

# MIDWEST CIVIL RIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS

ILLINOIS, INDIANA, KENTUCKY, MICHIGAN, OHIO, WEST VIRGINIA & WISCONSIN

## NAACP ISSUES NATIONAL TRAVEL ADVISORY FOR AMERICAN AIRLINES



“The NAACP for several months now has been monitoring a pattern of disturbing incidents reported by African-American passengers, specific to American Airlines. In light of these confrontations, we have today taken the action of issuing national advisory alerting travelers—especially African Americans—to exercise caution, in that booking and boarding flights on American Airlines could subject them disrespectful, discriminatory or unsafe conditions. This travel advisory is in effect beginning October 24, 2017, until further notice.

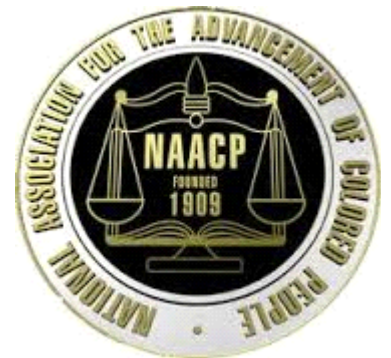
The series of recent incidents involve troublesome conduct by American Airlines and they suggest a corporate culture of racial insensitivity and possible racial bias on the part of American Airlines. Among these incidents:

1. An African-American man was required to relinquish his purchased seats aboard a flight from Washington, D.C. to Raleigh-Durham, merely because he responded to disrespectful and discriminatory comments directed toward him by two unruly white passengers;
2. Despite having previously booked first-class tickets for herself and a traveling companion, an African-American woman's seating assignment was switched to the coach section at the ticket counter, while her white companion remained assigned to a first-class seat;
3. On a flight bound for New York from Miami, the pilot directed that an African-American woman be removed from the flight when she complained to the gate agent about having her seating assignment changed without her consent; and
4. An African-American woman and her infant child were removed from a flight from Atlanta to New York City when the woman (incidentally a Harvard Law School student) asked that her stroller be retrieved from checked baggage before she would disembark.

The NAACP deplors such alarming behavior on the part of airline personnel, and we are aware of these incidents only because the passengers involved knew their rights, knew to speak up and exercised the courage to do so promptly. Historically, the NAACP has issued travel advisories when conditions on the ground pose a substantial risk of harm to black Americans, and we are concerned today that the examples cited herein may represent only the ‘tip of the iceberg’ when it comes to American Airlines’ documented mistreatment of African-American customers.”

## MIDWEST REGION III

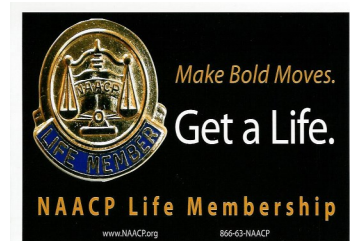
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**JOIN THE NAACP  
NOW!!!**

**MEMBERSHIP IS  
POWER!!!!!!!!!!!!**

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## NAACP Midwest Region III Expands Youth and Young Adult Engagement



Youth & College leaders with Advisor Maureen Duncan (third from right) at the Indiana State Conference NAACP Convention, Oct. 28, 2017 in Indianapolis.



Judge Jennifer Hightower addresses Youth & College leaders at the Illinois State Conference NAACP Convention, Oct. 14, 2017 in Mt. Vernon, IL .



Youth & College leaders prepare for community outreach with Advisor Valerie Talton (back row, center), at the Illinois State Conference NAACP Convention, Oct. 14, 2017 in Mt. Vernon, IL .



Youth & College leaders with Dr. Jerome Reide, Regional Field Director, at the Indiana State Conference NAACP Convention, Oct. 28, 2017 in Indianapolis.

## NAACP NEXT GENERATION



The NAACP Next Generation Program (NextGen) is a 12-month leadership development training program for young adults between the ages of 21 and 35 to be trained to assume leadership in the NAACP. The NextGen program features a series of trainings, including leadership development, legislative action, unit administration, advocacy and program planning consistent with the six NAACP Game Changer areas, which include economic sustainability, education, health, criminal justice, political action and youth engagement. The NAACP NextGen Program will work in tandem with L500 and the NAACP's Youth & College Division as a vertically aligned leadership development initiative.

### FORM TO NOMINATE A YOUNG ADULT TO THE NAACP NEXTGEN PROGRAM

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdRfNbnM3QnmMaqBWLJD6tuTHQpmYxH7UsRJA3XWYBXodIUAviawform>

Nominate a young adult or former youth member who participated in a youth councils, college chapters, young adult council or Academic, Cultural, Technological, Scientific Olympics of the Mind (ACT-SO) program, by completing this nomination form.

