

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Joseph N. Boyce

PERSON

Boyce, Joseph N.

Alternative Names: Joseph N. Boyce;

Life Dates: April 18, 1937-

Place of Birth: New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

Residence: Atlanta, GA

Occupations: Newspaper Editor

Biographical Note

Newspaper editor Joseph N. Boyce was born on April 18, 1937 in New Orleans, Louisiana to Sadie Boyce. He studied biology at Roosevelt University and attended John Marshall School of Law in Chicago from 1965 to 1967.

In 1961, Boyce joined the Chicago police force, where he served for five years as a patrolman, district vice detective, evidence technician and police academy law instructor. In 1966, he was hired as the first African American reporter at the Chicago Tribune, where he covered the Nigerian Civil War and the Democratic National Convention of 1968. Time magazine recruited Boyce as a correspondent at the publication's Chicago bureau in 1970, where he wrote a series of articles on the emergence of urban gangs. Within three years, he was promoted to chief of the San Francisco bureau, where he covered the Patricia Hearst kidnapping and trial, the assassination attempts on President Gerald Ford, and the Moscone-Milk assassinations.

Boyce became chief of Time's Atlanta bureau and southern region in 1979 and moved on to the position of deputy chief of Time's New York bureau in 1985. The Wall Street Journal then hired him as senior editor for public and social policy in 1987, making him the first African American senior editor at the paper. He retired from the Wall Street Journal in 1998 and became an adjunct professor at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism in 1999. In 2001, Boyce was hired as an adjunct professor at Indiana/Purdue University's Indianapolis School of Journalism where he won the Alfred Bynum award for mentoring in 2006.

Boyce has been a member of various associations, including the National Association of Black Journalists, the Indianapolis Association of Black Journalists, and the Indiana Pro Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. He was also a founding member

of the National Association of Minority Media Executives (NAMME), and served as a consultant to the Wall Street Journal.

Boyce lives in Indianapolis with his wife Carol, with whom he has four children.

Joseph Boyce was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on December 12, 2012.

Related Entries

Roosevelt University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

B.S.

John Marshall Law School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Did not graduate

Chicago Police Department [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1961 to 1966]

Police Officer

Chicago Tribune [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1966 to 1970]

Reporter

Time, Inc. [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1970 to 1973]

Correspondent, Chicago Bureau

Time, Inc. [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1973 to 1979]

Chief, San Francisco Bureau

Time, Inc. [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1979 to 1985]

Chief, Atlanta Bureau

Time, Inc. [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1985 to 1987]

Deputy Chief, New York Bureau

Wall Street Journal [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1987 to 1998]

Senior Editor, Public and Social Policy

Columbia University [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1999 to 2001]

Adjunct Journalism Professor

Indiana University - Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 2001 to ?]

Adjunct Professor

National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) [MEMBEROf]
[from ? to ?]

Member

Indianapolis Association of Black Journalists [MEMBEROf]
[from ? to ?]

Member

Asian-American Journalists Association [MEMBEROf]
[from ? to ?]

Member

Indian Pro Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists [MEMBEROf]
[from ? to ?]

Former President

Chicago Federation of Musicians Union [MEMBEROf]
[from ? to ?]

Life Member, Local 10-208

National Association of Minority Media Executives [MEMBEROf]
[from 2015 to 2018]

Board Member