

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with C. Virginia Fields

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## Overview of the Collection

<b>Repository:</b>	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
<b>Creator:</b>	Fields, C. Virginia, 1946-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with C. Virginia Fields,
<b>Dates:</b>	April 11, 2017 and December 8, 2017
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2017
<b>Physical Description:</b>	10 uncompressed MOV digital video files (4:58:14).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Legislator C. Virginia Fields (1945 - ) Fields was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on April 11, 2017 and December 8, 2017, in New York, New York. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2017_086
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Legislator C. Virginia Fields was born on August 6, 1945 in Birmingham, Alabama to Peter Clark and Lucille Clark. Fields earned her B.A. degree in sociology from Knoxville College, located in Knoxville, Tennessee, in 1967; and her M.S.W. degree in social work from Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana in 1969. Fields was active in the Civil Rights Movement as a teenager and marched with Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in Birmingham and spent six days in jail. After graduating from Indiana University, Fields moved to New York in 1970 to pursue a career in social work. She began her political career in 1981, when she was elected as chair of the Community Board 10 in New York City. Fields held that position until 1983. Fields was first elected to the New York City Council in 1989 as a representative of the 5th District. She was then re-elected to the New York City Council in 1993 as a representative of the 9th District. Fields served two terms as the president of the Manhattan Borough and was only the second African American woman to hold that position. She was also the highest ranking African American elected official at the time. Fields remained as president of the Manhattan Borough until her term ended in 2005. After her term as president ended, Fields became the first African American woman to run for mayor of New York City in 2006, although she lost in the Democratic Primary.

In addition to her political career, Fields was also active in her community. In 2008, she was appointed as president and chief executive officer of The National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS. Fields also served on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Region II Health Equity Council after being appointed by Governor David A. Paterson in 2011. In 2014, she was appointed by Governor Anthony Cuomo to the New York State's Ending the AIDS Epidemic Task Force. She has also served on the National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable, Policy Committee and Public Justice Project Steering Committee. Additionally, Fields is a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, the Links Incorporated and Abyssinian Baptist Church. C. Virginia Fields was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on April 11, 2017 and December 8, 2017.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with C. Virginia Fields was conducted by Harriette Cole on April 11, 2017 and December 8, 2017, in New York, New York, and was recorded on 10 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Legislator C. Virginia Fields (1945 - )

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## 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®.

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## 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.

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## Controlled Access Terms

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

### Persons:

Fields, C. Virginia, 1946-

Cole, Harriette (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

### Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Fields, C. Virginia, 1946---Interviews

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## Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

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The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

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# Occupations:

Legislator

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# HistoryMakers® Category:

PoliticalMakers

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# 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 C. Virginia Fields, April 11, 2017 and December 8, 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).

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# 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.

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# Detailed Description of the Collection

## Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with C. Virginia Fields, Section A2017\_086\_001\_001, TRT: 1:25:17  
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Video Oral History Interview with C. Virginia Fields, Section A2017\_086\_001\_002, TRT: 2:28:52  
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Video Oral History Interview with C. Virginia Fields, Section A2017\_086\_001\_003, TRT: 3:28:08  
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Video Oral History Interview with C. Virginia Fields, Section A2017\_086\_001\_004, TRT: 4:31:25  
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Video Oral History Interview with C. Virginia Fields, Section A2017\_086\_001\_005, TRT: 5:25:07  
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Video Oral History Interview with C. Virginia Fields, Section A2017\_086\_001\_006, TRT: 6:30:18  
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Video Oral History Interview with C. Virginia Fields, Section A2017\_086\_002\_007, TRT: 7:29:33  
?

Video Oral History Interview with C. Virginia Fields, Section A2017\_086\_002\_008, TRT: 8:30:14  
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Video Oral History Interview with C. Virginia Fields, Section A2017\_086\_002\_009, TRT: 9:30:34  
?

Video Oral History Interview with C. Virginia Fields, Section A2017\_086\_002\_010, TRT:  
10:38:46 ?