

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Charles "Fred" Hearns

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Hearns, Charles, 1948-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Charles "Fred" Hearns,
Dates:	September 11, 2018
Bulk Dates:	2018
Physical Description:	8 uncompressed MOV digital video files (3:32:30).
Abstract:	Municipal official Charles "Fred" Hearns (1948-) served as director at the City of Tampa, department of community affairs. In 2005, Hearns started his own tourism business and wrote an autobiographical book, 'Getting It Done: Rebuilding Black America Brick By Brick.' Hearns was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on September 11, 2018, in Tampa, Florida. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2018_187
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Municipal official Charles "Fred" Hearns was born on November 28, 1948 in the Bronx, New York to Grace Tillman Clark and Samuel Hearns. He attended College Hill Elementary School, Booker T. Washington Junior High School and George S. Middleton High School in Tampa, Florida. Hearns went on to receive his B.A. degree in English journalism from the University of South Florida in Tampa in 1970 and his M.A. degree from Springfield College Tampa Bay in 2011. He later obtained his second M.A. degree, this time in African American studies from the University of South Florida in 2014.

In 1970, Hearns briefly worked as a newspaper reporter for the Fort Lauderdale *Sun Sentinel* in Fort Lauderdale, Florida before returning to Tampa to accept a position as general news editor at the *Florida Sentinel Bulletin*. In 1971, Hearns became the sports information director for Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He remained there until 1974, when he returned to Tampa to work in the city's Department of Community Affairs. Hearns worked for the city in this department for over thirty-two years, beginning as a community relations representative and working his way up to director. During his tenure, Hearns worked on several major projects including the reestablishment of his high school alma mater, and as a consultant for the revitalization of the Perry Harvey, Sr. Park project. He was also a founding member of several civic organizations in the city such as the 78th Street Improvement Association, the Ada T. Payne Friends of the Urban Libraries and the Robert W. Saunders Library Foundation, Inc. In 2005, Hearns started his own tourism business, Fred Hearns Tours, LLC, which included both bus and walking tours of Tampa's African American history. The next year, he wrote an autobiographical book, 'Getting It Done: Rebuilding Black America Brick By Brick.'

Hearns served as president of the local chapter of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History and was a longtime member of the NAACP, the Tampa Urban League and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. He also worked as a consultant for the ENCORE housing project in Tampa. Hearns served on the Friends of the

Riverwalk committee and on the Florida Advisory Committee of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. In 2014, he was awarded the Robert Saunders Award for Community Service.

Charles "Fred" Hearn was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on September 11, 2018.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Charles "Fred" Hearn was conducted by Larry Crowe on September 11, 2018, in Tampa, Florida, and was recorded on 8 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Municipal official Charles "Fred" Hearn (1948-) served as director at the City of Tampa, department of community affairs. In 2005, Hearn started his own tourism business and wrote an autobiographical book, 'Getting It Done: Rebuilding Black America Brick By Brick.'

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:

Hearn, Charles, 1948-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Hearn, Charles, 1948- --Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

City Government Administrator

HistoryMakers® Category:

CivicMakers

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 Charles "Fred" Hearn, September 11, 2018. 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 Charles "Fred" Hearn, Section A2018_187_001_001, TRT: 1:29:58 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Charles "Fred" Hearn, Section A2018_187_001_002, TRT: 2:27:55 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Charles "Fred" Hearn, Section A2018_187_001_003, TRT: 3:29:46 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Charles "Fred" Hearn, Section A2018_187_001_004, TRT: 4:29:59 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Charles "Fred" Hearn, Section A2018_187_001_005, TRT: 5:32:58 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Charles "Fred" Hearn, Section A2018_187_001_006, TRT: 6:31:59 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Charles "Fred" Hearn, Section A2018_187_001_007, TRT: 7:19:46 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Charles "Fred" Hearn, Section A2018_187_001_008, TRT: 8:10:09 ?