

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Sherman Tate

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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>	Tate, Sherman, 1945-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Sherman Tate,
<b>Dates:</b>	March 12, 2018
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2018
<b>Physical Description:</b>	8 uncompressed MOV digital video files (3:55:19).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Corporate executive Sherman Tate (1945 - ) was the first African American manager in the Arkansas Office of Personnel Management before becoming the first African American manager at Arkla Gas Company, later founding two management consulting firms, the Domino Effect and HT & Associates. Tate was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on March 12, 2018, in Little Rock, Arkansas. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2018_042
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Corporate executive Sherman Tate was born on October 5, 1945 in Marvell, Arkansas to Annie and Rufus Tate. He attended Philander Smith College in Little Rock, Arkansas until 1966 when he was drafted into the United States Army. After serving for two years, Tate graduated from Philander Smith College in 1970 with his B.A. degree in psychology.

Upon graduation, Tate was hired by the consulting firm, General Behavioral Systems. He then went to work for the Arkansas Office of Personnel Management in 1972 as a personnel analyst. Tate subsequently worked for the Arkansas Bureau of Legislative Research where he was the personnel director of the State Legislative Council, making him their first African American employee. In 1974, Tate was hired by the University of Arkansas, Little Rock to develop and run an office of non-academic personnel. At the request of Governor David Pryor, Tate returned to the Arkansas Office of Personnel Management and became the first African American to manage this department. In 1980, he was named director of personnel for Arkla Gas Company's Arkansas Division, making him the first African American in a management position at the company. Tate was later promoted to vice president of consumer and community relations, then vice president of marketing; and two years, later he became vice president of distribution and operations. Tate subsequently joined Alltel Corporation in 1998 as vice president and general manager of operations, where he was responsible for human and fiscal resources for Alltel's telephone operations in Arkansas and Mississippi. Tate also served as president of the local telephone company and vice president of external affairs for Alltel until they were acquired by Verizon in 2009. With Verizon, he served as vice president from 2009 to 2011 and was responsible for legislative, regulatory and public policy issues in Arkansas, Louisiana, Tennessee, Kentucky and Ohio. In 2011, Tate left Verizon and established two management consulting firms, the Domino Effect and HT & Associates, now a part of the holding company Tate & Associates.

Tate was also the first African American to be elected chairman of the Little Rock Regional Chamber of

Commerce in 1989, and has since served on numerous boards including for Philander Smith College, St. Vincent Health System, the United Negro College Fund, and the Pulaski County Facilities Board. In addition, he serves on the board of the Arkansas Blue Cross and Blue Shield and as chairman of the Southern Bancorp Bank Governing Board and the Urban League of the State of Arkansas.

Sherman Tate was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on March 12, 2018.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Sherman Tate was conducted by Randall Pinkston on March 12, 2018, in Little Rock, Arkansas, and was recorded on 8 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Corporate executive Sherman Tate (1945 - ) was the first African American manager in the Arkansas Office of Personnel Management before becoming the first African American manager at Arkla Gas Company, later founding two management consulting firms, the Domino Effect and HT & Associates.

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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:

Tate, Sherman, 1945-

Pinkston, Randall (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

### Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Tate, Sherman, 1945- --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:

Corporate Executive

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## HistoryMakers® Category:

BusinessMakers

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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 Sherman Tate, March 12, 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).

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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 Sherman Tate, Section A2018\_042\_001\_001, TRT: 1:29:39 ?  
Video Oral History Interview with Sherman Tate, Section A2018\_042\_001\_002, TRT: 2:32:25 ?  
Video Oral History Interview with Sherman Tate, Section A2018\_042\_001\_003, TRT: 3:31:37 ?  
Video Oral History Interview with Sherman Tate, Section A2018\_042\_001\_004, TRT: 4:29:06 ?  
Video Oral History Interview with Sherman Tate, Section A2018\_042\_001\_005, TRT: 5:30:17 ?  
Video Oral History Interview with Sherman Tate, Section A2018\_042\_001\_006, TRT: 6:30:45 ?  
Video Oral History Interview with Sherman Tate, Section A2018\_042\_001\_007, TRT: 7:29:33 ?  
Video Oral History Interview with Sherman Tate, Section A2018\_042\_001\_008, TRT: 8:21:57 ?