



## Alphonso Jackson Leads Housing and Urban Development

**T**he Honorable Alphonso Jackson, a 1967 Epsilon Eta initiate, has been serving as Acting Secretary of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). President George W. Bush nominated Jackson to become the 13th Secretary of HUD on January 28. Jackson was unanimously confirmed by the Senate in June 2001 as HUD's Deputy Secretary. He has a wide range of experience in housing, finance, and management, and he is considered to be a noted authority in public housing and community development.

As the Chief Operating Officer and Deputy Secretary of HUD, Jackson managed the day-to-day operations of the \$32 billion agency whose mission includes providing affordable housing and promoting community and economic development. Prior to his HUD appointment, Acting Secretary Jackson was President of American Electric-Texas, a \$13 billion utility company, located in Austin. From January 1989 until July 1996, Jackson was President and CEO of The Housing Authority of the City of Dallas, a \$100 million operation.

Jackson also served as Director of the Department of Public and Assisted Housing in Washington, DC, and Chairman of the District of Columbia Redevelopment Land Agency Board. In 1977, he was named Director of Public Safety for the City of St. Louis and also held stints as executive director for the St. Louis Housing Authority, director of consultant services for the CPA firm of Laventhol and Horwath, St. Louis, and special assistant to the chancellor and assistant professor at the University of Missouri.

A member of the St. Louis Alumni Chapter, Jackson earned a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's



*Acting Secretary Jackson makes remarks after being introduced by President George W. Bush*

degree in educational administration from Truman State University, formerly Northeast Missouri State University. Jackson also holds a law degree from the Washington University School of Law.

During his professional career, Jackson has served on several boards of directors. These include JP Morgan Chase & Company-Texas, Truman State University, Dallas Citizens' Council, Boy Scouts of America, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. He was presented the AFLAC Lifetime Achievement Award in 2001, the National Boys and Girls Club of America 1997 Chairman's Award, and the Aspen Institute's Fellow Award in 1995. His Presidential and other appointments include The National Commission on America's Urban Families (1992-93), Regional Selection Panel for the White House Fellowship Programs (1990-92), and the National Commission on Severely Distressed Public Housing (1990-92). Additionally, Jackson was a member of the National Welfare Simplification and Coordination Advisory Committee (1992-93) and served as Chairman of the General Services Commission of the State of Texas (1995-98).



*Acting HUD Secretary Alphonso Jackson testifies during confirmation hearings*



*Acting Secretary Jackson tours a New York neighborhood*



## Salute to Kappas in Government

**M**embers of Kappa Alpha Psi have a long history of governmental service. Through the years, the Fraternity has been represented in local and state politics, and presently, in addition to Acting HUD Secretary Alphonso Jackson, the membership boasts of Kappas in Congress, mayors of cities, judges, and other elected officials who give of themselves to serve their constituents and humanity. In *The Idea of a Patriot King* (1749), Lord Bolingbroke wrote that “The good of the people is the ultimate and true end of government.” Through the efforts of the members profiled below, the lives of countless Americans have been enriched. It takes a special man to submit himself to public service. *The Journal* staff takes great pride in acknowledging the outstanding efforts of the following members.

### KAPPAS IN CONGRESS

**Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.**, is serving his sixth term in the U.S. House of Representatives. He represents Georgia’s Second Congressional District, which covers all or parts of 27 southwest Georgia counties. Defining his goal in public life, Bishop says that he is seeking a higher, better quality of life for all citizens by promoting jobs and a stronger, more diversified economy; a better educated population; safe and secure communities, free of crime and drugs; a clean environment; affordable, accessible health care; and a strong national defense, all within the context of a balanced budget.



Congressman Bishop has emerged as a leader among the fiscally moderate-to-conservative Democrats in Congress. He has authored a wide range of bills and resolutions that have been enacted by Congress. One is the new Farm Bill, which authorizes \$45.1 billion more over six years than the previous six years for farm support programs. He has also cosponsored bills to strengthen the veterans’ health care system, to protect the U.S. flags against acts of desecration, and to clarify the law to allow voluntary, non-denominational prayer in schools and other public localities.

