby-Gutting, “Orison Rudolph Aggrey (1926-2016),” Black Past, July 24, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/aggrey-orison-rudolph-1926-2/>.

³⁵⁴ McLellan, “America’s Ambassadors of African Descent,” 66.

³⁵⁵ Robert Kikes, “David Benjamin Bolen (1923-),” Black Past, January 26, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/bolen-david-benjamin-1923/>; “Dave Bolen,” Wikipedia, accessed August 20, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dave_Bolen.

³⁵⁶ Teisha Wilson, “Theodore R. Britton, Jr. (1925-),” Black Past, June 2, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/britton-theodore-r-jr-1925/>; “The Honorable Theodore Britton, Jr.,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 20, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-theodore-britton-jr>.

³⁵⁷ Linda Lewis, “Charles A. James (1922-),” Black Past, May 20, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/james-charles-1922/>.

³⁵⁸ Chasity Cauthen, “Joseph Monroe Segars (1938-2014),” Black Past, June 1, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/segars-joseph-monroe-1938-2014/>; “Joseph Segars,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 26, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/joseph-segars-38>.

³⁵⁹ Georgia S. McDade, “Ronald DeWayne Palmer (1932-2014),” Black Past, January 9, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/palmer-ronald-dewayne-1932-2014/>.

³⁶⁰ McLellan, “America’s Ambassadors of African Descent,” 66.

³⁶¹ Angela Hornsby-Gutting, “Orison Rudolph Aggrey (1926-2016),” Black Past, July 24, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/aggrey-orison-rudolph-1926-2/>.

³⁶² Robert Kikes, “David Benjamin Bolen (1923-),” Black Past, January 26, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/bolen-david-benjamin-1923/>; “Dave Bolen,” Wikipedia, accessed August 20, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dave_Bolen.

³⁶³ Susan Bragg, “Wilbert J. LeMelle Sr. (1931-2003),” June 12, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/lemelle-wilbert-j-sr-1931-2003/>.

³⁶⁴ Robert Fikes, “Ulric St. Clair Haynes, Jr. (1931-),” Black Past, January 26, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/haynes-ulric-st-clair-jr-1931/>.

³⁶⁵ Elwood Watson, “Richard K. Fox (1925-),” Black Past, May 14, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/richard-k-fox-1925/>.

³⁶⁶ Matthew G. Washington, “William B. Jones (1928-),” Black Past, March 18, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/jones-william-b-1928/>.

³⁶⁷ Robert Fikes, “Mable Murphy Smythe-Haith (1918-2006),” Black Past, January 30, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/smythe-haith-mabel-murphy-1918-2006/>.

³⁶⁸ Herbert G. Ruffin II, “Maurice Darrow Bean (1928-2009),” Black Past, May 6, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/bean-maurice-darrow-1928-2009/>.

³⁶⁹ “Andrew Young,” Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andrew_Young; “The Honorable Andrew Young,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 4, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-andrew-young>.

³⁷⁰ Austen Meek, “Delano Eugene Lewis (1938-),” Black Past, January 28, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/ambassador-delano-eugene-lewis-1938/>.

³⁷¹ Joyceann Gray, “Anne Forrester Holloway (1941-2006),” Black Past, January 21, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/holloway-anne-forrester-1941-2006/>.

³⁷² Felicia Mack, “Horace G. Dawson (1926-),” Black Past, March 13, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/dawson-horace-g-1926/>; “The Honorable Horace G. Dawson,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 21, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-horace-g-dawson>.

³⁷³ Carlton McLellan, “Donald Franchot McHenry (1936-),” Black Past, January 26, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/mchenry-donald-franchot-1936/>.

³⁷⁴ “Gwendolyn Sawyer Cherry,” Gwen S. Cherry Black Women Lawyers Association, accessed July 17, 2020, <https://gscbwla.org/Gwendolyn-Sawyer>.

³⁷⁵ “Basil A. Paterson,” Wikipedia, accessed July 24, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Basil_A._Paterson; Dwayne Mack, “Basil Alexander Paterson (1926-2014),” Black Past, August 22, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/paterson-basil-alexander-1926/>.

³⁷⁶ “Jim Clyburn,” Wikipedia, accessed August 13, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jim_Clyburn; Cassandra Waggoner, “James Enos Clyburn (1940-),” Black Past, February 19, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/clyburn-james-enos-1940/>.

³⁷⁷ Elwood Watson, “Harold Ford, Sr. (1945-),” Black Past, August 8, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/wood-harold-sr-1945/>; “Ford, Harold Eugene,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 12, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/13303>.

³⁷⁸ “C. Delores Tucker,” Wikipedia, accessed July 29, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C._Delores_Tucker.

³⁷⁹ “Barbara Jordan,” Wikipedia, accessed June 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barbara_Jordan; “Jordan, Barbara Charline,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 22, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/16031>.

³⁸⁰ “Lois DeBerry,” Wikipedia, accessed August 10, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lois_DeBerry; Tyson King-Meadows and Thomas F. Schaller, *Devolution and Black State Legislators: Challenges and Choices in the Twenty-first Century* (New York: State University of New York Press, 2012), chapter 7.

³⁸¹ “Burriss, Roland,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 24, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/10429>.

³⁸² “Carson, Julia May,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 14, 2020, [https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/C/CARSON,-Julia-May-\(C000191\)/](https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/C/CARSON,-Julia-May-(C000191)/); Alys Beverton, “Julia May Porter Carson (1938-2007),” Black Past, November 8, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/carson-julia-1938-2007/>.

³⁸³ “The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 13, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-eddie-bernice-johnson>; Carla Garner, “Eddie Bernice Johnson (1935-),” Black Past, October 7, 2017, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/johnson-eddie-bernice-1935/>.

³⁸⁴ “Wellington Webb,” Wikipedia, accessed July 31, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wellington_Webb; “The Honorable Wellington Webb,” The HistoryMakers, accessed July 31, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-wellington-webb>.

³⁸⁵ “The Honorable Mervyn M. Dymally,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 12, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-mervyn-m-dymally>; Abhinav Kaul, “Mervyn Dymally (1923-),” Black Past, December 18, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/dymally-mervyn-1923/>; “Dymally, Mervyn Malcolm,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 12, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12563>.

³⁸⁶ “Maxine Waters,” Wikipedia, accessed August 5, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maxine_Waters; “The Honorable Maxine Waters,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 5, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-maxine-waters>.

³⁸⁷ “Wellington Webb,” Wikipedia, accessed July 31, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wellington_Webb; “The Honorable Wellington Webb,” The HistoryMakers, accessed July 31, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-wellington-webb>.

³⁸⁸ Nancy Cho, “Sanford Dixon Bishop, Jr. (1947-),” Black Past, June 10, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/bishop-sanford-dixon-jr-1947/>; “Sanford Bishop,” Wikipedia, accessed August 13, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sanford_Bishop.

³⁸⁹ “The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 13, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-eddie-bernice-johnson>; Carla Garner, “Eddie Bernice Johnson

(1935-),” Black Past, October 7, 2017, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/johnson-eddie-bernice-1935/>.

³⁹⁰ Tyson King-Meadows and Thomas F. Schaller, *Devolution and Black State Legislators: Challenges and Choices in the Twenty-first Century* (New York: State University of New York Press, 2012), chapter 7.

³⁹¹ “Howard Nathaniel Lee,” Wikipedia, accessed July 16, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Howard_Nathaniel_Lee.

³⁹² “Moseley Braun, Carol,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 24, 2020, [https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/M/MOSELEY-BRAUN,-Carol-\(M001025\)/](https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/M/MOSELEY-BRAUN,-Carol-(M001025)/).

³⁹³ “Burriss, Roland,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 24, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/10429>.

³⁹⁴ “Watson, Diane Edith,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 17, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/24171>; Errin Jackson, “Diane Edith Watson (1933-),” Black Past, July 3, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/watson-diane-edith-1933/>.

³⁹⁵ “Basil A. Paterson,” Wikipedia, accessed July 24, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Basil_A._Paterson; Dwayne Mack, “Basil Alexander Paterson (1926-2014),” Black Past, August 22, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/paterson-basil-alexander-1926/>.

³⁹⁶ “Vel Phillips,” Wikipedia, accessed August 11, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vel_Phillips.

³⁹⁷ Euell A. Nielsen, “Carolyn Jean Cheeks Kilpatrick (1945-),” January 31, 2019, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/congresswoman-carolyn-jean-cheeks-kilpatrick-1945/>.

³⁹⁸ “Black History Bits: Mayor A. Price Woodward,” The Community Voice, February 28, 2017, http://www.communityvoiceks.com/black-history-bits-mayor-a-price-woodard/article_c48f0c20-fdfd-11e6-a0b9-fb46a1033559.html.

³⁹⁹ “Guide to the Robert C. Caldwell Family Collection,” University of Kansas Libraries, accessed June 2020, <http://etext.ku.edu/view?docId=ksrlead/ksrl.kc.caldwellrobertc.xml>.

⁴⁰⁰ “Maynard Jackson,” Wikipedia, accessed July 22, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maynard_Jackson.

⁴⁰¹ “James H. McGee,” Wikipedia, accessed July 16, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_H._McGee; James Cummings, “Ex-Mayor Still Casts Impressive Shadow,” Dayton Daily News, February 22, 2013, <https://www.daytondailynews.com/lifestyles/holiday/mayor-still-casts-impressive-shadow/Qt7v3zeiwWgpPemqGyElxM/>.

⁴⁰² James Brooke, “Rev. Walter Taylor, Ex-Mayor in Jersey Led Drive for Rights,” New York Times, June 18, 1984, <https://www.nytimes.com/1984/06/18/obituaries/rev-walter-taylor-ex-mayor-in-jersey-led-drive-for-rights.html>.

⁴⁰³ “Eugene Sawyer,” Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eugene_Sawyer; “The Honorable Eugene Sawyer,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 4, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-eugene-sawyer>; Jorge Casuso, “Washington’s Undertaker Part of Civil Rights History,” Chicago Tribune, November 30, 1987, <https://www.chicagotribune.com/news/ct-xpm-1987-11-30-8703300089-story.html>.

⁴⁰⁴ “Marion Barry,” Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marion_Barry.

⁴⁰⁵ “The Honorable Johnny Ford,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 3, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-johnny-ford>.

⁴⁰⁶ “A.J. Cooper, Jr.” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 3, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/j-cooper-jr>.

⁴⁰⁷ “Clarence Lightner,” Wikipedia, accessed June 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clarence_Lightner.

⁴⁰⁸ “Coleman Young,” Wikipedia, accessed July 22, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coleman_Young.

⁴⁰⁹ “Maynard Jackson,” Wikipedia, accessed July 22, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maynard_Jackson.

⁴¹⁰ “Foley-Davis, Lelia Kasensia Smith,” Oklahoma Historical Society, accessed June 2020, <https://www.okhistory.org/publications/enc/entry.php?entry=F0001>.

⁴¹¹ “Founders,” National Conference of Black Mayors (archived website), accessed August 3, 2020, <https://web.archive.org/web/20140102143504/http://ncbm.org/founders.php#>; “National Conference of Black Mayors,” Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Conference_of_Black_Mayors.

⁴¹² Gerald Jaynes David, *Encyclopedia of African American Society* (Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 2005), 527.

⁴¹³ Terri Jo Ryan, “Oscar DuCongé,” Waco History, accessed June 2020, <https://wacohistory.org/items/show/120>.

⁴¹⁴ “Watson, Diane Edith,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 17, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/24171>; Errin Jackson, “Diane Edith Watson (1933-),” Black Past, July 3, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/watson-diane-edith-1933/>.

⁴¹⁵ “Marion Barry,” Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marion_Barry; “The Honorable Marion Barry,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 4, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-marion-barry>.

⁴¹⁶ "About the Conference," The United States Conference of Mayors, accessed July 16, 2020, <https://www.usmayors.org/the-conference/about/>.

⁴¹⁷ "The Honorable David S. Cunningham, Jr.," The HistoryMakers, accessed August 5, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-david-s-cunningham-jr>.