### APPLICATION

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfo9qbpqMkU6AogC934aYYmOFvge3NMhzei3dH6ATbk5KGIIO/viewform>

To apply for the NAACP NEXTGEN Program, complete this application. The applicant must complete the application.

**Travel Advisory American Airlines** continued from pg. 1

“All travelers must be guaranteed the right to travel without fear of threat, violence or harm,” **stated Derrick Johnson, President and CEO of the NAACP**. “The growing list of incidents suggesting racial bias reflects an unacceptable corporate culture and involves behavior that cannot be dismissed as normal or random. We expect an audience with the leadership of American Airlines to air these grievances and to spur corrective action. Until these and other concerns are addressed, this national travel advisory will stand,” **If you have recently experienced a concerning travel irregularity on American Airlines on another provider and would like to report it, please do so here.**

## **NAACP BOARD ELECTS DERRICK JOHNSON PRESIDENT & CEO**



<http://www.naacp.org/latest/naacp-board-elects-derrick-johnson-president-ceo/>

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), America’s largest and original legacy civil rights organization, has unanimously elected Derrick Johnson president & CEO, it was announced today. Johnson, 49, has served as interim president and CEO since July of this year. A Detroit native now residing in Jackson, Mississippi, Mr. Johnson, who was also elected vice-chairman of the Board of Directors in February of this year, is a longtime member, leader and a respected veteran activist who will be tasked with guiding the NAACP through a period of tremendous challenge and opportunity at a key point in its 108-year history. The NAACP has undergone transitions in leadership this year as it re-envisioned itself to take on a tumultuous and contentious social and political climate. He will have a three-year term.

“In his time serving as our interim president and CEO, Derrick has proven himself as the strong, decisive leader we need to guide us through both our internal transition, as well as a crucial moment in our nation’s history. With new threats to communities of color emerging daily and attacks on our democracy, the NAACP must be more steadfast than ever before, and Derrick has the vision, mobility and courage to help us meet that demand,” said **Leon Russell, Board Chairman of the NAACP**. “As both a longtime member of the NAACP, and a veteran activist in his own right – having worked on the ground to advocate for the victims of Hurricane Katrina, along with championing countless other issues – Derrick also intimately understands the strengths of the Association, our challenges and the many obstacles facing black Americans of all generations today. I look forward to continuing to work with him in this new role,” he added.

Mr. Johnson has an extensive history and career legacy of dedicated civil rights activism. He formerly served as state president of the Mississippi State Conference of the NAACP, where he successfully spearheaded campaigns for voting rights, worker’s rights and equitable education, and he additionally is the founder and executive director of One Voice, Inc., a Jackson-based non-profit organization conceived in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita to enhance the quality of life for African Americans through civic engagement training and initiatives. He proudly serves on the board of directors of both the Congressional Black Caucus Institute and the Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation.



**Chairman Emeritus Roslyn M. Brock Charges Lansing, MI 52<sup>nd</sup> FF  
 “We must find opportunities to embrace our common humanity!”**



**Chairman Emeritus Roslyn M. Brock**, National Board of Directors, NAACP Speaks at Lansing, MI Branch NAACP 52<sup>nd</sup> Freedom Fund Dinner, Oct. 29, 2017. See video at: <https://www.facebook.com/plugins/video.php?href=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com>

Platinum Sponsors, from the Labor Movement, 52<sup>nd</sup> Lansing, MI NAACP Freedom Fund Dinner, Oct. 29, 2017, were UAW Region 1D, UAW Civil and Human Rights Department. (L-r) Anita Dawson, State President, A. Phillip Randolph Institute MI, represented Gerald Kareem, Director, UAW Region 1D, Dale Copedge, President, Lansing, MI, NAACP, Melvin Coleman, Asst. Dir., UAW Civil and Human Rights Department, Cathy Carson, Secretary, Lansing, MI, NAACP.



**Chairman Emeritus Roslyn M. Brock**, with Lansing, MI NAACP officers, stakeholders and sponsors at 52<sup>nd</sup> Lansing, MI NAACP Freedom Fund Dinner, Oct. 29, 2017.



Yvonne M. White, President, Michigan State Conference NAACP & Assistant Treasurer, National Board of Directors, NAACP the centennial of civil rights icon Fannie Lou Hamer and the importance of voter empowerment at Lansing, MI 52<sup>nd</sup> Freedom Fund Dinner, Oct. 29, 2017.