First elected to Congress in 1992, Bishop served in the Georgia House of Representatives from 1977-1990 and in the Georgia Senate from 1991-1992. He serves on the House Appropriations Committee and is a member of the Military Construction Subcommittee and the Veterans Administra-

tion/House and Urban Development Subcommittee. Bishop is Chairman of a Democratic House task force on homeland security, and he is a member of the Vietnam Era Veterans in Congress, Rural Caucus, National Guard and Reserve Components Caucus, and the Council on Foreign Relations.

Bishop is a native of Mobile, AL, and earned a bachelor’s degree from Morehouse College in 1968. He received the Doctor of Law degree from Emory University Law School in 1971 and served in the U.S. Army. He is married to the Honorable Vivian Creighton Bishop, Clerk of the Municipal Court of Columbus, GA, and they are the parents of one daughter, Aaysha J. Owens.

The son of Elder Watson Diggs laureate Dr. Sanford D. Bishop, Sr., he is a 1966 Pi Chapter initiate.

**William Lacy Clay** was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 2000 and represents the First Congressional District of Missouri. He was chosen as President of the incoming Democratic freshman class, and he currently serves on the Committee on Government Reform and is the ranking minority member of the Subcommittee on Technology, Information Policy, Intergovernmental Relations, and the Census. Clay also sits on the Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy and Human Resources. On the Financial Services Committee, he serves on the Subcommittee on





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Capital Markets, Insurance and Government Sponsored Enterprises, and the Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity.

Clay won his first election to the Missouri House of Representatives in 1983. He attended Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, and in 1991, he won a seat in the Missouri Senate, where he remained for nine years. During his 17 years in the Missouri House and Senate, Clay worked tirelessly on behalf of Missouri families, workers, the disabled, and the elderly. He sponsored and passed legislation ranging from education to health care to civil rights. Congressman Clay established Missouri's hate crime law, and he is a member of the Progressive Caucus and serves on the board of his father's William L. Clay Scholarship and Research Fund and the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation.

A native of St. Louis, Clay moved to Washington, DC, in 1969, when his father was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, where he served 32 years. Clay graduated from Springbrook High School in Silver Spring, MD, in 1974, and then worked as Assistant Doorkeeper in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1976-1983. During that time, he attended night school at the University of Maryland and earned a B.S. degree in government and politics. He is married to Ivie Lewellen Clay, and they have two children: Carol and William, III.

**John Conyers, Jr.**, a Detroit Democrat, was reelected in November 2002 to his 19th term in the U.S. House of Representatives, winning 83 percent of the vote in Michigan's Fourteenth Congressional District. He is the second most senior member of the House of Representatives and was reelected by his colleagues to remain the first African-American Democratic Leader of the House Committee on the Judiciary. In addition to its function of oversight of the Department of Justice, including the FBI and the Federal Courts, the Judiciary Committee has jurisdiction over copyright, constitutional, consumer protection, and civil rights issues. Congressman Conyers was an influential member of the Judiciary Committee in its 1974 hearings on the Watergate impeachment scandal and played a prominent role in the recent impeachment process, making him the only Judiciary Committee member to have served on both panels. He is also a founding member and Dean of the Congressional Black Caucus.



Representative Conyers has introduced and endorsed legislation to advance civil liberties, ensure equal protection

and access to the voting booth, and combat violence against women. He was the lead sponsor of the Violence Against Women Act, which was enacted in 1994 and re-authorized in 2001. Conyers also is the principal author of the "End Racial Profiling Act," and he introduced the "Hate Crimes Prevention Act." In the 108th Congress, Conyers is a co-sponsor of a Haiti Trade bill, and he is committed to directing multi-lateral funding to Haiti.

Conyers was educated in Detroit's public school system and earned a B.A. degree and a Doctor of Law degree at Wayne State University. A Laurel Wreath wearer, Conyers has received many other honors, including a Southern Conference Leadership Conference Award which was presented by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and several honorary degrees from American colleges and universities. He is married to the former Monica Esters, and they are the parents of two sons: John, III, and Carl Edward. A 1951 Gamma Eta initiate, Conyers is a member of the Detroit Alumni Chapter.