⁴¹⁸ "Unita Blackwell," Wikipedia, accessed August 5, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unita_Blackwell.

⁴¹⁹ "Henry L. Marsh," Wikipedia, accessed July 22, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_L._Marsh.

⁴²⁰ Alonzo Smith, "Ernest Nathan Morial (1929-1989)," Black Past, January 22, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/morial-ernest-nathan-1929-1989/>.

⁴²¹ Ryan Hurst, "Lionel Wilson (1915-1998)," Black Past, June 11, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/wilson-lionel-1915-1998/>.

⁴²² "Basil A. Paterson," Wikipedia, accessed July 24, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Basil_A._Paterson; Dwayne Mack, "Basil Alexander Paterson (1926-2014)," Black Past, August 22, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/paterson-basil-alexander-1926/>.

⁴²³ Dwayne Mack, "Norm Rice (1943-)," Black Past, August 18, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/rice-norm-1943/>.

⁴²⁴ Alton Hornsby, "Richard Arrington (1934-)," Black Past, July 20, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/arrington-richard-1934/>; "The Honorable Richard Ernest Arrington, Jr.," The HistoryMakers, accessed July 27, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-richard-ernest-arrington-jr>.

⁴²⁵ "Marion Barry," Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marion_Barry; "The Honorable Marion Barry," The HistoryMakers, accessed August 4, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-marion-barry>.

⁴²⁶ Ari Berman, "Op-Ed: How Jimmy Carter Championed Civil Right," Los Angeles Times, September 3, 2015, <https://www.latimes.com/opinion/op-ed/la-oe-0906-berman-carter-civil-rights-20150906-story.html>.

⁴²⁷ Errin Haines, "What was George H.W. Bush's Record on Race?," PBS, December 4, 2018, <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/what-was-george-h-w-bushs-record-on-race>.

⁴²⁸ Tiffany L. Pratt, "Togo D. West, Jr. (1942-)," Black Past, October 30, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/west-togo-d-jr-1942/>.

⁴²⁹ "Mitchell, Parren James," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 31, 2020, [https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/M/MITCHELL,-Parren-James-\(M000826\)/](https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/M/MITCHELL,-Parren-James-(M000826)/).

⁴³⁰ "Harold Washington," Wikipedia, accessed July 23, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harold_Washington.

⁴³¹ "Samuel Pierce," Wikipedia, accessed August 7, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samuel_Pierce; Carla Garner, "Samuel R. Pierce, Jr. (1922-2000)," Black Past, October 19, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/pierce-samuel-r-jr-1922-2000/>.

⁴³² "The Honorable Mervyn M. Dymally," The HistoryMakers, accessed August 12, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-mervyn-m-dymally>; Abhinav Kaul, "Mervyn Dymally (1923-)," Black Past, December 18, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/dymally-mervyn-1923/>; "Dymally, Mervyn Malcolm," United States House of Representatives, accessed August 12, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12563>.

⁴³³ "Savage, Gus," United States House of Representatives, accessed August 12, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/21235>; Nancy Cho, "Augustus Alexander 'Gus' Savage (1925-)," Black Past, March 26, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/savage-augustus-alexander-gus-1925/>; "Gus Savage," Wikipedia, accessed August 12, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gus_Savage.

⁴³⁴ "Dellums, Ronald V.," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 30, 2020, [https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/D/DELLUMS,-Ronald-V--\(D000222\)/](https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/D/DELLUMS,-Ronald-V--(D000222)/).

⁴³⁵ "Hayes, Charles Arthur," United States House of Representatives, accessed August 12, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/14760>; Marcus Wallace, "Charles Arthur Hayes (1918-1997)," Black Past, January 29, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/hayes-charles-arthur-1918-1997/>.

⁴³⁶ Jimmy Elaine Wilkinson Meyer, "National Women's Political Leadership Caucus," in *Organizing Black America: An Encyclopedia of African American Associations*, ed. Nina Mjagkij (London: Taylor and Francis, 2003), 368-9.

⁴³⁷ "Marion Barry," Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marion_Barry; "The Honorable Marion Barry," The HistoryMakers, accessed August 4, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-marion-barry>.

⁴³⁸ "Alexis Herman," Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexis_Herman.

⁴³⁹ "Gray, William Herbert, III," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 8, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/14072>; "William H. Gray III," Wikipedia, accessed July 8, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_H._Gray_III.

⁴⁴⁰ Gerald Jaynes David, *Encyclopedia of African American Society* (Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 2005), 587.

⁴⁴¹ "Our History," Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, accessed July 28, 2020, <https://www.cbccfinc.org/learn-about-us/history/>.

⁴⁴² “Louis Stokes,” Wikipedia, accessed July 16, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louis_Stokes.

⁴⁴³ Gerry Butler, “Colin Powell (1937-),” Black Past, accessed August 10, 2020, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/powell-colin-1937/>; “Colin Powell,” Wikipedia, accessed August 10, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colin_Powell.

⁴⁴⁴ “Mike Espy,” Wikipedia, accessed August 12, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mike_Espy; Bunthay Cheam, “Mike Espy (1953-),” Black Past, April 3, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/espy-mike-1953/>; “Espy, Alphonso Michael (Mike),” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 12, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12872>.

⁴⁴⁵ “Flake, Floyd Harold,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 12, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/13201>; Nancy Cho, “Floyd Harold Flake (1945-),” Black Past, February 28, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/flake-floyd-harold-1945/>.

⁴⁴⁶ Nancy Cho, “Kweisi Mfume (Frizzel Gray) (1948-),” Black Past, March 26, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/mfume-kweisi-1948/>.

⁴⁴⁷ “John Lewis (civil rights leader),” Wikipedia, accessed July 29, 2020, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Lewis_\(civil_rights_leader\)#U.S._House_of_Representatives](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Lewis_(civil_rights_leader)#U.S._House_of_Representatives).

⁴⁴⁸ “About Us,” Women in Government, accessed August 10, 2020, <https://www.womeningovernment.org/about-us>.

⁴⁴⁹ “Gray, William Herbert, III,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 8, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/14072>; “William H. Gray III,” Wikipedia, accessed July 8, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_H._Gray_III.

⁴⁵⁰ Carla Garner, “Louis Wade Sullivan (1933-),” Black Past, September 26, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/sullivan-louis-wade-1933/>; “Dr. Louis W. Sullivan,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 7, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/dr-louis-w-sullivan>.

⁴⁵¹ Anthony Miles, “Ronald H. Brown (1941-1996),” Black Past, January 29, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/brown-ronald-h-1941-1996/>.

⁴⁵² Gerry Butler, “Condoleezza Rice (1954-),” Black Past, April 20, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/rice-condoleezza-1954/>; “Condoleezza Rice,” Wikipedia, accessed August 10, 2020, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Condoleezza_Rice#National_Security_Advisor_\(2001-2005\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Condoleezza_Rice#National_Security_Advisor_(2001-2005)).

⁴⁵³ Gerry Butler, “Colin Powell (1937-),” Black Past, accessed August 10, 2020, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/powell-colin-1937/>; “Colin Powell,” Wikipedia, accessed August 10, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colin_Powell.

⁴⁵⁴ “Payne, Donald Milford,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 12, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/19459>; Allison O’Connor, “Donald Milford Payne (1934-2012),” Black Past, March 23, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/payne-donald-milford-1934/>.

⁴⁵⁵ Joyceann Gray, “Barbara Mae Watson (1918-1983),” Black Past, January 23, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/watson-barbara-mae-1918-1983/>.

⁴⁵⁶ Georgia S. McDade, “Walter Charles Carrington (1930-2020),” Black Past, February 14, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/carrington-walter-charles-1930/>.

⁴⁵⁷ McLellan, “America’s Ambassadors of African Descent,” 66.

⁴⁵⁸ McLellan, “America’s Ambassadors of African Descent,” 71.

⁴⁵⁹ Georgia S. McDade, “Ronald DeWayne Palmer (1932-2014),” Black Past, January 9, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/palmer-ronald-dewayne-1932-2014/>.

⁴⁶⁰ Matthew Washington, “Gerald E. Thomas (1929-),” Black Past, January 17, 2018, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/thomas-gerald-e-1929/>.

⁴⁶¹ Carlton McLellan, “John Andrew Burroughs, Jr. (1936-2014),” Black Past, March 14, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/burroughs-jr-john-andrew-1936-2014/>; “John A. Burroughs,” Association for Diplomatic Studies & Training, accessed August 25, 2020, <https://adst.org/2018/02/john-a-burroughs-from-tackling-with-the-philadelphia-eagles-to-tackling-equal-opportunity-at-the-state-department/>.

⁴⁶² Carlton McLellan, “Howard Kent Walker (1935-),” Black Past, March 13, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/walker-howard-kent-1935/>.

⁴⁶³ McLellan, “America’s Ambassadors of African Descent,” 72.

⁴⁶⁴ Nancy Cho, “Melvin Herbert Evans (1917-1984),” Black Past, June 30, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/evans-melvin-herbert-1917-1984/>; “Evans, Melvin Herbert,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 21, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12913>.

⁴⁶⁵ Susan Bragg, “Arthur W. Lewis (1926-2019),” Black Past, March 22, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/lewis-arthur-w-1926/>.

⁴⁶⁶ Lisa Tompkins Sa’adeh, “George E. Moose (1944-),” Black Past, June 15, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/moose-george-e-1944/>; “George Moose,” Wikipedia, accessed August 25, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Moose.

⁴⁶⁷ W. Gabriel Selassie I, "Irvin Hicks (1938-)," Black Past, March 24, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/hicks-irvin-1938/>.

⁴⁶⁸ Carlton McLellan, "Edward Joseph Perkins, Jr. (1928-)," Black Past, February 3, 2016, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/perkins-edward-joseph-jr-1928/>.

⁴⁶⁹ Minnie A. Collins, "Cynthia Shepard Perry (1928-)," Black Past, January 25, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/perry-cynthia-shepard-1928/>.

⁴⁷⁰ Georgia S. McDade, "Ronald DeWayne Palmer (1932-2014)," Black Past, January 9, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/palmer-ronald-dewayne-1932-2014/>.

⁴⁷¹ Lisa Tompkins Sa'adeh, "George E. Moose (1944-)," Black Past, June 15, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/moose-george-e-1944/>; "George Moose," Wikipedia, accessed August 25, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Moose.

⁴⁷² Carlton McLellan, "John Andrew Burroughs, Jr. (1936-2014)," Black Past, March 14, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/burroughs-jr-john-andrew-1936-2014/>; "John A. Burroughs," Association for Diplomatic Studies & Training, accessed August 25, 2020, <https://adst.org/2018/02/john-a-burroughs-from-tackling-with-the-philadelphia-eagles-to-tackling-equal-opportunity-at-the-state-department/>.

⁴⁷³ Matthew G. Washington, "Leonard H.O. Spearman (1929-2008)," Black Past, June 7, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/spearman-leonard-h-o-1929-2008/>.

⁴⁷⁴ Minnie A. Collins, "Cynthia Shepard Perry (1928-)," Black Past, January 25, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/perry-cynthia-shepard-1928/>.

⁴⁷⁵ Carlton McLellan, "Howard Kent Walker (1935-)," Black Past, March 13, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/walker-howard-kent-1935/>.

⁴⁷⁶ Minnie A. Collins, "Ruth V. Washington (1921-1990)," Black Past, March 5, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/washington-ruth-v-1921-1990/>.

⁴⁷⁷ McLellan, "America's Ambassadors of African Descent," 66.

⁴⁷⁸ Herbert G. Ruffin II, "Johnny Young (1940-)," Black Past, February 23, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/young-johnny-1940/>.

⁴⁷⁹ Angela Hornsby-Gutting, "Willie Brown, Jr. (1934-)," Black Past, February 24, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/brown-willie-lewis-jr-1934/>; "Willie Brown (politician)," Wikipedia, accessed July 28, 2020, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Willie_Brown_\(politician\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Willie_Brown_(politician)).

