

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Junius Williams

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Williams, Junius W., 1943-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Junius Williams,
Dates:	April 12, 2017 and December 5, 2017
Bulk Dates:	2017
Physical Description:	8 uncompressed MOV digital video files (3:51:37).
Abstract:	Lawyer Junius Williams (1943 -) was the youngest president of the National Bar Association and served as township attorney for Irvington, New Jersey. Williams was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on April 12, 2017 and December 5, 2017, in New York, New York. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2017_082
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Lawyer Junius Williams was born on December 23, 1943 in Suffolk, Virginia. Williams graduated from Armstrong High School in Richmond, Virginia. He earned his B.A. degree from Amherst College in 1965, and his J.D. degree from Yale Law School in 1968.

While attending law school, Williams spent his summers living in Newark, New Jersey to work with the Newark Community Union Project. Following his graduation from Yale Law School, Williams moved to Newark to help rebuild the city after the riots of 1967 and maintain a private law practice. He began as the director of the Newark Area Planning Association, where he helped produce affordable housing and job training programs for minorities. In 1970, Williams was named as the director of the Model Cities Program for the City of Newark. He was then named as the youngest president in the National Bar Association's history in 1978, and his administration became known as "The Year of Affirmative Action." In 1990, Williams was named as counsel to the Municipal Council of Irvington, New Jersey. Only four years later, he became the Township Attorney for Irvington. During his career, Williams also served as the director for the Abbott Leadership Institute at Rutgers University.

In addition to his professional career, Williams was also involved with the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee during the Civil Rights Movement. As a member of SNCC, he participated in the 1963 March on Washington and the Selma to Montgomery March. Williams was involved in the Civil Rights History Project as a part of the Smithsonian Institute as well. He served as a chairman of the Greater Abyssinian Baptist Church from 1990 until 2003 and as an official observer at the first South African National Election in 1994. He was also the chairman of the board of trustees for the Education Law Center from 2000 until 2005. Williams published his own book on African American politics, *Unfinished Agenda: Urban Politics in the Era of Black Power*, in 2014.

Williams and his wife, Dr. Antoinette Ellis-Williams, have four children: Camille, Junea, Junius, and Che.

Junius Williams was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on March 31, 2017.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Junius Williams was conducted by Harriette Cole on April 12, 2017 and December 5, 2017, in New York, New York, and was recorded on 8 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Lawyer Junius Williams (1943 -) was the youngest president of the National Bar Association and served as township attorney for Irvington, New Jersey.

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access

Restrictions may be applied on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of The HistoryMakers®.

Restrictions on Use

All use of materials and use credits must be pre-approved by The HistoryMakers®. Appropriate credit must be given. Copyright is held by The HistoryMakers®.

Related Material

Information about the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview, as well as correspondence with the interview subject is stored electronically both on The HistoryMakers® server and in two databases maintained by The HistoryMakers®, though this information is not included in this finding aid.

Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Persons:

Williams, Junius W., 1943-

Cole, Harriette (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Williams, Junius W., 1943---Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Lawyer

HistoryMakers® Category:

LawMakers

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Interview footage was recorded by The HistoryMakers®. All rights to the interview have been transferred to The HistoryMakers® by the interview subject through a signed interview release form. Signed interview release forms have been deposited with Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago.

Preferred Citation

The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Junius Williams, April 12, 2017 and December 5, 2017. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Processing Information

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 5/30/2023 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

Other Finding Aid

A Microsoft Access contact database and a FileMaker Pro tracking database, both maintained by The HistoryMakers®, keep track of the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with Junius Williams, Section A2017_082_001_001, TRT: 1:29:38 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Junius Williams, Section A2017_082_001_002, TRT: 2:28:05 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Junius Williams, Section A2017_082_001_003, TRT: 3:27:00 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Junius Williams, Section A2017_082_001_004, TRT: 4:29:33 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Junius Williams, Section A2017_082_001_005, TRT: 5:18:40 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Junius Williams, Section A2017_082_002_006, TRT: 6:31:37 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Junius Williams, Section A2017_082_002_007, TRT: 7:28:57 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Junius Williams, Section A2017_082_002_008, TRT: 8:38:07 ?