**Alcee L. Hastings** represents his native state of Florida by serving District 23 in the U.S. House of Representatives. Congressman Hastings was first elected in 1992 and most recently reelected in 2002, capturing 77% of the vote. He is a member of the House Rules Committee and is a senior member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. Hastings is the ranking Democratic member of the Subcommittee on Terrorism and Homeland Security. As Senior Democratic Whip, Hastings is an influential member of the Democratic leadership. He is only one of three House Democrats on the U.S. Helsinki Commission, and he is Vice Chair of the Florida Delegation. Hastings has also served as Vice Chairman of the Democratic Select Committee on Election Reform.



Known to many as "Judge," Hastings has distinguished himself as an attorney, civil rights activist, and judge. Appointed in 1979 by President Jimmy Carter, he became the first African-American Federal Judge in the State of Florida and served in that position for ten years. Since his election to Congress as the first African-American since the Civil War period, Hastings has been an outspoken advocate for making the country safer, ensuring easy and fair election systems, creating tax incentives for small businesses, expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit, providing job training and re-education for displaced workers, banning assault weapons, and



providing family and medical leave to all workers. He has introduced legislation advocating diplomacy before military action to settle disputes with established and emerging nations, and he continues to champion the rights of minorities, women, the elderly, children, and immigrants.

Hastings was born in Altamonte Springs, FL, and attended public schools. He graduated from Fisk University in 1958 and earned a law degree from Florida A&M University. A 1954 Alpha Delta initiate, he is a member of the Fort Lauderdale Alumni Chapter.

**Bennie G. Thompson** represents the Second District of Mississippi in the U.S. House of Representatives. He serves on the House Agriculture Committee and the Select Homeland Security Committee, where he is a champion for rural America. Racial equality and public education are important causes to Thompson, and he is a strong supporter of access to affordable quality healthcare and for the labor rights of workers.



At age 20, Congressman Thompson secured the first rural doctor for the town of Bolton, MS, and has been honored by the National Black Nurses Foundation for his support of quality and affordable health care for all Americans. Thompson is a founding member of the Mississippi Association of Black Mayors and the Mississippi Association of Black Supervisors. He has sponsored legislation to ensure that minority farmers are adequately compensated for years of discrimination in the operation of programs of the Department of Agriculture.

A native of Bolton, MS, Thompson was educated in the public schools of Hinds County, MS. He earned a B.A. in political science from Tougaloo College and a master's degree from Jackson State University. He went on to complete doctoral course work in public administration at the University of Southern Mississippi. Because of unequal funding among black colleges and universities in Mississippi, Congressman Thompson became one of the original plaintiffs in the Ayers Case, a decades-long court battle that was finally decided in favor of the plaintiffs by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1992 with a final settlement agreement being signed by a federal district court judge in February 2002.

Congressman Thompson has been married to his college sweetheart, London Johnson of Mound Bayou, MS, for 35 years. They are the parents of a daughter, BendaLonne. Thompson is a 1969 Gamma Rho initiate.

**Albert Russell Wynn** is serving his sixth term in the U.S. House of Representatives. He represents Maryland's Fourth Congressional District and defines his mission in Congress as helping to expand economic opportunity for all Americans. Elected in 1992, Wynn currently serves on the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee, where he is a member of the Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality, the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, and the Subcommittee on Environment and Hazardous Waste. He is a member of the Democratic Message Group and a Deputy Democratic Whip. Wynn is Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus' Political Action Committee, and he chairs the Congressional Black Caucus Task Force on Campaign Finance Reform and the Caucus' Minority Business Task Force.



Congressman Wynn is a known advocate for federal employees and small business development. Throughout his tenure in Congress, Wynn has fought to protect the salaries and benefits of federal employees. He has passed legislation to improve federal contracting opportunities for small and minority businesses, and during the 107th Congress, Wynn introduced additional contracting legislation and received the Administrator's Leadership Award from the Small Business Administration. During the 108th Congress, in an effort to solve the problem of America's uninsured, Congressman Wynn sponsored the Securing Access, Value, and Equality in Health Care Act with Rep. Kay Granger of Texas. In his community, Rep. Wynn sponsors an annual job fair, federal job procurement fair/business expo, college financial aid workshop, and a student leadership workshop. He also coordinates food distributions for the less fortunate every Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Wynn received a B.S. in political science from the University of Pittsburgh in 1973. After a year of graduate study in public administration at Howard University, he entered Georgetown University and earned his law degree in 1977. After graduation, he became Director of the Prince George's County Consumer Protection Committee. In 1982, he started the law office of Albert R. Wynn and Associates and was elected to the Maryland Legislature that same year. He served 10 years, first as a member of the House of Delegates and later in the Maryland Senate, where he was Deputy Majority Whip.