⁴⁸⁰ "Wellington Webb," Wikipedia, accessed July 31, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wellington_Webb; "The Honorable Wellington Webb," The HistoryMakers, accessed July 31, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-wellington-webb>.

⁴⁸¹ "Elijah Cummings," Wikipedia, accessed July 30, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elijah_Cummings.

⁴⁸² "Ray Miller (Ohio legislator)," Wikipedia, accessed September 25, 2020, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ray_Miller_\(Ohio_legislator\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ray_Miller_(Ohio_legislator)).

⁴⁸³ Gwendolyn Pharr, "Robert 'Bobby' Scott (1947-)," Black Past, June 11, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/scott-robert-bobby-1947/>; "Bobby Scott," Wikipedia, accessed August 14, 2020, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bobby_Scott_\(politician\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bobby_Scott_(politician)).

⁴⁸⁴ "Fattah, Chaka," United States House of Representatives, accessed August 14, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/13018>; Euell A. Nielsen, "Chaka Fattah (1956-)," Black Past, December 28, 2018, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/fattah-chaka-1956-2/>.

⁴⁸⁵ Allison O'Connor, "William Lacy Clay, Jr. (1956-)," Black Past, February 24, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/clay-william-lacy-jr-1956/>; "Lacy Clay," Wikipedia, accessed August 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lacy_Clay.

⁴⁸⁶ "Arthenia Joyner," Wikipedia, accessed July 23, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arthenia_Joyner; "Arthenia L. Joyner," Bethune-Cookman University, accessed July 23, 2020, <https://cookman.edu/gala/2016honorees/joyner.html>.

⁴⁸⁷ "David Paterson," Wikipedia, accessed July 24, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Paterson.

⁴⁸⁸ Allison O'Connor, "Melvin L. Watt (1945-)," Black Past, March 25, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/watt-melvin-luther-1945/>; "Watt, Melvin L.," United States House of Representatives, accessed August 14, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/23463>.

⁴⁸⁹ "Our History," New York State Association of Black and Puerto Rican Legislators, accessed July 29, 2020, <https://nysabprlinc.org/history/>. I cannot currently locate the names of the founders of the organization.

⁴⁹⁰ "MCKINNEY, Cynthia Ann," United States House of Representatives, accessed August 13, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/17982>; Barret Kaubisch, "Cynthia Ann McKinney (1955-)," Black Past, January 22, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/mckinney-cynthia-ann-1955/>.

⁴⁹¹ Trevor Goodloe, "Gwendolynne S. 'Gwen' Moore (1951-)," Black Past, March 23, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/moore-gwendolynne-s-gwen-1951/>; "Gwen Moore," Wikipedia, accessed August 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gwen_Moore.

⁴⁹² “The Honorable A. C. Wharton, Jr.,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 4, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-c-wharton-jr>.

⁴⁹³ “Past Presidents,” United States Conference of Mayors, accessed August 4, 2020, <https://www.usmayors.org/the-conference/leadership/>.

⁴⁹⁴ Bunthay Cheam, “W. Wilson Goode (1938-),” Black Past, April 8, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/goode-wilson-1938/>.

⁴⁹⁵ Alonzo Smith, “Kurt L. Schmoke (1949-),” Black Past October 27, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/schmoke-kurt-l-1949/>.

⁴⁹⁶ “Lee P. Brown,” Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lee_P._Brown; “The Honorable Lee P. Brown,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 3, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-lee-p-brown>.

⁴⁹⁷ “Past Presidents,” United States Conference of Mayors, accessed August 4, 2020, <https://www.usmayors.org/the-conference/leadership/>.

⁴⁹⁸ “Andrew Young,” Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andrew_Young; “The Honorable Andrew Young,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 4, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-andrew-young>.

⁴⁹⁹ Tiffany L. Pratt, “Harvey Bernard Gantt (1943-),” Black Past, November 11, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/gantt-harvey-bernard-1943/>.

⁵⁰⁰ Cassandra Waggoner, “Bobby L. Rush (1946-),” Black Past, February 24, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/rush-bobby-l-1946/>.

⁵⁰¹ “Mayor Harold Washington Biography,” Chicago Public Library, accessed July 23, 2020, <https://www.chipublic.org/mayor-harold-washington-biography/>; “Harold Washington,” Wikipedia, accessed July 23, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harold_Washington.

⁵⁰² Bunthay Cheam, “David N. Dinkins (1927-),” Black Past, April 8, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/dinkins-david-n-1927/>; “The Honorable David N. Dinkins,” The HistoryMakers, accessed July 29, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-david-n-dinkins>.

⁵⁰³ “The Honorable Johnny Ford,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 3, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-johnny-ford>; “About us,” World Conference of Mayors, Inc., accessed August 3, 2020, <https://theworldconferenceofmayors.org/about-us>.

⁵⁰⁴ Bunthay Cheam, “W. Wilson Goode (1938-),” Black Past, April 8, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/goode-wilson-1938/>.

⁵⁰⁵ “Past Presidents,” United States Conference of Mayors, accessed August 4, 2020, <https://www.usmayors.org/the-conference/leadership/>.

⁵⁰⁶ Alonzo Smith, “Kurt L. Schmoke (1949-),” Black Past October 27, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/schmoke-kurt-l-1949/>; “Clarence H. Burns,” Wikipedia, accessed July 27, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clarence_H._Burns.

⁵⁰⁷ “Sheila Dixon,” Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sheila_Dixon.

⁵⁰⁸ “Eugene Sawyer,” Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eugene_Sawyer; “The Honorable Eugene Sawyer,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 4, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-eugene-sawyer>.

⁵⁰⁹ “Moseley Braun, Carol,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 24, 2020, [https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/M/MOSELEY-BRAUN,-Carol-\(M001025\)/](https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/M/MOSELEY-BRAUN,-Carol-(M001025)/).

⁵¹⁰ Dwayne Mack, “Norm Rice (1943-),” Black Past, August 18, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/rice-norm-1943/>.

⁵¹¹ Bunthay Cheam, “David N. Dinkins (1927-),” Black Past, April 8, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/dinkins-david-n-1927/>; “The Honorable David N. Dinkins,” The HistoryMakers, accessed July 29, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-david-n-dinkins>.

⁵¹² “The Honorable Alphonso Jackson,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 7, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-alphonso-jackson>; “Alphonso Jackson,” Wikipedia, accessed August 7, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alphonso_Jackson.

⁵¹³ Danielle Kurtzleben, “Understanding The Clintons’ Popularity With Black Voters,” National Public Radio, March 1, 2016, <https://www.npr.org/2016/03/01/468185698/understanding-the-clintons-popularity-with-black-voters>.

⁵¹⁴ “Eleanor Holmes Norton,” Wikipedia, accessed July 29, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eleanor_Holmes_Norton.

⁵¹⁵ “Maxine Waters,” Wikipedia, accessed August 5, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maxine_Waters; “The Honorable Maxine Waters,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 5, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-maxine-waters>.

⁵¹⁶ Alton Hornsby, “Barbara-Rose Collins (1939-),” February 24, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/collins-barbara-rose-1939/>.

⁵¹⁷ “The Honorable Mervyn M. Dymally,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 12, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-mervyn-m-dymally>; Abhinav Kaul, “Mervyn Dymally (1923-),” Black Past, December 18, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/dymally-mervyn-1923/>; “Dymally, Mervyn Malcolm,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 12, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12563>.

⁵¹⁸ “Louis Stokes,” Wikipedia, accessed July 16, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louis_Stokes.

⁵¹⁹ “Gray, William Herbert, III,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 8, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/14072>; “William H. Gray III,” Wikipedia, accessed July 8, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_H._Gray_III.

⁵²⁰ Elwood Watson, “William J. Jefferson (1947-),” Black Past, November 23, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/jefferson-william-j-1947/>.

⁵²¹ “Clayton, Eva M.,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 13, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/11065>; Bunthay Cheam, “Eva Clayton (1934-),” Black Past, March 27, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/clayton-eva-1934/>.

⁵²² “Alexis Herman,” Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexis_Herman.

⁵²³ “Mike Espy,” Wikipedia, accessed August 12, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mike_Espy; Bunthay Cheam, “Mike Espy (1953-),” Black Past, April 3, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/espy-mike-1953/>; “Espy, Alphonso Michael (Mike),” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 12, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12872>.

⁵²⁴ Tiffany L. Pratt, “Jesse Brown (1944-2002),” Black Past, December 7, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/brown-jesse-1944-2002/>.

⁵²⁵ “The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 13, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-eddie-bernice-johnson>; Carla Garner, “Eddie Bernice Johnson (1935-),” Black Past, October 7, 2017, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/johnson-eddie-bernice-1935/>.

⁵²⁶ Nancy Cho, “Sandford Dixon Bishop, Jr. (1947-),” Black Past, June 10, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/bishop-sanford-dixon-jr-1947/>; “Sanford Bishop,” Wikipedia, accessed August 13, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sanford_Bishop.

⁵²⁷ “Brown, Corrine,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 13, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/7695>; Euell A. Nielsen, “Corrine Brown (1946-),” Black Past, March 25, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/brown-corrine-1946/>.

⁵²⁸ Cassandra Waggoner, “Alcee L. Hastings (1936-),” Black Past, November 21, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/hastings-alcee-l-1936/>; “Alcee Hastings,” Wikipedia, accessed August 13, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alcee_Hastings.

⁵²⁹ “Jim Clyburn,” Wikipedia, accessed August 13, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jim_Clyburn; Cassandra Waggoner, “James Enos Clyburn (1940-),” Black Past, February 19, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/clyburn-james-enos-1940/>.

⁵³⁰ “MCKINNEY, Cynthia Ann,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 13, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/17982>; Barret Kaubisch, “Cynthia Ann McKinney (1955-),” Black Past, January 22, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/mckinney-cynthia-ann-1955/>.

⁵³¹ Elwood Watson, “Carrie Meek (1926-),” Black Past, December 16, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/meek-carrie-1926/>.

⁵³² Erica A. Smith, “Melvin Jay ‘Mel’ Reynolds (1952-),” Black Past, January 19, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/reynolds-melvin-jay-mel-1952/>.

⁵³³ Cassandra Waggoner, “Bobby L. Rush (1946-),” Black Past, February 24, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/rush-bobby-l-1946/>.

⁵³⁴ Gwendolyn Pharr, “Robert ‘Bobby’ Scott (1947-),” Black Past, June 11, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/scott-robert-bobby-1947/>; “Bobby Scott,” Wikipedia, accessed August 14, 2020, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bobby_Scott_\(politician\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bobby_Scott_(politician)).

⁵³⁵ Allison O’Connor, “Melvin L. Watt (1945-),” Black Past, March 25, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/watt-melvin-luther-1945/>; “Watt, Melvin L.,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 14, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/23463>.

⁵³⁶ Carla Garner, “Bennie G. Thompson (1948-),” Black Past, October 22, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/thompson-bennie-g-1948/>; “Bennie Thompson,” Wikipedia, accessed August 14, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bennie_Thompson.

⁵³⁷ “Joycelyn Elders,” Wikipedia, accessed August 7, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joycelyn_Elders; “Dr. Joycelyn Elders,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 7, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/dr-joycelyn-elders>.

⁵³⁸ Anthony Miles, “Ronald H. Brown (1941-1996),” Black Past, January 29, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/brown-ronald-h-1941-1996/>.

⁵³⁹ Allison Espiritu, "Hazel Rollins Reid O'Leary (1937-)," Black Past, March 19, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/o-leary-hazel-rollins-reid-1937/>; "The Honorable Hazel O'Leary," The HistoryMakers, accessed August 7, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-hazel-oleary>.

⁵⁴⁰ "Alexis Herman," Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexis_Herman.

⁵⁴¹ "Dellums, Ronald V.," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 30, 2020, [https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/D/DELLUMS,-Ronald-V--\(D000222\)/](https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/D/DELLUMS,-Ronald-V--(D000222)/).

