

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Earnie Ellison

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Ellison, Earnie, 1948-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Earnie Ellison,
Dates:	August 12, 2015
Bulk Dates:	2015
Physical Description:	9 uncompressed MOV digital video files (4:20:19).
Abstract:	Sports executive Earnie Ellison (1948 -) was the managing partner for Ellison Consulting Group, LLC, and spent seventeen years as Director of Business and Community Relations for the PGA, where he opened up significant opportunities for minorities in golf. Ellison was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on August 12, 2015, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2015_003
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Corporate executive Earnest Ellison, Jr. was born on May 20, 1948 in Elba, Alabama, to Ruby H. Ellison and Earnest Ellison, Sr. The eldest of six children, Ellison graduated from Mulberry Heights High School in 1966. He earned his B.S. degree in accounting and business management from Alabama A&M University in 1970. Upon graduation, Ellison began working in the financial management sector of International Business Machines Corporation.

Ellison worked at IBM for nearly nineteen years, serving in various financial positions domestically and internationally. In 1989, Ellison joined the Unisys Corporation as Director of Finance in charge of business controls. He left Unisys in 1992 to work briefly with his brother, before joining the PGA of America as Director of Business and Community Relations in 1997. During his seventeen year tenure at the PGA, Ellison directed initiatives to create a positive image for the PGA as it related to diversity and inclusion. He formed a minority and women business inclusion program and a golf industry supplier diversity initiative, and facilitated the development of a sanctioned Professional Golf Management Program at an HBCU so minority students could earn a B.S. degree in golf management. Ellison also negotiated the transfer of The Minority College Golf Championship from Cleveland to Florida and significantly enhanced this event when the name was changed to the PGA Minority Collegiate Golf Championship. Ellison retired from the PGA in 2013 to start the Ellison Consulting Group, LLC, a business of sports diversity and inclusion consulting firm where he became managing partner in 2014.

Ellison became the Chair of the United Way of Palm Beach County, in July 2016, and was the first African American to hold this position. He was also the vice chair of the First Tee of Palm Beach, Martin and Broward Counties, treasurer of the Black Chamber of Commerce of Palm Beach County and a member of the advisory board for the Palm Beach County Boy Scouts. Ellison also served on the diversity committee of the World Golf Foundation and the National Red Cross Diversity Committee. A life member of Kappa Alpha Psi and Sigma Pi Phi

Fraternities, and various golf organizations, Ellison was honored for his many efforts and initiatives by the Louisville Chamber of Commerce, the Louisville Urban League, the Congressional Black Caucus, the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, The Links, and the United Way of Palm Beach County. Ellison was named the Kappa Alpha Psi Man of Year, and has been included on the “Who’s Who in South Florida” list, and on the “50 Most Powerful Blacks in South Florida” list. Ellison also received the 2015 Fellowship Open Life Time Achievement Award. Ellison has two sons, Brent L. Ellison and Jason E. Saunders, one daughter, Paula E. Elliard, and two granddaughters, Kendra and Destinee Elliard.

Earnest Ellison was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on August 12, 2015.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Earnie Ellison was conducted by Julieanna L. Richardson on August 12, 2015, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and was recorded on 9 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Sports executive Earnie Ellison (1948 -) was the managing partner for Ellison Consulting Group, LLC, and spent seventeen years as Director of Business and Community Relations for the PGA, where he opened up significant opportunities for minorities in golf.

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:

Ellison, Earnie, 1948-

Richardson, Julieanna L. (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews
Ellison, Earnie, 1948- --Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Sports Executive

HistoryMakers® Category:

SportsMakers

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 Earnie Ellison, August 12, 2015. 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 Earnie Ellison, Section A2015_003_001_001, TRT: 1:30:09 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Earnie Ellison, Section A2015_003_001_002, TRT: 2:32:31 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Earnie Ellison, Section A2015_003_001_003, TRT: 3:30:36 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Earnie Ellison, Section A2015_003_001_004, TRT: 4:31:51 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Earnie Ellison, Section A2015_003_001_005, TRT: 5:34:36 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Earnie Ellison, Section A2015_003_001_006, TRT: 6:34:42 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Earnie Ellison, Section A2015_003_001_007, TRT: 7:32:42 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Earnie Ellison, Section A2015_003_001_008, TRT: 8:29:54 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Earnie Ellison, Section A2015_003_001_009, TRT: 9:03:18 ?