Rep. Wynn is married to Gaines Clore Wynn, and they are the parents of two daughters: Gabrielle and Meredith. A 1970 Beta Epsilon initiate, Wynn is a member of the Hyattsville-Landover Alumni Chapter.



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## KAPPAS IN STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

**Leon Stanley Clark** is a Trustee on the Board of Education of the Buena Vista (MI) School District. A retired teacher, Clark worked in schools in Louisiana and Michigan for 30 years, and he served as a supervisor for the Buena Vista Township from 1980-1992. He received B.S. and M.Ed. degrees from Southern University in 1959 and 1966, respectively, and a certificate in supervision and administration in 1970. Clark attends Bethel AME Church and has received awards for service as a Cub Scout Master and from the Buena Vista Men's Club and Buena Vista Parks and Recreation Department.



**Michael B. Coleman** is Mayor of Columbus, Ohio. He took office January 1, 2000. Prior to becoming mayor, Coleman served as President of the Columbus City Council from 1997-1999 and as a member of the City Council from 1992-1999. Since his election, Coleman has worked to increase the development of new homes for families, implemented a ten-year plan to build a more vibrant downtown, created five neighborhood investment districts, created the Columbus Urban Growth Corporation, and launched a Partnership for America's 21st Century City initiative. Coleman has also created the city's first Office of Education to coordinate the educational efforts of the neighborhoods, families, and schools and launched "Neighborhood Pride" to revitalize neighborhoods.



Mayor Coleman graduated from the University of Cincinnati in 1977 with a degree in political science. He earned a law degree in 1980 from the University of Dayton School of Law. A December 2002 Columbus Alumni initiate, he is married to Frankie Coleman, and they are the parents of three children: Kimberly, Justin, and John-David.

**Kevin Cox** represents District 97 in the Oklahoma House of Representatives. He began his tenure in 1980 and has served

12 consecutive terms. Cox has served as Vice Chairman of the House Committee on Human Services, Assistant Majority Floor Leader, Chairman of the Oklahoma County House Democrats, and Chairman of the Oklahoma Legislative Black Caucus. In addition, he has served on the House Committees in Education and Health throughout his 24 years in office, and he has served as Chairman of the House Committee on Insurance since 1984. In 2001, Cox was selected to serve on the Speaker's Leadership Team, becoming the first African-American House member in state history to be chosen for that position.



Representative Cox is an usher at St. John Baptist Church, a former member of the Urban League Board of Directors, life member of the NAACP, and member of the Oklahoma City Metro Officials' Association. He is a certified referee for football, basketball, and softball, a certified lifeguard, a 33rd Degree Prince Hall Mason, and an active member of King David Lodge #50 and Alaraf Shrine Temple #20.

Cox received a bachelor's degree in political science from Florida A&M University in 1972 and a master's degree in public administration from the University of Georgia in 1974. He is married to the former Carliss Ann Washington, and they have one son, Kenny. Life Member Cox is a 1969 Alpha Xi initiate and is a member and past Polemarch of the Oklahoma City Alumni Chapter and has been a member of the Langston Alumni Chapter.

**Stuart Dunnings, III**, was elected Ingham County (MI) Prosecutor in 1996, becoming the second African-American elected to that position in Michigan. Ingham County is home to Lansing, Michigan's Capitol City, Michigan State University, and surrounding areas. The county has a population of 279,000, approximately 12% of whom are African-





American. Prior to his election, Dunnings had served for 16 years as a partner in the law firm founded by his father, Dunning and Frawley.

Upon taking office, Dunnings reorganized the office to place a high priority on cases involving youth violence, sexual assault, domestic abuse, and drug trafficking. In addition, the office has continued its partnership with community crime prevention groups. At the end of his first year in office, Dunning was named one of 12 Lawyers of the Year of 1997 by *Michigan Lawyers Weekly*.