⁵⁴² "Lee P. Brown," Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lee_P._Brown.

⁵⁴³ Eric A. Smith, "Carol Moseley Braun (1947-)," Black Past, January 23, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/braun-carol-moseley-1947/>; "Moseley Braun, Carol," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 24, 2020, [https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/M/MOSELEY-BRAUN,-Carol-\(M001025\)/](https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/M/MOSELEY-BRAUN,-Carol-(M001025)/).

⁵⁴⁴ Tiffany L. Pratt, "Togo D. West, Jr. (1942-)," Black Past, October 30, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/west-togo-d-jr-1942/>.

⁵⁴⁵ "The Honorable Dr. David Satcher," The HistoryMakers, accessed August 7, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-dr-david-satcher>; Dwayne Mack, "David Satcher (1941-)," Black Past, January 14, 2018, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/satcher-david-1941/>.

⁵⁴⁶ "Rodney E. Slater," The HistoryMaker, accessed August 7, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/rodney-e-slater-39>; Tiffany L. Pratt, "Rodney Slater (1955-)," Black Past, December 18, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/slater-rodney-1955/>.

⁵⁴⁷ "Deval Patrick," Wikipedia, accessed June 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deval_Patrick.

⁵⁴⁸ "Andrew Young," Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andrew_Young; "The Honorable Andrew Young," The HistoryMakers, accessed August 4, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-andrew-young>.

⁵⁴⁹ "Jackson, Jesse L., Jr.," United States House of Representatives, accessed August 14, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/16055>; Herbert G. Ruffin II, "Jesse Louis Jackson, Jr. (1965-)," Black Past, August 31, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/jackson-jesse-l-jr-1965/>.

⁵⁵⁰ "Fattah, Chaka," United States House of Representatives, accessed August 14, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/13018>; Euell A. Nielsen, "Chaka Fattah (1956-)," Black Past, December 28, 2018, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/fattah-chaka-1956-2/>; "The Honorable Chaka Fattah," The HistoryMakers, accessed August 14, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-chaka-fattah>.

⁵⁵¹ Cassandra Waggoner, "Sheila Jackson-Lee (1950-)," Black Past, March 13, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/people-african-american-history/jackson-lee-sheila-1950/>.

⁵⁵² "Watts, Julius Caesar, Jr.," United States House of Representatives, accessed August 14, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/23468>; Roger Hardaway, "J.C. Watts, Jr. (1957-)," Black Past, June 4, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/watts-jr-j-c-1957/>; "J.C. Watts," Wikipedia, accessed August 14, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J._C._Watts.

⁵⁵³ "Watts, Julius Caesar, Jr.," United States House of Representatives, accessed August 14, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/23468>; Roger Hardaway, "J.C. Watts, Jr. (1957-)," Black Past, June 4, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/watts-jr-j-c-1957/>; "J.C. Watts," Wikipedia, accessed August 14, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J._C._Watts.

⁵⁵⁴ "Elijah Cummings," Wikipedia, accessed July 30, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elijah_Cummings.

⁵⁵⁵ Ryan Hurst, "Susan Elizabeth Rice (1964-)," Black Past, April 12, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/rice-susan-elizabeth-1964/>; "Susan Rice," Wikipedia, accessed August 10, 2020, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Susan_Rice#United_States_national_security_advisor_\(2013-2017\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Susan_Rice#United_States_national_security_advisor_(2013-2017)).

⁵⁵⁶ Tiffany L. Pratt, "Togo D. West, Jr. (1942-)," Black Past, October 30, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/west-togo-d-jr-1942/>.

⁵⁵⁷ "Rodney E. Slater," The HistoryMaker, accessed August 7, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/rodney-e-slater-39>; Tiffany L. Pratt, "Rodney Slater (1955-)," Black Past, December 18, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/slater-rodney-1955/>.

⁵⁵⁸ "Alexis Herman," Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexis_Herman.

⁵⁵⁹ "Carson, Julia May," United States House of Representatives, accessed August 14, 2020, [https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/C/CARSON,-Julia-May-\(C000191\)/](https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/C/CARSON,-Julia-May-(C000191)/); Alys Beverton, "Julia May Porter Carson (1938-2007)," Black Past, November 8, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/carson-julia-1938-2007/>.

⁵⁶⁰ "The Honorable Danny K. Davis," The HistoryMakers, accessed August 14, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-danny-k-davis>; Elizabeth Winter, "Danny K. Davis (1941)," Black Past, December 2, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/davis-danny-k-1941/>.

⁵⁶¹ Elwood Watson, "Harold Ford, Jr. (1970-)," Black Past, August 8, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/ford-harold-jr-1970/>.

⁵⁶² Euell A. Nielsen, "Carolyn Jean Cheeks Kilpatrick (1945-)," January 31, 2019, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/congresswoman-carolyn-jean-cheeks-kilpatrick-1945/>.

⁵⁶³ Cassandra Waggoner, "Barbara J. Lee (1946-)," Black Past, March 16, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/lee-barbara-j-1946/>; "The Honorable Barbara Lee," The HistoryMakers, accessed August 14, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-barbara-lee>.

⁵⁶⁴ Shannon Erickson, "Gregory W. Meeks (1953-)," Black Past, June 14, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/meeks-gregory-w-1953/>.

⁵⁶⁵ "The Honorable Dr. David Satcher," The HistoryMakers, accessed August 7, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-dr-david-satcher>; Dwayne Mack, "David Satcher (1941-)," Black Past, January 14, 2018, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/satcher-david-1941/>.

⁵⁶⁶ Allison O'Connor, "Stephanie Tubbs Jones (1949-2008)," Black Past, March 16, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/jones-stephanie-tubbs-1949/>; "Stephanie Tubbs Jones," Wikipedia, accessed August 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stephanie_Tubbs_Jones.

⁵⁶⁷ Susan Bragg, "Pamela E. Bridgewater (1947-)," Black Past, March 22, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/bridgewater-pamela-e-1947/>.

⁵⁶⁸ Herbert G. Ruffin II, "Aurelia Erskine Brazeal (1943-)," Black Past, February 16, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/brazeal-aurelia-erskine-1943/>; "Aurelia E. Brazeal," Wikipedia, accessed August 25, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aurelia_E._Brazeal.

⁵⁶⁹ Felicia Mack, "J. Steven Rhodes (1951-)," Black Past, May 6, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/rhodes-j-steven-1951/>.

⁵⁷⁰ Matthew G. Washington, "Leonard H.O. Spearman (1929-2008)," Black Past, June 7, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/spearman-leonard-h-o-1929-2008/>.

⁵⁷¹ Susan Bragg, "Arlene Render (1943-)," Black Past, March 22, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/render-arlene-1943/>.

⁵⁷² Zaakira L. Sadrud-din, "Charles R. Baquet, III (1941-)," Black Past, June 1, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/baquet-charles-r-iii-1941/>.

⁵⁷³ Charles L. Chavis, "Johnnie Carson (1943-)," Black Past, March 11, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/carson-johnnie-1943/>.

⁵⁷⁴ Carlton McLellan, "Edward Joseph Perkins, Jr. (1928-)," Black Past, February 3, 2016, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/perkins-edward-joseph-jr-1928/>.

⁵⁷⁵ Chasity Cauthen, "Joseph Monroe Segars (1938-2014)," Black Past, June 1, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/segars-joseph-monroe-1938-2014/>; "Joseph Segars," The HistoryMakers, accessed August 26, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/joseph-segars-38>.

⁵⁷⁶ Herbert G. Ruffin II, "Kenton Wesley Keith (1939-)," Black Past, June 12, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/keith-kenton-wesley-1939/>.

⁵⁷⁷ Lisa Tompkins Sa'adeh, "Ruth A. Davis (1943-)," Black Past, June 7, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/davis-ruth-1943/>.

⁵⁷⁸ Amy Essington, "Howard Franklin Jeter (1947-)," Black Past, February 26, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/jeter-howard-franklin-1947/>.

⁵⁷⁹ Joyceann Gray, "Leslie M. Alexander (1948-)," Black Past, February 4, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/leslie-m-alexander-1948/>.

⁵⁸⁰ McLellan, "America's Ambassadors of African Descent," 66.

⁵⁸¹ Georgia S. McDade, "Walter Charles Carrington (1930-2020)," Black Past, February 14, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/carrington-walter-charles-1930/>.

⁵⁸² Herbert G. Ruffin II, "Aurelia Erskine Brazeal (1943-)," Black Past, February 16, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/brazeal-aurelia-erskine-1943/>; "Aurelia E. Brazeal," Wikipedia, accessed August 25, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aurelia_E._Brazeal.

⁵⁸³ Herbert G. Ruffin II, "Charles R. Stith (1949-)," Black Past, February 19, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/stith-charles-r-1949/>.

⁵⁸⁴ W. Gabriel Selassie I, "Irvin Hicks (1938-)," Black Past, March 24, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/hicks-irvin-1938/>; "Irvin Hicks, Jr.," U.S. Department of State, accessed August 25, 2020, <https://2009-2017.state.gov/r/pa/ei/pix/blackhistory/2009/115899.htm>.

⁵⁸⁵ "Mayor Carl Stokes," National Park Service, accessed July 16, 2020, https://www.nps.gov/features/malu/feat0002/wof/Carl_Stokes.htm.

⁵⁸⁶ Zaakira L. Sadrud-din, "Charles R. Baquet, III (1941-)," Black Past, June 1, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/baquet-charles-r-iii-1941/>.

⁵⁸⁷ Robert Fikes, "Sidney Williams (1942-)," Black Past, January 26, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/williams-sidney-1942/>.

⁵⁸⁸ Berl Francis, "J. Gary Cooper (1936-)," Black Past, May 6, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/cooper-j-gary-1936/>.

⁵⁸⁹ Herbert G. Ruffin II, "Johnny Young (1940-)," Black Past, February 23, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/young-johnny-1940/>.

⁵⁹⁰ Matthew G. Washington, "Bismarck Myrick (1940-)," Black Past, February 17, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/myrick-bismarck-1940/>.

⁵⁹¹ "The Honorable James Joseph," The HistoryMakers, accessed August 27, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-james-joseph>; Susan Bragg, "James A. Joseph (1935-)," Black Past, June 12, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/joseph-james-1935/>.

⁵⁹² Herbert G. Ruffin II, "Mosina H. Jordan (1943-)," Black Past, June 12, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/jordan-mosina-h-1943/>.

⁵⁹³ Charles L. Chavis, "Johnnie Carson (1943-)," Black Past, March 11, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/carson-johnnie-1943/>.

⁵⁹⁴ Susan Bragg, "Arlene Render (1943-)," Black Past, March 22, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/render-arlene-1943/>.

⁵⁹⁵ Joyceann Gray, "Leslie M. Alexander (1948-)," Black Past, February 4, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/leslie-m-alexander-1948/>.

⁵⁹⁶ Charles L. Chavis, "John F. Hicks (1949-)," Black Past, February 11, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/hicks-john-f-1949/>.

⁵⁹⁷ Euell A. Nielsen, "Sharon P. Wilkinson (1947-)," Black Past, June 12, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/wilkinson-sharon-p-1947/>.

⁵⁹⁸ Herbert G. Ruffin II, "Johnny Young (1940-)," Black Past, February 23, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/young-johnny-1940/>.

⁵⁹⁹ Eric A. Smith, "Carol Moseley Braun (1947-)," Black Past, January 23, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/braun-carol-moseley-1947/>.

⁶⁰⁰ Teisha Wilson, "Elizabeth Davenport McKune (1947-)," Black Past, February 16, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/mckune-elizabeth-davenport-1947/>.

⁶⁰¹ Ayodale Braimah, "George Haley (1925-)," Black Past, May 17, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/haley-george-1925/>; "George Haley," The HistoryMakers, accessed August 27, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/george-haley-38>.

⁶⁰² Lakeisha Harding, "Shirley Barnes (1938-)," Black Past, June 3, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/barnes-shirley-1938/>.

