

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Maurita Coley

PERSON

Coley, Maurita, 1956-

Alternative Names: Maurita Coley;

Life Dates: June 18, 1956-

Place of Birth: Detroit, Michigan, USA

Residence: Washington, District of Columbia

Occupations: Lawyer

Biographical Note

Lawyer and nonprofit executive Maurita Coley was born on June 18, 1956 in Detroit, Michigan. Coley graduated from Cass Technical High School in 1973 and went on to receive her B.A. in communications arts and sciences from Michigan State University in 1977. In 1981, Coley received her J.D. degree from Georgetown University Law Center.

In 1981, Coley joined Clark Klein & Beaumont as an associate attorney in Detroit, Michigan. Two years later, she moved to Cole Raywid and Braverman, where she served as an attorney and partner. In 1993, Coley joined BET Networks as senior vice president of legal affairs; and, in 1995, she became senior vice president of network operations and programming. In 1999, Coley returned to Cole Raywid and Braverman, which became Davis Wright Tremaine LLP in 2007. She later served as principal of Coley Law and Media, PLLC, in 2009, where she worked for three years. In 2010, Coley joined Capital Area Asset Builders as its executive director. Two years later, Coley served as executive vice president, chief operating officer, and acting chief executive officer of Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council. In 2018, she was promoted to president and chief executive officer.

Coley served as co-committee chair for Georgetown Law Center's Black Alumni Endowment at the first Georgetown Black Law Alumni Reunion. She also served as co-agent for Davis Wright Tremaine law firm in the Georgetown Law Firm Challenge. In 2014, Coley was on the Strategic Planning Council of Alumni Leaders of Georgetown University Law Center. She is an executive committee member of Daniel Alexander Payne Community Development Corporation (DAPCDC), and is also a member of the District of Columbia Bar, the State of Michigan Bar, and the U.S. Supreme Court Bar.

Coley has received multiple awards for her work including the 2005 Distinguished Alumnae Award from Georgetown University Law Center's Women's Law Forum, being named a CableFax Top Lawyer in 2017, and receiving the 2018 President's Award for Community Service from Black Data Professionals Association.

Coley and her husband, Paul Flippin, reside in Washington, D.C.

Maurita Coley was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on August 20, 2019.

Related Entries

Roosevelt Elementary School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Pattengill Elementary School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Webber Middle School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

George W. Ferris School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

George Ford Middle School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Cass Technical High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Michigan State University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Georgetown University Law Center [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

J.D.

Johns Hopkins University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council (MMTC) [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 2012 to 2018]

Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council (MMTC) [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 2018 to ?]

President and CEO

Capital Area Asset Builders (CAAB) [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 201002 to 201112]

Chief Executive Officer

Coley Law and Media, PLLC [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 200910 to 2012]

Principal

Cole Raywid & Braverman [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1983 to 1993]

Partner

Cole Raywid & Braverman (Davis Wright Tremaine) [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1999 to 2009]

Partner

BET Holdings, LLC [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1993 to 1995]

Senior Vice President of Legal Affairs

BET Holdings, LLC [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1995 to 1999]

Senior Vice President of Network Operations and Programming

Detroit News [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1978 to ?]

Editorial Assistant and Staff Writer

Clark Hill PLC (Clark Klein & Beaumont) [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1981 to 1983]

Associate Attorney

Metropolitan AME Church [MEMBEROf]
[from ? to ?]

Senior Board of Stewards

Daniel Alexander Payne Community Development Corporation [MEMBEROf]
[from 2015 to ?]

Board Member, Secretary Co-Chair, Economic Empowerment Programs

Charter Communications [MEMBEROf]
[from 2017 to ?]

Member, External Diversity and Inclusion Council

Banneker City Cultural Circle [MEMBEROf]
[from 2009 to ?]

Member

Federal Communications Commission [MEMBEROf]
[from 2017 to 2019]

Appointee, Advisory Committee on Diversity and Digital Empowerment