Dunnings was reelected to office in November 2000 with 68% of the vote. In his role as Prosecutor, he also serves as a member of the State of Michigan Committee on Criminal Procedure. He is Vice President of the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan, and he will serve as its president beginning in August 2004.

A 1980 Lansing Alumni initiate, Dunning is a graduate of Amherst College and received a Juris Doctorate from the University of Michigan Law School. He and his wife, Cynthia, reside in Lansing with their three daughters.

**Dr. Lee G. Esprit, Jr.**, is President of the Xenia (OH) City Council. As president, Dr. Esprit will lead meetings, approve the agenda, and make appointments to city boards and commissions. A 1979 initiate, he earned an M.S. and a Doctor of Education from Oklahoma State University. He is Chairman of the Professional Education Department at Central State University.

**Tupac Hunter** represents the Ninth District in the Michigan House of Representatives. He was elected in November 2002 and serves on the Appropriations Committee and as Minority Vice Chairman of the Judiciary Subcommittee. Hunter also serves on the Subcommittees on Transportation and Capital Outlay. Recently, Representative Hunter was among 36 select lawmakers chosen to participate in the Council of State Government's Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development. He was also appointed by Rep. Rick Johnson, Speaker of the Michigan House of Representatives, to the Midwestern Legislative Conference of the Council of State Government's Innovations Selection Committee.



Hunter is a member of the Crary/St. Mary's Community Council, 8th Police Precinct Community Relations Organization, Geometry Lodge #49 (Prince Hall Affiliation), 100 Black Men of Greater Detroit, NAACP, and 14th Congressional District Democratic Party Organization. He earned a B.A. in urban studies and public policy, with honors, from Morehouse College. Life Member Hunter is a 1995 Kappa Zeta initiate and a member of the Detroit Alumni Chapter.

**Dr. Lester G. Jackson, III**, represents District 124 in the Georgia House of Representatives. He is Vice Chairman of the Health and Human Services Committee and a member of the Administrative Services and Appropriations Committees. Dr. Jackson is also Assistant Majority Whip.

A Fellow of the American College of Dentists, he and his wife, Dr. Lorna Jackson, practice dentistry in downtown Savannah. He is a 1978 Epsilon Psi initiate and earned a B.S. from Paine College and a D.D.S. from Meharry Medical College. Dr. Jackson is a member of the Savannah Alumni Chapter.



**Walter LaShore** serves on the Bridgeport (MI) Charter Township Board of Trustees. Prior to being elected to that position, he served on the Planning Commission for several years. A member of the Saginaw Alumni Chapter, LaShore is a retired senior logistics information systems specialist with Dow Chemical Company. He is currently employed as a UAW Skill Center teacher at the Delphi Steering Systems in Saginaw, and he is a member of the Saginaw Alumni Chapter.



**Benjamin H. Logan** has been named Chief Judge of the 61st District Court in Michigan. Logan has been a district judge since 1989. He was elected in 1988 through a historical write-in vote, becoming the district's first African-American judge. His new responsibilities include presiding over the district court, which includes five other judges, in addition to managing his own case load. Prior to becoming a judge, Logan had been an attorney for 16 years and senior partner for the firm of Logan and Beason, specializing in personal injury, civil rights, and criminal law.



Judge Logan served as a Michigan Civil Rights Hearing Referee for five years, and he is chairman of the United Negro College Fund. He has received the National Bar Association Outstanding Region Award and is listed in *Who's Who in American Law* and *Who's Who Among Black Americans*. Logan founded the Floyd Skinner Bar Association in 1983 and serves on the board of trustees of Ohio Northern University.

Logan earned a B.A. in history and accounting from Ohio Northern University in 1968, a J.D. from Ohio Northern



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University in 1972, and a honorary Doctor of Laws from the Ohio Northern University College of Law in 1992. He is a 1979 initiate and member of the Grand Rapids Alumni Chapter.