⁶⁰³ Zaakira L. Sadrud-Din, "William D. Clarke, Sr. (1941-)," Black Past, June 1, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/william-d-clarke-1941/>.

⁶⁰⁴ Herbert G. Ruffin II, "Charles R. Stith (1949-)," Black Past, February 19, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/stith-charles-r-1949/>.

⁶⁰⁵ Georgia S. McDade, "George McDade Staples (1947-)," Black Past, January 28, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/staples-george-mcdade-1947/>.

⁶⁰⁶ Amy Essington, "Robert C. Perry (1945-)," Black Past, April 20, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/perry-robert-c-1945/>.

⁶⁰⁷ Austen Meek, "Delano Eugene Lewis (1938-)," Black Past, January 28, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/ambassador-delano-eugene-lewis-1938/>.

⁶⁰⁸ Frances J. Carr, "Gregory Lee Johnson (1945-)," Black Past, February 28, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/johnson-gregory-lee-1945/>; "Gregory Lee Johnson," U.S. Department of State Archive, accessed August 31, 2020, https://1997-2001.state.gov/about_state/biography/johnson_swaziland.html.

⁶⁰⁹ Lakeisha Harding, "Harriet Elam-Thomas (1941-)," Black Past, April 15, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/elam-thomas-harriet-1941/>; "The Honorable Harriet Elam-Thomas," The HistoryMakers, accessed August 31, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-harriet-elam-thomas>.

⁶¹⁰ Joyceann Gray, "Sylvia Gaye Stanfield (1943-)," Black Past, February 7, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/stanfield-sylvia-gaye-1943/>.

⁶¹¹ Matthew G. Washington, "Bismarck Myrick (1940-)," Black Past, February 17, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/myrick-bismarck-1940/>.

⁶¹² "Watson, Diane Edith," United States House of Representatives, accessed August 17, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/24171>; Errin Jackson, "Diane Edith Watson (1933-)," Black Past, July 3, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/watson-diane-edith-1933/>.

⁶¹³ Charles L. Chavis, "Johnnie Carson (1943-)," Black Past, March 11, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/carson-johnnie-1943/>.

⁶¹⁴ Joyceann Gray, "Leslie M. Alexander (1948-)," Black Past, February 4, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/leslie-m-alexander-1948/>.

⁶¹⁵ “Howard Nathaniel Lee,” Wikipedia, accessed July 16, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Howard_Nathaniel_Lee.

⁶¹⁶ Cassandra Waggoner, “Barbara J. Lee (1946-),” Black Past, March 16, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/lee-barbara-j-1946/>; “The Honorable Barbara Lee,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 14, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-barbara-lee>.

⁶¹⁷ “Watts, Julius Caesar, Jr.,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 14, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/23468>; Roger Hardaway, “J.C. Watts, Jr. (1957-),” Black Past, June 4, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/watts-jr-j-c-1957/>; “J.C. Watts,” Wikipedia, accessed August 14, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J._C._Watts.

⁶¹⁸ “Henry L. Marsh,” Wikipedia, accessed July 22, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_L._Marsh.

⁶¹⁹ “Marc Morial,” Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marc_Morial; “Past Presidents,” United States Conference of Mayors, accessed August 4, 2020, <https://www.usmayors.org/the-conference/leadership/>.

⁶²⁰ “Henry L. Marsh,” Wikipedia, accessed July 9, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_L._Marsh.

⁶²¹ “Pamela Carter,” Wikipedia, accessed August 11, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pamela_Carter.

⁶²² “Ron Kirk,” Wikipedia, accessed July 23, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ron_Kirk.

⁶²³ Erica A. Smith, “Barack Obama, Jr. (1961-),” Black Past, January 22, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/obama-jr-barack-1961/>.

⁶²⁴ Euell A. Nielsen, “Kendrick Meek (1966-),” Black Past, November 17, 2018, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/meek-kendrick-1966/>; “Meek, Kendrick B.,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 17, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/18768>.

⁶²⁵ “Victoria Buckley,” Wikipedia, accessed August 11, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victoria_Buckley; “Buckley, Victoria,” Encyclopedia.com, accessed August 11, 2020, <https://www.encyclopedia.com/education/news-wires-white-papers-and-books/buckley-victoria-vikki-1947-1999>.

⁶²⁶ “Burris, Roland,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 24, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/10429>.

⁶²⁷ Noah Genatossio, “Bonnie Watson Coleman (1945-),” Black Past, June 30, 2016, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/coleman-bonnie-watson-1945/>; “Bonnie Watson Coleman,” Wikipedia, accessed August 18, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bonnie_Watson_Coleman#U.S._House_of_Representatives.

⁶²⁸ “Ray Miller (Ohio legislator),” Wikipedia, accessed September 25, 2020, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ray_Miller_\(Ohio_legislator\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ray_Miller_(Ohio_legislator)).

⁶²⁹ “Douglas Palmer,” Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Douglas_Palmer; “Past Presidents,” United States Conference of Mayors, accessed August 4, 2020, <https://www.usmayors.org/the-conference/leadership/>.

⁶³⁰ “Lee P. Brown,” Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lee_P._Brown.

⁶³¹ “National Conference of Black Mayors,” Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Conference_of_Black_Mayors.

⁶³² “Sharon Sayles Belton,” Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sharon_Sayles_Belton.

⁶³³ “Emanuel Cleaver,” Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emanuel_Cleaver.

⁶³⁴ “Preston Daniels,” Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Preston_Daniels; Winston Benjamin, “Preston A. Daniels (1945-),” Black Past, April 16, 2014, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/daniels-preston-1945/>.

⁶³⁵ “Myron Lowery,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 4, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/myron-lowery-41>.

⁶³⁶ “Wellington Webb,” Wikipedia, accessed July 31, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wellington_Webb; “The Honorable Wellington Webb,” The HistoryMakers, accessed July 31, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-wellington-webb>.

⁶³⁷ “W. W. Herenton,” Wikipedia, accessed July 31, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/W._W._Herenton; Elwood Watson, “Willie E. Herenton (1941-),” Black Past, August 8, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/herenton-willie-w-1941/>.

⁶³⁸ “Sharon Pratt,” Wikipedia, accessed June 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sharon_Pratt.

⁶³⁹ “Dennis Archer,” Wikipedia, accessed July 23, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dennis_Archer.

⁶⁴⁰ “Freeman Bosley, Jr.,” Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Freeman_Bosley_Jr.

⁶⁴¹ “Bill Campbell,” Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Campbell_\(mayor\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Campbell_(mayor)).

⁶⁴² “Marc Morial,” Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marc_Morial; “Past Presidents,” United States Conference of Mayors, accessed August 4, 2020, <https://www.usmayors.org/the-conference/leadership/>.

⁶⁴³ “Sharon Sayles Belton,” Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sharon_Sayles_Belton.

⁶⁴⁴ “Dennis Archer,” Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dennis_Archer; “The Honorable Dennis Archer,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 4, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-dennis-archer>.

⁶⁴⁵ “Keiffer Mitchell, Jr.” Wikipedia, accessed September 25, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Keiffer_Mitchell_Jr.

⁶⁴⁶ “Anthony A. Williams,” Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anthony_A._Williams.

⁶⁴⁷ “Ron Kirk,” Wikipedia, accessed July 23, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ron_Kirk.

⁶⁴⁸ “Stephanie Rawlings-Blake,” Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stephanie_Rawlings-Blake; “Pete Rawlings,” Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pete_Rawlings.

⁶⁴⁹ Angela Hornsby-Gutting, “Willie Brown, Jr. (1934-),” Black Past, February 24, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/brown-willie-lewis-jr-1934/>; “Willie Brown (politician),” Wikipedia, accessed July 28, 2020, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Willie_Brown_\(politician\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Willie_Brown_(politician)).

⁶⁵⁰ “Preston Daniels,” Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Preston_Daniels.

⁶⁵¹ Fred Wiggs, “Cory Booker (1969-),” Black Past, September 21, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/people-african-american-history/booker-cory-1969/>.

⁶⁵² “Lee P. Brown,” Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lee_P._Brown.

⁶⁵³ “Past Presidents,” United States Conference of Mayors, accessed August 4, 2020, <https://www.usmayors.org/the-conference/leadership/>.

⁶⁵⁴ “Anthony A. Williams,” Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anthony_A._Williams.

⁶⁵⁵ “Denise Nappier,” Wikipedia, accessed August 11, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Denise_Nappier.

⁶⁵⁶ “Donna Brazile,” Wikipedia, accessed July 29, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Donna_Brazile.

⁶⁵⁷ Eric A. Smith, “Carol Moseley Braun (1947-),” Black Past, January 23, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/braun-carol-moseley-1947/>; “Moseley Braun, Carol,” United States House of Representatives, accessed July 24, 2020, [https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/M/MOSELEY-BRAUN,-Carol-\(M001025\)/](https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/M/MOSELEY-BRAUN,-Carol-(M001025)/).

⁶⁵⁸ Noah Genatossio, “Roderick Raynor Paige (1933-),” Black Past, June 12, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/paige-roderick-raynor-1933/>.

⁶⁵⁹ “Watson, Diane Edith,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 17, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/24171>; Errin Jackson, “Diane Edith Watson (1933-),” Black Past, July 3, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/watson-diane-edith-1933/>.

⁶⁶⁰ Allison O’Connor, “William Lacy Clay, Jr. (1956-),” Black Past, February 24, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/clay-william-lacy-jr-1956/>; “Lacy Clay,” Wikipedia, accessed August 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lacy_Clay.

⁶⁶¹ Gerry Butler, “Condoleezza Rice (1954-),” Black Past, April 20, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/rice-condoleezza-1954/>; “Condoleezza Rice,” Wikipedia, accessed August 10, 2020, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Condoleezza_Rice#National_Security_Advisor_\(2001-2005\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Condoleezza_Rice#National_Security_Advisor_(2001-2005)).

⁶⁶² Gerry Butler, “Colin Powell (1937-),” Black Past, accessed August 10, 2020, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/powell-colin-1937/>; “Colin Powell,” Wikipedia, accessed August 10, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colin_Powell.

⁶⁶³ “Payne, Donald Milford,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 12, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/19459>; Allison O’Connor, “Donald Milford Payne (1934-2012),” Black Past, March 23, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/payne-donald-milford-1934/>.

⁶⁶⁴ Anna Micklin, “Artur Davis (1967-),” Black Past, August 4, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/davis-artur-1967/>; “Davis, Artur,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 17, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/12579>.

⁶⁶⁵ Euell A. Nielsen, “Kendrick Meek (1966-),” Black Past, November 17, 2018, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/meek-kendrick-1966/>; “Meek, Kendrick B.,” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 17, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/18768>.

⁶⁶⁶ “The Honorable Alphonso Jackson,” The HistoryMakers, accessed August 7, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-alphonso-jackson>; “Alphonso Jackson,” Wikipedia, accessed August 7, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alphonso_Jackson.

⁶⁶⁷ Erica A. Smith, “Barack Obama, Jr. (1961-),” Black Past, January 22, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/obama-jr-barack-1961/>.

⁶⁶⁸ “Emanuel Cleaver,” Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emanuel_Cleaver.

⁶⁶⁹ Gerry Butler, "Condoleezza Rice (1954-)," Black Past, April 20, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/rice-condoleezza-1954/>; "Condoleezza Rice," Wikipedia, accessed August 10, 2020, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Condoleezza_Rice#National_Security_Advisor_\(2001-2005\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Condoleezza_Rice#National_Security_Advisor_(2001-2005)).

⁶⁷⁰ Alys Beverton, "Alexander 'Al' Green (1947-)," Black Past, November 8, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/green-alexander-al-1947/>; "Al Green (politician)," Wikipedia, accessed August 17, 2020, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Al_Green_\(politician\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Al_Green_(politician)).

⁶⁷¹ Trevor Goodloe, "Gwendolynne S. 'Gwen' Moore (1951-)," Black Past, March 23, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/moore-gwendolynne-s-gwen-1951/>; "Gwen Moore," Wikipedia, accessed August 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gwen_Moore.