"We are stronger as a beloved community when we stand together in unity bonded by common goals and common values in pursuit of success and betterment of a beloved community. That is our charge...", said **Chairman Emeritus Roslyn M. Brock** at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Lansing, MI Freedom Fund Dinner, Oct. 29, 2017.



**Chairman Emeritus Roslyn M. Brock**, (c ) with Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Members at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Lansing, MI Freedom Fund Dinner, Oct. 29, 2017.

# NAACP Midwest Region III Game Changer Advocacy



**NAACP National Board Members and Staff Meet With Illinois State Conference On Criminal Justice and Economic Sustainability in Chicago**  
 (First row - l-r), Phyllis Logan, First Vice President, IL State Conference, First VP, Westside Chicago, Chair, IL, Economic Development Chair, Teresa Haley, President, IL State Conference NAACP, & Springfield Branch, Ngozi Ndulue, Sr. Dir, Criminal Justice, NAACP, Tara Thomas, President, Lake County, Rebecca Raines Criminal Justice, Westside Chicago.  
 (Second row - l-r), Mike Clark, President, Joliet, Donald McGruder, Organizing Committee, Far South Suburban, James Gallman, Member, National Board of Directors, NAACP, Hon. Andre Hardy, Mayor, Bellwood, IL, Levander, ("Van") Smith, Criminal Justice, Westside Chicago, Ben Veal, Chair, Membership, Lake County, Scot Esdaile, President, Connecticut State Conference NAACP & Chair, Criminal Justice, National Board of Directors, NAACP.  
 (Not pictured Karl Brinson, President, Westside Chicago and Carl Ellis, Criminal Justice Committee, Westside Chicago.

## Public Policy Advocacy Workshop



Hillary O. Shelton, Director, Washington Bureau, NAACP & Senior Vice President for Advocacy and Policy, NAACP at the Indiana State Conference NAACP Convention, Oct. 28, 2017 in Indianapolis. The Bureau has also produced, since 1914, an annual [Civil Rights Legislative Report Card](http://www.naacp.org/report-cards/).  
<http://www.naacp.org/report-cards/>  
 This resource is designed to provide NAACP members with insight into the general voting patterns of their congressional representatives (Senators and members of the House of Representatives) over the course of the year.



Richard Womack, Members, National Board of Directors, NAACP spoke at the Labor Luncheon Indiana State Conference NAACP Convention, Oct. 28, 2017 in Indianapolis.

April Ryan, White House Correspondent and CNN Political Analyst was the speaker at the Louisville Branch NAACP, Freedom Fund Banquet, Oct. 28, 2017 in Louisville, KY.  
 Raoul Cunningham, President, & Member, National Board of Directors, NAACP, presided.





# NAACP Midwest Region III Game Changer Advocacy



(L-r) Barbara Bolling-Williams, President, Indiana NAACP, Doug Carter, Superintendent, Indiana State Police.

<http://fox59.com/2017/10/19/president-of-indiana-naacp-meets-with-family-of-flora-fire-victims-to-investigate-case/>

Bolling-Williams, says authorities have “bungled” the investigation the Flora, IN house fire that killed four young girls last year. Superintendent, Carter denied a cover-up at a press conference Oct. 26, 2017 in Indianapolis. <https://www.indystar.com/story/news/fox59/2017/10/26/naacp-voices-concerns-handling-deadly-flora-fire-investigation-isp-responds/804952001/>



Trumbull County NAACP held its third community focus forum. October 21, 2017 The forum discussed “Get Out and Vote” for 2017 and 2018. The group also discussed the Opioid epidemic in the Valley, Housing, and Community Safety. ( L-r at the head of the table) Eugene Mach Seventh Ward Councilmember, Annette McCoy, President Trumbull County, NAACP, Vanessa Hughley Assistant Secretary, Trumbull County, NAACP.

**CINCINNATI NAACP** **ACPA**

Our vote is our victory!

**SOULS to the POLLS**

FREE ride to early vote!

SATURDAY, NOV. 4TH  
8 AM TO 3:30 PM  
SUNDAY, NOV. 5TH  
1 PM TO 4:30 PM

COME TO THE CINCINNATI NAACP OFFICE LOCATED AT 3494 READING ROAD TO RECEIVE A FREE RIDE TO THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO EARLY VOTE

CALL 513-318-8332 (ALPHAS) OR 513-281-1900 (NAACP)

TO SCHEDULE A PICK UP FOR SATURDAY OR SUNDAY



Madison County Branch celebrated their first Annual Fight for Freedom Fund Banquet on September 23, 2017. Stanley Franklin, President E. St. Louis Branch, Bishop J.H. Williams, President, Madison County Branch, Teresa Haley, President, IL State Conference NAACP, Springfield Branch, Andy Hightower, President, Alton Branch, John Cunningham, President, Edwardsville Branch supported this historic event. More than two hundred people participated in the celebration of this newly activated NAACP Branch.