**Wade Harper McCree** is Judge of the 36th District Court in Michigan. Prior to becoming a judge in 1996, he was a trial lawyer with Lewis and Munday, the largest minority-owned law firm in the state. McCree is a graduate of the University of Michigan and Stanford University Law School. In addition to serving as director on several community boards, Judge McCree is a supporter of the State of Michigan's Wade H. McCree, Jr., Incentive Scholarship, named after Judge McCree's father.



Judge McCree is a third generation Kappa. His grandfather, Wade H. McCree, Sr., was a charter member of Delta Chapter, later Gamma Chapter, in 1914, and his father, the Honorable Wade H. McCree, Jr., a 1939 Alpha Delta initiate, was the first African-American judge on a court of record in the State of Michigan and the second African-American Federal Judge in U.S. history. (The first, James B. Parsons, was also a Kappa.)

McCree, a 1997 Detroit Alumni initiate, is married to the former LaVerne Siler, and they are the parents of a daughter and a son.

**Elliott Muse, Jr.**, has served as a Circuit Court Judge in Illinois since 1994. He attended the University of Illinois and earned a Master of Public Administration degree from Roosevelt University. In 1976, he received a law degree from DePaul Law School. A member of the Chicago Alumni Chapter, Judge Muse served as General Counsel of the North Central Province from 1986-1990. He is married to Janice Muse, and they are the parents of one son, Lyle Elliott Muse.



**C. Daryl Neely** is Policy Advisor to Mississippi Governor Haley Barbour. His primary task is to serve as a liaison with agency heads and direct policy and legislation in the following areas: Department of Public Safety, Department of Corrections, Bureau of Narcotics, Mississippi Highway Patrol, and the Emergency Management Agency. Neely previously served on the Jackson City Council. During his tenure on the



City Council, he was vice president and served on the Budget Committee and chaired the Legislative Committee.

In 2000, Neely was appointed to serve as commissioner for the Metro-Jackson State University (JSU) Parkway, a multi-million dollar transportation project to spur economic growth and to enhance the JSU area. Later that same year, the Salt and Pepper Men's Club recognized Neely as Politician of the Year.

In 2001, Neely was a candidate for mayor, winning the primary with 62% of the vote. He made history and national news by being the first African-American to win a contested Republican Primary in Mississippi. Although he did not win the general election, he garnered more than 40% of the vote.

In 2003, President George W. Bush appointed Neely to the Department of Commerce's Census Advisory Committee. A Delta Delta initiate, Life Member Neely served on the Grand Board of Directors and the Southwestern Province Board of Directors, Polemarch of the Delta Delta Chapter, and Keeper of Records of the Jackson Alumni Chapter. He credits his membership in the Fraternity and his Grand Board service as the start of his political career.

**Marshall B. Pitts, Jr.**, is Mayor of Fayetteville, North Carolina. He entered politics in 1997 by making a bid for an at-large seat on the Fayetteville City Council. Pitts lost by a mere 66 votes before bouncing back to win the seat convincingly in 1999 and eventually becoming the city's Mayor Pro Tempore (Vice Mayor). At age 37, after only two years on the council,



Pitts made history by becoming the city's first African-American mayor. According to the 2000 Census, Pitts' mayoral election makes him part of a unique group. There are 29 cities in the United States with a population of more than 100,000 that have African-American mayors. Of those 29 mayors, 18 were elected in cities where African-Americans are not the voting majority; Fayetteville is one of those 18 cities.

Pitts is a member of many legal, business, and civic organizations, and he has received numerous awards for citizenship, community service, and business acumen. He has been featured in *JET* magazine and various newspapers across the country. Pitts is licensed to practice law in North Carolina and Pennsylvania, and he is currently a partner in the law firm of Washington and Pitts in Fayetteville.

Mayor Pitts earned a B.S. in criminal justice with a minor in political science from Appalachian State University in 1987. A former high school track-and-field All-American, he excelled in athletics and academics in college, earning the distinction of All-American Student Athlete. He earned a law degree in 1990 from North Carolina Central University.

A 1983 Kappa Sigma initiate, Pitts taught a criminal justice course at Fayetteville State University from 1993 to 2000 and published an article on the Supreme Court in *Communication and the Law* in 2000.