⁶⁷² "Avoice Virtual Library Project," Avoice, accessed July 28, 2020, <http://www.avoiceonline.org/about/project.html>.

⁶⁷³ "Rangel, Charles B.," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 31, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail?id=20144>.

⁶⁷⁴ Euell A. Nielsen, "Keith M. Ellison (1963-)," Black Past, November 17, 2018, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/ellison-keith-m-1963/>; "Keith Ellison," Wikipedia, accessed August 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Keith_Ellison#Political_positions.

⁶⁷⁵ Carla Garner, "Bennie G. Thompson (1948-)," Black Past, October 22, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/thompson-bennie-g-1948/>; "Bennie Thompson," Wikipedia, accessed August 14, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bennie_Thompson.

⁶⁷⁶ "Jackson, Jesse L., Jr.," United States House of Representatives, accessed August 14, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/16055>; Herbert G. Ruffin II, "Jesse Louis Jackson, Jr. (1965-)," Black Past, August 31, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/jackson-jesse-l-jr-1965/>.

⁶⁷⁷ "Burris, Roland," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 24, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/10429>.

⁶⁷⁸ Alys Beverton, "Andre Carson (1974-)," Black Past, November 8, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/carson-andre-1974/>; "André Carson," Wikipedia, accessed August 18, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/André_Carson#Political_positions.

⁶⁷⁹ "Edwards, Donna F.," United States House of Representatives, accessed August 18, 2020, [https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/E/EDWARDS,-Donna-F--\(E000290\)/](https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/E/EDWARDS,-Donna-F--(E000290)/); Euell A. Nielsen, "Donna F. Edwards (1958-)," Black Past, October 16, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/edwards-donna-1958/>.

⁶⁸⁰ Joseph Bernardo, "Marcia Fudge (1952-)," Black Past, October 16, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/marcia-fudge-1952/>.

⁶⁸¹ Bunthay Cheam, "Ronald Kirk (1954-)," Black Past, August 11, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/ronald-ron-kirk-1954/>.

⁶⁸² "Valerie Jarrett," Wikipedia, accessed June 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Valerie_Jarrett; David B. Wilkins, "The New Social Engineers in the Age of Obama: Black Corporate Lawyers and the Making of the First Black President," *Harvard Public Law Working Paper No. 11-12* (March 2011): 581.

⁶⁸³ Gracie Lawson-Borders, "Lisa Perez Jackson (1962-)," Black Past, August 10, 2020, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/lisa-perez-jackson-1962/>; "Lisa P. Jackson," Wikipedia, accessed August 10, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lisa_P._Jackson.

⁶⁸⁴ Shirley Ann Wilson Moore, "Regina Marcia Benjamin (1956-)," Black Past, August 11, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/benjamin-regina-marcia-1956/>; "Regina Benjamin," Wikipedia, accessed August 10, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Regina_Benjamin#Surgeon_General_of_the_United_States.

⁶⁸⁵ Michael Slaughter, "Patrick Gaspard (1967-)," Black Past, May 29, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/gaspard-patrick-1967/>.

⁶⁸⁶ "Terri Sewell," Wikipedia, accessed August 18, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Terri_Sewell#Tenure_and_political_positions; Helen Leichner, "Terri Sewell (1965-)," Black Past, December 11, 2012, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/sewell-terri-1965/>.

⁶⁸⁷ Amy Essington, "Howard Franklin Jeter (1947-)," Black Past, February 26, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/jeter-howard-franklin-1947/>.

⁶⁸⁸ Euell A. Nielsen, "Sharon P. Wilkinson (1947-)," Black Past, June 12, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/wilkinson-sharon-p-1947/>.

⁶⁸⁹ Susan Bragg, "Pamela E. Bridgewater (1947-)," Black Past, March 22, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/bridgewater-pamela-e-1947/>.

⁶⁹⁰ McLellan, "America's Ambassadors of African Descent," 66.

⁶⁹¹ Georgia S. McDade, "George McDade Staples (1947-)," Black Past, January 28, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/staples-george-mcdade-1947/>; "George McDade Staples," Department of State Office of the Historian, accessed August 31, 2020, <https://history.state.gov/departmenthistory/people/staples-george-mcdade>.

-
- ⁶⁹² Herbert G. Ruffin II, "Johnny Young (1940-)," Black Past, February 23, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/young-johnny-1940/>.
- ⁶⁹³ Susan Bragg, "Arlene Render (1943-)," Black Past, March 22, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/render-arlene-1943/>.
- ⁶⁹⁴ Lisa Tompkins Sa'adeh, "Ruth A. Davis (1943-)," Black Past, June 7, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/davis-ruth-1943/>.
- ⁶⁹⁵ Matthew Washington, "Mattie R. Sharpless (1943-)," Black Past, February 19, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/sharpless-mattie-r-1943/>.
- ⁶⁹⁶ Derrick Brooms, "Roy L. Austin (1939-)," Black Past, June 3, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/austin-roy-l-1939/>.
- ⁶⁹⁷ Derrick Brooms, "James D. McGee (1949-)," Black Past, June 3, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/mcgee-james-d-1949/>.
- ⁶⁹⁸ Herbert G. Ruffin II, "James I. Gadsden (1948-)," Black Past, April 28, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/gadsden-james-i-1948/>.
- ⁶⁹⁹ Ayodale Braimah, "Joseph Huggins (1951-)," Black Past, June 8, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/huggins-joseph-1951/>.
- ⁷⁰⁰ Matthew G. Washington, "Larry L. Palmer (1949-)," Black Past, February 23, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/palmer-larry-l-1949/>.
- ⁷⁰¹ Minnie A. Collins, "Wanda L. Nesbitt (1956-)," Black Past, January 25, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/wanda-l-nesbitt-1956/>.
- ⁷⁰² Herbert G. Ruffin II, "Aurelia Erskine Brazeal (1943-)," Black Past, February 16, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/brazeal-aurelia-erskine-1943/>; "Aurelia E. Brazeal," Wikipedia, accessed August 25, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aurelia_E._Brazeal.
- ⁷⁰³ Chasity Cauthen, "Charles Aaron Ray (1945-)," Black Past, March 22, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/ray-charles-aaron-1945/>.
- ⁷⁰⁴ Charlotte Hinger, "Gail Dennise Mathieu (1951?-)," Black Past, March 1, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/mathieu-gail-dennise-1951/>; "Gail D. Mathieu," Wikipedia, accessed September 11, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gail_D._Mathieu.
- ⁷⁰⁵ Teisha Wilson, "Richard Lewis Baltimore, III (1947-)," Black Past, February 16, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/baltimore-richard-lewis-iii-1947/>.
- ⁷⁰⁶ Robert Fikes, "Harry K. Thomas, Jr. (1956-)," Black Past, September 21, 2013, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/thomas-harry-k-jr-1956/>.
- ⁷⁰⁷ Karina Robinson, "Marguerita Ragsdale (1948-)," Black Past, January 21, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/ragsdale-marguerita-1948/>.
- ⁷⁰⁸ Robert Fikes, "Roland Wentworth Boniface Bullen (1944-)," Black Past, January 28, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/bullen-roland-wentworth-boniface-1944/>.
- ⁷⁰⁹ Derrick Brooms, "James D. McGee (1949-)," Black Past, June 3, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/mcgee-james-d-1949/>.
- ⁷¹⁰ Zaakira L. Sadrud-Din, "Jendayi E. Frazer (1961-)," Black Past, May 7, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/jendayi-e-frazer-1961/>.
- ⁷¹¹ Zaakira L. Sadrud-Din, "June Carter Perry (1943-)," Black Past, June 8, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/perry-june-carter-perry-1943/>; "June Carter-Perry (1943-)," Encyclopedia of Arkansas, accessed September 11, 2020, <https://encyclopediaofarkansas.net/entries/june-carter-perry-8880/>.
- ⁷¹² Teisha Wilson, "Joyce A. Barr (1951-)," Black Past, May 29, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/barr-joyce-1951/>; "Joyce Anne Barr," Wikipedia, accessed September 12, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joyce_Anne_Barr.
- ⁷¹³ Robert Fikes, "Harry K. Thomas, Jr. (1956-)," Black Past, September 21, 2013, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/thomas-harry-k-jr-1956/>.
- ⁷¹⁴ Zaakira L. Sadrud-Din, "Roger Dwayne Pierce (1951-)," Black Past, May 7, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/roger-dwayne-pierce-1951/>.
- ⁷¹⁵ Susan Bragg, "Pamela E. Bridgewater (1947-)," Black Past, March 22, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/bridgewater-pamela-e-1947/>.
- ⁷¹⁶ Joyceann Gray, "Bernadette Mary Allen (1955-)," Black Past, January 26, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/allen-bernadette-mary-1955/>.
- ⁷¹⁷ Zaakira L. Sadrud-Din, "Eric M. Bost (1952-)," Black Past, April 1, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/bost-eric-m-1952/>.
- ⁷¹⁸ Joyceann Gray, "Gayleatha Beatrice Brown (1947-2013)," Black Past, February 24, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/brown-gayleatha-beatrice-1947-2013/>.

-
- ⁷¹⁹ Charles L. Chavis, "Clyde Bishop (1942-)," Black Past, June 12, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/bishop-clyde-1942/>.
- ⁷²⁰ Teisha Wilson, "Barry L. Wells (1942-)," Black Past, June 8, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/wells-barry-l-1942/>.
- ⁷²¹ Secret Charles-Ford, "Eunice S. Reddick (1951-)," Black Past, February 24, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/reddick-eunice-s-1951/>.
- ⁷²² Herbert G. Ruffin II, "John Lovelle Withers II (1948-)," Black Past, October 21, 2017, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/withers-john-lovelle-ii-1948/>.
- ⁷²³ Ayodale Braimah, "Maurice S. Parker (1949-)," Black Past, June 12, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/parker-maurice-s-1949/>.
- ⁷²⁴ Charlotte Hinger, "Gail Dennise Mathieu (1951?-)," Black Past, March 1, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/mathieu-gail-dennise-1951/>; "Gail D. Mathieu," Wikipedia, accessed September 11, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gail_D._Mathieu.
- ⁷²⁵ Robert Fikes, "Harry K. Thomas, Jr. (1956-)," Black Past, September 21, 2013, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/thomas-harry-k-jr-1956/>.
- ⁷²⁶ Zaaqira L. Sadrud-Din, "June Carter Perry (1943-)," Black Past, June 8, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/perry-june-carter-perry-1943/>; "June Carter-Perry (1943-)," Encyclopedia of Arkansas, accessed September 11, 2020, <https://encyclopediaofarkansas.net/entries/june-carter-perry-8880/>.
- ⁷²⁷ Derrick Brooms, "James D. McGee (1949-)," Black Past, June 3, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/mcgee-james-d-1949/>.
- ⁷²⁸ Minnie A. Collins, "Wanda L. Nesbitt (1956-)," Black Past, January 25, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/wanda-l-nesbitt-1956/>.
- ⁷²⁹ Berl Francis, "John Melvin Jones (1944-)," Black Past, June 7, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/jones-john-melvin-1944/>.
- ⁷³⁰ Amy Essington, "Linda Thomas-Greenfield (1952-)," Black Past, March 2, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/thomas-greenfield-linda-1952/>.
- ⁷³¹ Amy Essington, "Marcia Stephens Bloom Bernicat (1957-)," Black Past, March 6, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/bernicat-marcia-stephens-bloom-1957/>.
- ⁷³² Lisa Tompkins Sa'adeh, "C. Steven McGann (1951-)," Black Past, June 17, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/mcgann-c-steven-1951/>; "Clarence Steven McGann," Wikipedia, accessed September 15, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clarence_Steven_McGann; "Pacifid Islands Forum," Wikipedia, accessed September 15, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pacific_Islands_Forum.
- ⁷³³ Evan Wade, "Alfonso E. Lenhardt (1943-)," Black Past, June 8, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/lenhardt-alfonso-e-lenhardt-1943/>; "Alfonso E. Lenhardt," Wikipedia, accessed September 15, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alfonso_E._Lenhardt.
- ⁷³⁴ Michael Slaughter, "Mary Jo Wills (1951-)," Black Past, April 13, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/wills-mary-jo-1951/>.
- ⁷³⁵ Evan Wade, "Nicole Avant (1968-)," Black Past, June 8, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/avant-nicole-1968/>.
- ⁷³⁶ Amy Essington, "Teddy B. Taylor (1953-)," Black Past, April 19, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/taylor-teddy-b-1953/>.
- ⁷³⁷ McLellan, "America's Ambassadors of African Descent," 66.
- ⁷³⁸ Ryan Hurst, "Susan Elizabeth Rice (1964-)," Black Past, April 12, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/rice-susan-elizabeth-1964/>; "Susan Rice," Wikipedia, accessed August 10, 2020, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Susan_Rice#United_States_national_security_advisor_\(2013-2017\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Susan_Rice#United_States_national_security_advisor_(2013-2017)).
- ⁷³⁹ Charles L. Chavis, "Johnnie Carson (1943-)," Black Past, March 11, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/carson-johnnie-1943/>.
- ⁷⁴⁰ Susan Bragg, "Pamela E. Bridgewater (1947-)," Black Past, March 22, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/bridgewater-pamela-e-1947/>.
- ⁷⁴¹ Chasity Cauthen, "Charles Aaron Ray (1945-)," Black Past, March 22, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/ray-charles-aaron-1945/>.
- ⁷⁴² Robert Fikes, "Harry K. Thomas, Jr. (1956-)," Black Past, September 21, 2013, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/thomas-harry-k-jr-1956/>.
- ⁷⁴³ "Karen Freeman-Wilson," Wikipedia, accessed August 11, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karen_Freeman-Wilson.
- ⁷⁴⁴ "Jennette Bradley," Wikipedia, accessed August 11, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jennette_Bradley.
- ⁷⁴⁵ "Ray Miller (Ohio legislator)," Wikipedia, accessed September 25, 2020, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ray_Miller_\(Ohio_legislator\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ray_Miller_(Ohio_legislator)); "The Honorable Ray Miller," The HistoryMakers, accessed September 25, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-ray-miller>.

