

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with The Honorable Anthony Young

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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>	Young, Anthony L., 1948-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Anthony Young,
<b>Dates:</b>	August 17, 2000
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2000
<b>Physical Description:</b>	3 Betacame SP videocassettes (1:06:20).
<b>Abstract:</b>	County circuit court judge and state representative The Honorable Anthony Young (1948 - ) was elected to the Illinois House of Representatives in 1984. In 1992, Young left the Illinois General Assembly and became a judge in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Domestic Relations Division. Prior to his career in politics, Young was a member of the United States Air Force and practiced law in Chicago. Young was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on August 17, 2000, in Springfield, Illinois. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2000_065
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Anthony L. Young was born on December 11, 1948, in Chicago, Illinois. After graduating from St. Rita High School, Young married and briefly attended several Chicago area colleges before joining the United States Air Force in 1970. During the next four years, Young attended Golden Gate University's branch at Edwards Air Force Base, where Young was stationed. Graduating cum laude with his B.A. degree in business administration, Young returned to Chicago and enrolled at DePaul University College of Law. He graduated in 1977 and was admitted to the Illinois Bar that same year. Spending the next few years in private practice, Young participated in a Cook County program that appointed private counsel to serve as public defenders in cases, such as the trial of the Pontiac Prison inmates accused of murdering three guards. All defendants in this case were acquitted.

In 1984, Young was elected to the Illinois House of Representatives. During his time there, he was a member of the Committees of Health Care, Educational Finance and Rules. For his second term, Young was appointed floor spokesman for the Democrats, and for his third term, he was appointed Deputy Majority Leader of the House of Representatives. During this time, Young mentored an ex-felon, giving him a job in his office. This man was future Representative Coy Pugh, who, thanks to Young's guidance, would himself eventually serve in the Illinois General Assembly.

In 1992, Young left the Illinois General Assembly. He is currently a Judge in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Domestic Relations Division. He and his wife, Darthula, are the parents of two children.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with The Honorable Anthony Young was conducted by Adele Hodge on August 17, 2000, in Springfield, Illinois, and was recorded on 3 Betacame SP videocassettes. County circuit court judge and state representative The Honorable Anthony Young (1948 - ) was elected to the Illinois House of Representatives in 1984. In 1992, Young left the Illinois General Assembly and became a judge in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Domestic Relations Division. Prior to his career in politics, Young was a member of the United States Air Force and practiced law in Chicago.

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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:

Young, Anthony L., 1948-

Hodge, Adele (Interviewer)

Haynes, Frank (Videographer)

### Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews  
Young, Anthony L., 1948---Interviews

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African American legislators--Illinois--Interviews

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State governments--Officials and employees--Interviews

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African American lawyers--Illinois--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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Cook County (Ill.)

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Illinois

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## Occupations:

County Circuit Court Judge

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State Representative

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## HistoryMakers® Category:

LawMakers

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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 The Honorable Anthony Young, August 17, 2000. 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.

## Detailed Description of the Collection

### Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Anthony Young, Section A2000\_065\_001\_001, TRT: 0:29:35 ?

Anthony Young describes his family background. Born to Clarence and Barbara Young on December 11, 1948, in Chicago, Illinois, Young's parents divorced when he was a young child. After his father's death in 1959, Barbara Young raised her children as a single parent. Young attended St. Rita High School in Chicago, Illinois, where he found the social environment of the predominantly white, all-boys Catholic school challenging. He graduated around 1966, and attended the University of Illinois at Chicago and The Loop Junior College. Young married his wife in 1968, enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, and completed his undergraduate degree at Golden State University in California. Unhappy with military lifestyle, Young enrolled at DePaul University School of Law. Upon graduating, he established a law practice in Chicago. After State Representative Ozie Hutchins lost his seat, Young ran to fill it in 1984. Young describes the challenges he faced as an Illinois State Representative, and his greatest accomplishments.

African American legislators--Illinois--Interviews.

State governments--Officials and employees--Interviews.

African American lawyers--Illinois--Interviews.

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Anthony Young, Section A2000\_065\_001\_002, TRT: 0:29:35 ?

Anthony Young compares local, state, and federal government, and talks about the need to increase political awareness and participation in the African American community. In the mid-1980s, Young worked with his fellow legislators, Chicago Public School leaders, and members of the Chicago community to enact a massive overhaul of the city's educational system. Young considers the triumphs and challenges of this reform, and the lasting impact it left on Chicago's educational and political landscapes. In 1992, Young left the Illinois General Assembly to become a Judge in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Domestic Relations Division. He talks about the positives and negatives of being a judge, and his decision not to run for public office again. Young considers how he would like to be remembered, and talks about his family and personal life. He closes by sharing a message for his children.

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Anthony Young, Section A2000\_065\_001\_003, TRT: 0:07:10 ?

Anthony Young talks about his grandparents. His paternal grandfather, Homer Young, was born in Florida where he met and married Kate Young. Homer Young was a Pullman Porter, while Kate young was a housewife. The couple fled the South after Homer Young had an altercation with a white man over his wife. Young shares memories of his maternal grandfather, including skipping school lunches so he could eat lunch at her house. Young's maternal grandparents, John and Carrie Hughes, were from Georgia. John Young was a postman, and both grandparents had a close relationship with Anthony Young.