**Ellis E. Reid** is an Appellate Court Judge in Illinois. Prior to being appointed to his present position in 2000, Judge Reid held many positions, including labor attorney, prosecutor, civil rights attorney, White House consultant, and trial judge. He was also a partner in the McCoy, Ming, and Black law firm, and he served as General Counsel of Kappa Alpha Psi from 1983-1985.



Life Member Reid is a member of the Chicago Alumni Chapter. A 1953 Beta Chapter initiate, he graduated with honors from the University of Illinois with a degree in political science and subsequently earned a Juris Doctorate in 1959 from the University of Chicago.

He is married to Sheila Reid, and they are the parents of three children: Noelle, Ellis Reid, IV, and David E. Reid, a 1983 Beta initiate.

**Herman Y. Thomas** is Judge of the 13th Judicial Circuit in Alabama. He has served in that position since 1999. Previously, he served as a District Court Judge, Assistant District Attorney, and Assistant State Attorney. Judge Thomas is former Vice Chairman of the University of South Alabama Board of Trustees and previously served on the boards of directors of the United Way of South Alabama, Junior League of Mobile, Leadership Alabama, Family Exchange Center, and Parents as First Teachers.



Thomas presently serves on the boards of directors of the Mobile Touchdown Club, Mobile Opera Board, America's Junior Miss, and Mobile Maritime Museum. He is a president of the Vernon Z. Crawford Bar Association, a member of the 100 Black Men of Greater Mobile, and an Alabama State Bar Judicial Liaison Committee member.

A 1980 Eta Nu initiate, Judge Thomas is Polemarch of the Mobile Alumni Chapter and a member of the Southern Province Board of Directors. He attends St. James Major Catholic Church, where he serves as a lector, Sunday School teacher, and Knight of Peter Claver. He earned a B.S. from the University of South Alabama in 1983 and a J.D. from the Florida State University College of Law in 1985. Thomas is married to Linda Thomas, and they are the parents of twin daughters: Andrea and Brooke.

**Timothy Thomas** is Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Cultural Affairs and Deputy Director in the Mayor's Office of Special Events for the City of Chicago. He is a member of the American Society of Public School Administrators, Office of Minority Students' Scholarship Fund Endowment, and the Jack and Jill of North America's Fathers' Committee. Thomas

earned a bachelor's degree in accounting in 1984 from the University of Illinois, where he lettered in basketball on the Big Ten championship team. He also earned a Master of Public Administration from Governors State University in 1999. Thomas is Keeper of Exchequer of the Chicago Alumni Chapter. His wife, Latasha, is on the Chicago City Council, and they are the parents of two children: Timothy, III, and Victoria.

**Lawrence Weekly** was elected to the Las Vegas City Council in April 2001 by an overwhelming majority to serve Ward 5, a diverse and historic area that includes downtown Las Vegas. He is currently serving his second term in office. Councilman Weekly began his public service on the City Council in December 1999 after being appointed to serve one of two newly created wards to address the growing Las Vegas population. Councilman Weekly is committed to maintaining and enhancing revitalization efforts in his ward and throughout the city, as well as focusing on programs for youth and seniors.



Weekly earned a bachelor's degree in communications from Grambling State University. A longtime community volunteer, Councilman Weekly founded the Las Vegas Elite Chapter of the Kappa Leadership League. He is married and has two children.

**Forrest Williams** has served on the San Jose City Council since November 2000. He represents more than 92,000 residents of the Santa Teresa/Edenvale area of San Jose. Williams is Chairman of the Driving a Strong Economy Committee and a member of the Rules Committee, Redevelopment Agency Board, Building Better Transportation Committee, and Federated Housing Board. He also serves as Council Liaison to the Fine Arts Commission.



A 35-year resident of San Jose, Williams is also a member of the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority Board of Directors. Prior to his election to the San Jose City Council, he served three terms as a Trustee of the Oak Grove School District. He was also a City of San Jose Planning Commissioner, Vice President of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Silicon Valley, and board member for the South Valley Family YMCA. He has worked for IBM Corporation for 35 years as a senior engineering manager.

A veteran of the U.S. Army Signal Corps, Williams is a 1960 Delta Phi initiate. He holds a B.S. in electrical engineering from Indiana Technical College and a master's degree from Louisiana State University. He and his wife of 39 years, Dorothy Williams, are parents of two adult children. KAP