⁷⁴⁶ Gracie Lawson-Borders, "Lisa Perez Jackson (1962-)," Black Past, August 10, 2020, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/lisa-perez-jackson-1962/>; "Lisa P. Jackson," Wikipedia, accessed August 10, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lisa_P._Jackson.

⁷⁴⁷ "Deval Patrick," Wikipedia, accessed June 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deval_Patrick.

⁷⁴⁸ "David Paterson," Wikipedia, accessed July 24, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Paterson.

⁷⁴⁹ KC Washington, "Hakeem Jeffries (1970-)," Black Past, April 17, 2019, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/people-african-american-history/hakeem-jeffries-1970/>; "Hakeem Sekou Jeffries," Wikipedia, accessed August 18, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hakeem_Jeffries#Positions.

⁷⁵⁰ Catherine Foster, "David A. Paterson (1954-)," Black Past, March 12, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/paterson-david-1954/>.

⁷⁵¹ "Velda Jones-Potter," Wikipedia, accessed August 11, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Velda_Jones-Potter.

⁷⁵² "Michael B. Coleman," Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_B._Coleman; "The Honorable Michael B. Coleman," The HistoryMakers, accessed August 3, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-michael-b-coleman>.

⁷⁵³ "Kasim Reed," Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kasim_Reed.

⁷⁵⁴ "The Honorable A. C. Wharton, Jr.," The HistoryMakers, accessed August 4, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-c-wharton-jr>.

⁷⁵⁵ "Kwame Kilpatrick," Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kwame_Kilpatrick.

⁷⁵⁶ "Shirley Franklin," Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shirley_Franklin.

⁷⁵⁷ "Mark Mallory," Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Mallory; Thabiti Asukile, "Mark Mallory (1962-)," Black Past, October 7, 2018, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/mark-mallory-1962/>.

⁷⁵⁸ Fred Wiggs, "Cory Booker (1969-)," Black Past, September 21, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/people-african-american-history/booker-cory-1969/>.

⁷⁵⁹ "Dellums, Ronald V.," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 30, 2020, [https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/D/DELLUMS,-Ronald-V--\(D000222\)/](https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/D/DELLUMS,-Ronald-V--(D000222)/).

⁷⁶⁰ "Muriel Bowser," Wikipedia, accessed July 31, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muriel_Bowser.

⁷⁶¹ "Adrian Fenty," Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adrian_Fenty; Kwadwo Juantuah, "Adrian M. Fenty (1970-)," Black Past, April 18, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/fenty-adrian-m-1970/>.

⁷⁶² "Sheila Dixon," Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sheila_Dixon.

⁷⁶³ "Carl Brewer (politician)," Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carl_Brewer_\(politician\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carl_Brewer_(politician)).

⁷⁶⁴ "Kevin Johnson (basketball)," Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kevin_Johnson_\(basketball\)#Election_for_Mayor's_Office_of_Sacramento](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kevin_Johnson_(basketball)#Election_for_Mayor's_Office_of_Sacramento).

⁷⁶⁵ "Michael Nutter," Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Nutter; "Past Presidents," United States Conference of Mayors, accessed August 4, 2020, <https://www.usmayors.org/the-conference/leadership/>.

⁷⁶⁶ "Kenneth Cockrel, Jr.," Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kenneth_Cockrel_Jr.

⁷⁶⁷ "Myron Lowery," Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Myron_Lowery.

⁷⁶⁸ Michael Fate, "Anthony Renard Foxx (1971-)," Black Past, April 17, 2014, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/foxx-anthony-renard-1971/>; "Anthony Foxx," Wikipedia, accessed August 10, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anthony_Foxx.

⁷⁶⁹ "Dave Bing," Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dave_Bing#Politics_and_activism.

⁷⁷⁰ "A.C. Warton, Jr.," Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A_C_Warton.

⁷⁷¹ "Ayanna Pressley," Wikipedia, accessed July 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ayanna_Pressley.

⁷⁷² "Tim Scott," Wikipedia, accessed August 11, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tim_Scott.

⁷⁷³ Michael Slaughter, "Patrick Gaspard (1967-)," Black Past, May 29, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/gaspard-patrick-1967/>.

⁷⁷⁴ "Donna Brazile," Wikipedia, accessed July 29, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Donna_Brazile.

⁷⁷⁵ "Glynda C. Carr," Higher Heights, accessed July 17, 2020, <https://www.higherheightsforamerica.org/who-we-are/glynda-c-carr/>; *Black Women in American Politics, 2019*, Higher Heights Leadership Fund, Center for American Women and Politics, and Rutgers Eagleton Institute of Politics, accessed July 17, 2020, <https://cawp.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/resources/black-women-politics-2019.pdf>.

⁷⁷⁶ Charlene J. Fletcher-Brown, "Mia Love (1975-)," Black Past, February 23, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/love-mia-1975/>; "Love, Ludmya Bourdeau (Mia)," United States House of Representatives, accessed August 18, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/15032411201>.

⁷⁷⁷ Fred Wiggs, "Cory Booker (1969-)," Black Past, September 21, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/people-african-american-history/booker-cory-1969/>.

⁷⁷⁸ "Joyce Beatty," Wikipedia, accessed August 18, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joyce_Beatty; KC Washington, "Joyce Beatty (1950-)," Black Past, September 14, 2019, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/joyce-beatty-1950/>.

⁷⁷⁹ KC Washington, "Hakeem Jeffries (1970-)," Black Past, April 17, 2019, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/people-african-american-history/hakeem-jeffries-1970/>; "Hakeem Sekou Jeffries," Wikipedia, accessed August 18, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hakeem_Jeffries#Positions.

⁷⁸⁰ "Maxine Waters," Wikipedia, accessed August 5, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maxine_Waters; "The Honorable Maxine Waters," The HistoryMakers, accessed August 5, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-maxine-waters>.

⁷⁸¹ Michael Fate, "Anthony Renard Foxx (1971-)," Black Past, April 17, 2014, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/foxx-anthony-renard-1971/>; "Anthony Foxx," Wikipedia, accessed August 10, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anthony_Foxx.

⁷⁸² Ryan Hurst, "Susan Elizabeth Rice (1964-)," Black Past, April 12, 2009, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/rice-susan-elizabeth-1964/>; "Susan Rice," Wikipedia, accessed August 10, 2020, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Susan_Rice#United_States_national_security_advisor_\(2013-2017\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Susan_Rice#United_States_national_security_advisor_(2013-2017)).

⁷⁸³ "Tim Scott," Wikipedia, accessed August 11, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tim_Scott.

⁷⁸⁴ Marquis Bey, "Jeh C. Johnson (1957-)," Black Past, July 10, 2014, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/johnson-jeh-1957/>.

⁷⁸⁵ Allison O'Connor, "Melvin L. Watt (1945-)," Black Past, March 25, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/watt-melvin-luther-1945/>; "Watt, Melvin L.," United States House of Representatives, accessed August 14, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/23463>.

⁷⁸⁶ "Our History," Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, accessed July 28, 2020, <https://www.cbcbfinc.org/learn-about-us/history/>.

⁷⁸⁷ "Dean of the United States House of Representatives," Wikipedia, accessed July 30, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dean_of_the_United_States_House_of_Representatives; "Conyers, John, Jr.," United States House of Representatives, accessed July 30, 2020, [https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/C/CONYERS,-John,-Jr--\(C000714\)/](https://history.house.gov/People/Listing/C/CONYERS,-John,-Jr--(C000714)/).

⁷⁸⁸ Charlene J. Fletcher-Brown, "Mia Love (1975-)," Black Past, February 23, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/love-mia-1975/>; "Love, Ludmya Bourdeau (Mia)," United States House of Representatives, accessed August 18, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/15032411201>.

⁷⁸⁹ Noah Genatossio, "Bonnie Watson Coleman (1945-)," Black Past, June 30, 2016, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/coleman-bonnie-watson-1945/>; "Bonnie Watson Coleman," Wikipedia, accessed August 18, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bonnie_Watson_Coleman#U.S._House_of_Representatives.

⁷⁹⁰ Erica Anderson, "Benjamin S. Carson (1951-)," Black Past, March 2, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/carson-dr-benjamin-s-1951/>; "Ben Carson," Wikipedia, accessed August 10, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ben_Carson.

⁷⁹¹ Lilly Workneh, "There's Officially A Congressional Caucus On Black Women And Girls," HuffPost, March 22, 2016, https://www.huffpost.com/entry/official-congressional-caucus-on-black-women-and-girls_n_56f18294e4b09bf44a9eae8c.

⁷⁹² Erica Anderson, "Benjamin S. Carson (1951-)," Black Past, March 2, 2007, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/carson-dr-benjamin-s-1951/>; "Ben Carson," Wikipedia, accessed August 10, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ben_Carson.

⁷⁹³ "Kamala Harris," Wikipedia, accessed August 11, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kamala_Harris#2020_presidential_campaign.

⁷⁹⁴ Euell A. Nielsen, "Keith M. Ellison (1963-)," Black Past, November 17, 2018, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/ellison-keith-m-1963/>; "Keith Ellison," Wikipedia, accessed August 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Keith_Ellison#Political_positions.

⁷⁹⁵ *Black Women in American Politics, 2019*, Higher Heights Leadership Fund, Center for American Women and Politics, and Rutgers Eagleton Institute of Politics, accessed July 17, 2020, <https://cawp.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/resources/black-women-politics-2019.pdf>.

⁷⁹⁶ *Black Women in American Politics, 2019*, Higher Heights Leadership Fund, Center for American Women and Politics, and Rutgers Eagleton Institute of Politics, accessed July 17, 2020, <https://cawp.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/resources/black-women-politics-2019.pdf>.

