



National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE)

February 2019

Greetings NOBLE Leaders, Valued Members and Sponsors,

Can you believe it is already February? It feels like we were just celebrating the new year and now we are celebrating Black History Month. When we reflect on the contributions of those that charted the course for us, we must remember that first convening, back in September 1976, when sixty top ranking law enforcement executives came together in Washington D.C. for a three-day symposium to discuss the issues that impacted urban communities. In that first convening these executives addressed matters such as fairness in the administration of justice, police community relations, the hiring and promotion of black police officers, and the unique problems of the black police executive. That historic moment in time is when NOBLE was birthed and now nearly 43 years later we have 60 chapters and over 3,000 members. Over the years we have grown tremendously, impacted so many and made a difference in communities throughout the US. NOBLE has a rich history and our founding members have created a legacy to be proud of.

As we celebrate history, we should also prepare for our future. As such, I want to recognize and congratulate our newest chartered chapter, Central Ohio!

NOBLE members are making moves and moving up in the ranks-- congratulations to NOBLE members who have ascended to higher ranks since the first of the year. I also want to pause and pray for the families and departments of fallen Law Enforcement Heroes.

Since my last update, the NOBLE National Executive Board continues to be engaged and monitor issues that impact our members and their respective communities.

NOBLE Highlights:

On December 3rd - 4th Chief Outlaw, Chief Best and I were panelist at the NIJ Women in Policing Summit in Washington. Other NOBLE members in attendance were Chief Ann Kilpatrick and Chief Lakesha Watson. The summit was focused on directing resources towards an evidence-based understanding of issues impacting the recruitment, retention and career development of female officers.

On December 5th & 6th- Chief Mitchell Davis represented NOBLE at the DOJ Project Safe Neighborhoods Conference in Kansas City, Missouri.

On December 5th- 6th – Second VP Lynda Williams represented NOBLE at the Association of Caribbean Commissioners of Police meeting in Miami, Fl.

December 6th through the 8th, Chapter President Robert Ford represented NOBLE at the 100 Black Men 2018 Leadership Summit on Community Engagement and Violence Prevention Workshop.

On December 10th – NOBLE publicly endorsed the Kerrie Orozco First Responders Family Support Act (H.R. 6580).

On December 12th – the NOBLE Executive Board reviewed and approved the 2019 Fiscal Budget for our organization.

On December 17th – Nebraska Chapter submitted documents to reactivate their chapter charter.

On December 18th -19th – the NOBLE Executive Board and Committee Chairs gathered for a Strategic Planning Meeting. The goal of this meeting was to develop a 3-5-year road map for the organization. A draft of our strategy will be published online once it is finalized.

On December 31st - Past National President, Mr. Hubert Bell retired. NOBLE Second Vice President Lynda Williams represented NOBLE at his retirement celebration on December 17th . Congratulations, President Bell and we wish you the best! We appreciate your service and leadership to the Law Enforcement profession and to NOBLE.

On January 12th – Past President Cox represented NOBLE at the NOBLE Birmingham Chapter's Inaugural Scholarship Gala.

On January 22nd -23rd – NOBLE's National Treasurer, Chief Gina Hawkins and I were panelist at Little Rock Police Department's Women's Conference.

On January 25th – NOBLE Membership Chair, AC Melron Kelly and I participated on a panel discussion at the US Conference of Mayors meeting in Washington, DC.

On January 25th – Special Assistant Cedric Alexander represented NOBLE on a panel at a RAI meeting in Orlando, Florida.

On February 4th-5th - I served as the keynote speaker in Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids for their annual Black History Legacy Luncheon. Special thanks to JA Group, Chapter President Ret. Captain Stacy Ledbetter, Region VP Brenda Goss Andrews and NOBLE Members from Michigan for your support and warm welcome to Michigan during some of your historic cold weather.

On February 7th – Past President James Golden join the NOBLE CRI-TAC Team.

On February 11th – Texas College submitted documents to establish the 3rd NOBLE Collegiate Chapter. The chapter has (18) students excited about joining. Special thank you to Edwin Debiew for leading the effort.

On February 11th – NOBLE convened a historic and productive discussion with the Department of Justice (DOJ) to address the relationships between police and various communities across the US. This is a follow up to our initial discussions with DOJ on November 29 2018. We were represented by several NOBLE members

- President – Chief Vera Bumpers, METRO POLICE DEPARTMENT
- Special Assistant – Past President Cedric Alexander
- 1st VP – Chief CJ Davis, Durham Police Department
- National Secretary – Chief M. Davis, Hazel Crest POLICE DEPARTMENT
- National Treasure – Chief Gina Hawkins, Fayetteville Police Department
- National Sgt. At Arms – Chief Sheila Mason, Woodmere Police Department
- Legislative Chair – Ron Davis

- Chief Ann Kilpatrick, Oakland Police Department
- Chief Danielle Outlaw, Portland Police Department
- Chief Scott Thomson, Camden County Police Department
- Sheriff Gabe Morgan, Newport News Sheriff Dept.
- Chief Carmen Best, Seattle Police Department
- Commissioner William Gross, Boston Police Department
- Chief Art Acevedo, Houston Police Department

Thank you to all of the leaders that took time to share perspective and best practices from their communities.

Upcoming Events & Announcements

NOBLE is accepting nominations for our annual awards, please visit website to learn more. You can also contact Awards Chair Dana Carter for additional information.

The **2019 CEO Symposium** will be in Houston, Texas at the Omni Galleria hotel and will be held February 28th through March 2nd. This year's symposium will highlight various issues impacting our communities and several subject matter experts will be participating. The Houston Chapter will also be honoring several local community leaders on February 28th. It is Rodeo time in Houston, so bring your "Boots and Bling" for the President's Reception on March 1st.

And lastly, please remember to support your local chapter and follow us on social media to learn more about upcoming events.

Yours in service,



Vera E. Bumpers, Chief
NOBLE National President

"Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced." - James Baldwin