# MT. VERNON BRANCH HOSTS ILLINOIS STATE NAACP CONVENTION



Illinois NAACP Gubernatorial Candidate's Forum (L-r) Tio Hardiman, Litesa Wallace, Bob Daiber, J.B. Pritzker, Teresa Haley, President, Illinois State Conference NAACP, Oct. 14, 2017 at Illinois State Conference NAACP Convention, Mt. Vernon, IL .



Illinois NAACP Officers and Illinois Law Enforcement Officials discussed community policing, racial profiling and police-citizen relations at a Criminal Justice workshop 2017 at Illinois State Conference NAACP Convention, Mt. Vernon, IL .



Rev. Keron Sadler, Health Manager, NAACP held a workshop on The Black Church & HIV THE SOCIAL JUSTICE IMPERATIVE.

<https://theblackchurchandhiv.org/resources/take-action/>



Brad Schaive, Business Manager, Local 477, Laborers International Union of North America, speaks at Labor Lunch, Oct. 13, 2017 at Illinois State Conference NAACP Convention, Mt. Vernon, IL .



"Hat Show" at Women in NAACP (WIN) Breakfast at Illinois State Conference NAACP Convention, Mt. Vernon, IL Oct. 14, 2017 .WIN is a standing committee of the NAACP: to enhance the leadership role of women, to serve as an advocacy vehicle for issues affecting women and children, to advocate for the positive development of children, to support the on-going work of the NAACP and its units, especially civil and cultural activities to enhance membership. WIN's national theme is "Outstretched Hands and Open Hearts to Women and Children."



"All White Party-Steppers Set," at Illinois State Conference NAACP Convention, Mt. Vernon, IL Oct. 14, 2017.



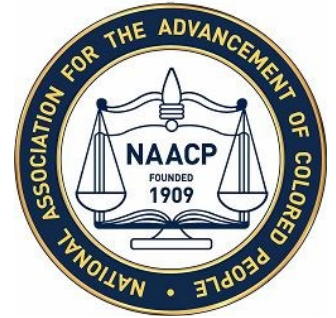
# INDIANAPOLIS BRANCH HOSTS INDIANA STATE CONFERENCE NAACP CONVENTION

## Paula Young Shelton, Teacher & Author Speaks at Indiana Women in NAACP (WIN) Breakfast

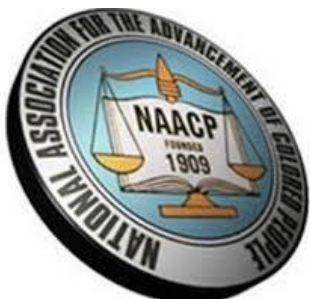


(L-r) Lillie Wilson, Member, National Board of Directors, NAACP, Paula Young Shelton, Educator and Author, Ngozi Ndule, Sr. Director, Criminal Justice, NAACP. Ms. Shelton, highlighted the substantial contributions of African American women in the civil rights movement at the Women in NAACP (WIN) breakfast Indiana NAACP Convention, Indianapolis. WIN is a standing committee of the NAACP. The purposes of WIN are: to enhance the leadership role of women, to serve as an advocacy vehicle for issues affecting women and children, to advocate for the positive development of children, to support the on-going work of the NAACP and its units, especially civil and cultural activities to enhance membership. WIN's national theme is "Outstretched Hands and Open Hearts to Women and Children."

## Byron Ratcliffe Receives Franklin Breckinridge Award, Indiana NAACP's Highest Honor



Members of the Greater Indianapolis Branch NAACP received the Franklin Breckinridge Award, on behalf of Byron Ratcliffe Chair, Criminal Justice, Indiana NAACP. (Left-right) Phyllis Carr, Secretary, Marie Rahman, Ira Mai Steele, Crystal Ratcliffe, President, Barbara Bolling-Williams, President, Indiana State Conference, Rev. Franklin Breckenridge, Ex. Comm., Elkhart, IN, Sidney Taylor, Ruth Cosby Taylor, James White, Denise Abdul Rahman, Chair, Environmental and Climate Justice (Back row, James Burgess, President, Anderson, NAACP.



Cyla Walls, AT&T Scholarship Winner and Debra Vance-State Scholarship Chair at the Scholarship & Awards Banquet Indiana State Conference NAACP Convention, Oct. 28, 2017 in Indianapolis. Ms. Walls plans to become a pediatrician.