⁷⁹⁷ KC Washington, "Hakeem Jeffries (1970-)," Black Past, April 17, 2019, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/people-african-american-history/hakeem-jeffries-1970/>; "Hakeem Sekou Jeffries," Wikipedia, accessed August 18, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hakeem_Jeffries#Positions.

-
- ⁷⁹⁸ *Black Women in American Politics, 2019*, Higher Heights Leadership Fund, Center for American Women and Politics, and Rutgers Eagleton Institute of Politics, accessed July 17, 2020, <https://cawp.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/resources/black-women-politics-2019.pdf>.
- ⁷⁹⁹ "Maxine Waters," Wikipedia, accessed August 5, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maxine_Waters; "The Honorable Maxine Waters," The HistoryMakers, accessed August 5, 2020, <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-maxine-waters>.
- ⁸⁰⁰ "Elijah Cummings," Wikipedia, accessed July 30, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elijah_Cummings.
- ⁸⁰¹ Fred Wiggs, "Cory Booker (1969-)," Black Past, September 21, 2008, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/people-african-american-history/booker-cory-1969/>; "Cory Booker," Wikipedia, accessed July 24, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cory_Booker.
- ⁸⁰² Jeff Zeleny, Dan Merica, Arlette Saenz, and Maeve Reston, "Joe Biden picks Kamala Harris as his running mate," CNN, August 11, 2020, <https://www.cnn.com/2020/08/11/politics/biden-vp-pick/index.html>; "Kamala Harris," Wikipedia, accessed August 11, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kamala_Harris#2020_presidential_campaign.
- ⁸⁰³ Lisa Roy, "Joseph (Joe) Neguse (1984-)," Black Past, January 12, 2020, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/people-african-american-history/joseph-joe-neguse-1984/>.
- ⁸⁰⁴ McLellan, "America's Ambassadors of African Descent," 72.
- ⁸⁰⁵ Minnie A. Collins, "Wanda L. Nesbitt (1956-)," Black Past, January 25, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/wanda-l-nesbitt-1956/>.
- ⁸⁰⁶ Berl Francis, "Beatrice W. Welters (1951-)," Black Past, May 29, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/welters-beatrice-w-1951/>; "Beatrice W. Welters," Council of American Ambassadors, accessed September 15, 2020, <https://www.americanambassadors.org/members/beatrice-w-welters>.
- ⁸⁰⁷ Ayodale Braimah, "Bisa Williams (1954-)," Black Past, May 6, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/williams-bisa-1954/>.
- ⁸⁰⁸ Teisha Wilson, "Helen Reed-Rowe (1949-)," Black Past, February 19, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/reed-rowe-helen-1949/>; "Helen Reed-Rowe," Wikipedia, accessed September 16, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Helen_Reed-Rowe.
- ⁸⁰⁹ Herbert G. Ruffin II, "Adrienne S. O'Neal (1954-)," Black Past, May 17, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/o-neal-adrienne-s-1954/>.
- ⁸¹⁰ Susan Bragg, "Frankie A. Reed (1954-)," Black Past, June 17, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/reed-frankie-1954/>.
- ⁸¹¹ Allison Blakely, "Pamela L. Spratlen (1954-)," Black Past, February 7, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/spratlen-pamela-l-1955/>.
- ⁸¹² Georgia S. McDade, "Susan Denise Page (1964-)," Black Past, January 23, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/page-susan-denise-1964/>.
- ⁸¹³ Matthew G. Washington, "Larry L. Palmer (1949-)," Black Past, February 23, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/palmer-larry-l-1949/>.
- ⁸¹⁴ Carlton McLellan, "Gina Kay Abercrombie-Winstanley (1957-)," Black Past, January 30, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/abercrombie-winstanley-gina-kay-1957/>; "Gina Abercrombie-Winstanley," Wikipedia, accessed September 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gina_Abercrombie-Winstanley.
- ⁸¹⁵ Euell A. Nielsen, "Makila James (1957-)," Black Past, June 12, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/james-makila-1957/>; "Makila James," U.S. Department of State, accessed September 17, 2020, <https://www.state.gov/biographies/makila-james/>.
- ⁸¹⁶ Joyceann Gray, "Sue K. Brown (1948-)," Black Past, February 23, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/sue-k-brown-1948/>.
- ⁸¹⁷ Michael Slaughter, "Patrick Gaspard (1967-)," Black Past, May 29, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/gaspard-patrick-1967/>; "Patrick Gaspard," Wikipedia, accessed September 16, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Gaspard.
- ⁸¹⁸ Marc Arsell Robinson, "Tulinabo Salama Mushingi (1957-)," Black Past, May 29, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/mushingi-tulinabo-salama-1957/>.
- ⁸¹⁹ Herbert G. Ruffin II, "Brian A. Nichols (1965-)," Black Past, June 15, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/nichols-brian-1965/>.
- ⁸²⁰ Herbert G. Ruffin II, "Cynthia Helen Akuetteh (1948-)," Black Past, June 1, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/akuetteh-cynthia-helen-1948/>.
- ⁸²¹ Michael Slaughter, "Dwight L. Bush (1957-)," Black Past, June 2, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/bush-dwight-l-1957/>; "Dwight L. Bush, Sr.," Wikipedia, accessed September 16, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dwight_L._Bush_Sr.
- ⁸²² Susan Bragg, "Todd D. Robinson (1963-)," Black Past, June 15, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/robinson-todd-d-1963/>.
- ⁸²³ Carlton McLellan, "America's Ambassadors of African Descent: A Brief History," *The Journal of Pan African Studies* 8, no. 1 (June 2015): 64-65, 68.

-
- ⁸²⁴ “Eunice Reddick,” Wikipedia, accessed on September 12, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eunice_Reddick.
- ⁸²⁵ Amy Essington, “Marcia Stephens Bloom Bernicat (1957-),” Black Past, March 6, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/bernicat-marcia-stephens-bloom-1957/>.
- ⁸²⁶ Robert Fikes, “Harry K. Thomas, Jr. (1956-),” Black Past, September 21, 2013, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/thomas-harry-k-jr-1956/>.
- ⁸²⁷ Allison Blakely, “Pamela L. Spratlen (1954-),” Black Past, February 7, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/spratlen-pamela-l-1955/>.
- ⁸²⁸ “Todd D. Robinson,” Wikipedia, accessed September 16, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Todd_D._Robinson.
- ⁸²⁹ “Tulinabo S. Mushingi,” Wikipedia, accessed September 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tulinabo_S._Mushingi.
- ⁸³⁰ “Tulinabo S. Mushingi,” Wikipedia, accessed September 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tulinabo_S._Mushingi.
- ⁸³¹ “Brian A. Nichols,” Wikipedia, accessed September 16, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brian_A._Nichols.
- ⁸³² “Eunice Reddick,” Wikipedia, accessed on September 12, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eunice_Reddick.
- ⁸³³ “Jennifer Carroll,” Wikipedia, accessed August 11, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jennifer_Carroll.
- ⁸³⁴ “Keiffer Mitchell, Jr.” Wikipedia, accessed September 25, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Keiffer_Mitchell_Jr.
- ⁸³⁵ “Kamala Harris,” Wikipedia, accessed August 11, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kamala_Harris#2020_presidential_campaign.
- ⁸³⁶ *Black Women in American Politics, 2019*, Higher Heights Leadership Fund, Center for American Women and Politics, and Rutgers Eagleton Institute of Politics, accessed July 17, 2020, <https://cawp.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/resources/black-women-politics-2019.pdf>; “Jenean Hampton,” Wikipedia, accessed July 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jenean_Hampton.
- ⁸³⁷ “Ilhan Omar,” Wikipedia, accessed July 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ilhan_Omar#Minnesota_House_of_Representatives.
- ⁸³⁸ *Black Women in American Politics, 2019*, Higher Heights Leadership Fund, Center for American Women and Politics, and Rutgers Eagleton Institute of Politics, accessed July 17, 2020, <https://cawp.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/resources/black-women-politics-2019.pdf>.
- ⁸³⁹ *Black Women in American Politics, 2019*, Higher Heights Leadership Fund, Center for American Women and Politics, and Rutgers Eagleton Institute of Politics, accessed July 17, 2020, <https://cawp.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/resources/black-women-politics-2019.pdf>; “Juliana Stratton,” Wikipedia, accessed July 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juliana_Stratton.
- ⁸⁴⁰ *Black Women in American Politics, 2019*, Higher Heights Leadership Fund, Center for American Women and Politics, and Rutgers Eagleton Institute of Politics, accessed July 17, 2020, <https://cawp.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/resources/black-women-politics-2019.pdf>; “Letitia James,” Wikipedia, accessed July 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Letitia_James.
- ⁸⁴¹ “Sheila Oliver,” Wikipedia, accessed August 11, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sheila_Oliver.
- ⁸⁴² “Carolyn Stanford Taylor,” Wikipedia, accessed August 11, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carolyn_Stanford_Taylor.
- ⁸⁴³ Euell A. Nielsen, “Keith M. Ellison (1963-),” Black Past, November 17, 2018, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/ellison-keith-m-1963/>; “Keith Ellison,” Wikipedia, accessed August 17, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Keith_Ellison#Political_positions.
- ⁸⁴⁴ “Stephen K. Benjamin,” Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stephen_K._Benjamin; “Past Presidents,” United States Conference of Mayors, accessed August 4, 2020, <https://www.usmayors.org/the-conference/leadership/>; “About the Mayor,” City of Columbia, accessed August 5, 2020, <https://www.columbiasc.net/mayor/about>.
- ⁸⁴⁵ Charlene J. Fletcher-Brown, “Mia Love (1975-),” Black Past, February 23, 2015, <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/love-mia-1975/>; “Love, Ludmya Bourdeau (Mia),” United States House of Representatives, accessed August 18, 2020, <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/15032411201>.
- ⁸⁴⁶ “Kasim Reed,” Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kasim_Reed.
- ⁸⁴⁷ “Stephanie Rawlings-Blake,” Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stephanie_Rawlings-Blake; “Past Presidents,” United States Conference of Mayors, accessed August 4, 2020, <https://www.usmayors.org/the-conference/leadership/>.
- ⁸⁴⁸ “Vincent C. Gray,” Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vincent_C._Gray.
- ⁸⁴⁹ “Michael Hancock,” Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Hancock_\(Colorado_politician\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Hancock_(Colorado_politician)).

⁸⁵⁰ “Kevin Johnson (basketball),” Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kevin_Johnson_\(basketball\)#Election_for_Mayor's_Office_of_Sacramento](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kevin_Johnson_(basketball)#Election_for_Mayor's_Office_of_Sacramento); “National Conference of Black Mayors,” Wikipedia, accessed August 3, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Conference_of_Black_Mayors; Anita Chabria, “New emails detail Kevin Johnson’s fight with national mayors’ group,” Sacramento Bee, July 18, 2016, <https://www.sacbee.com/news/local/article90434137.html>.

⁸⁵¹ “Chirlane McCray,” Wikipedia, accessed August 4, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chirlane_McCray.

⁸⁵² “About,” African American Mayors Association, accessed August 3, 2020, <https://www.ourmayors.org/About>.

⁸⁵³ “Muriel Bowser,” Wikipedia, accessed July 31, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muriel_Bowser.

⁸⁵⁴ “Keisha Lance Bottoms,” Wikipedia, accessed July 31, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Keisha_Lance_Bottoms.

⁸⁵⁵ “Lori Lightfoot,” Wikipedia, accessed July 31, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lori_Lightfoot.

⁸⁵⁶ “By the Numbers: Black Women in America Politics,” Higher Heights Leadership Fund, accessed July 17, 2020, <https://www.higherheightsleadershipfund.org/by-the-numbers/>.

⁸⁵⁷ “By the Numbers: Black Women in America Politics,” Higher Heights Leadership Fund, accessed July 17, 2020, <https://www.higherheightsleadershipfund.org/by-the-numbers/>.

⁸⁵⁸ “By the Numbers: Black Women in America Politics,” Higher Heights Leadership Fund, accessed July 17, 2020, <https://www.higherheightsleadershipfund.org/by-the-numbers/>.