



SCBLA

South Carolina Black Lawyers Association

Newsletter

February 2021

Dear SCBLA Family,

Happy Black History Month! As you may have heard, we picked February to kick off our membership drive in honor of this annual recognition of the many contributions African-Americans have made—and continue to make—to American history. You should have also received a membership survey and we ask that you take a few minutes to fill out the short survey so we can better serve you through programming and event planning. For your convenience, a link to the survey is also included [here](#). Additionally, please check out the Black History Month Spotlight of Judge Harold R. Boulware contained within this issue.

SCBLA is nothing without its members that make history every single day. If you have not already, please take a few moments and send your membership dues to SCBLA at: P.O. Box 1092, Columbia, SC 29202. Additionally, please reach out to your colleagues and make sure that they have done the same. As the saying goes, there is strength in numbers. Let's continue to build our numbers and the impact we can have locally and nationally!

As always, we encourage you to keep the suggestions and submissions coming. We are listening! Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of assistance.

Yours in Solidarity,

Breon



Breon
Walker
President



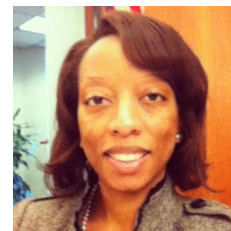
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Black History Month Spotlight

Judge Harold R. Boulware



Born in Irmo in 1913, Harold R. Boulware, Sr. was the son of Robert Walter and Mabel Hughes Boulware. He attended Howard University Law School by working as a waiter to help pay his way through school. Having passed the SC Bar in 1940, he was the first African American to do so since Reconstruction.

In 1941, he became the Chief Counsel for the South Carolina NAACP and led the effort to gain equal pay for equal work for African American teachers. He gained fame as the chief attorney in the Clarendon County Schools desegregation case of Briggs v. Elliot. This class action suit was consolidated with similar ones from five other states and became widely known as Brown v. Board of Education which led to the desegregation of public schools in South Carolina and the nation.

In August 1969 he was the first African American appointed as an Associate Judge for the Columbia Municipal Court, serving until 1974 when he became a judge in the Richland County Judicial System. His court later became the Family Court of the Fifth Judicial Circuit within the statewide Judicial System.

He received Honors, including those from the ABA, NBA the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and the NAACP. Failing health caused the Honorable Harold R. Boulware, Sr. to retire in September of 1982. He then died on January 27, 1983. This picture of him hangs in Judge Michelle Hurley's courtroom.

Announcements

SCBLA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

In honor of Black History Month, we are embarking on a membership drive! For those of you who have already paid your membership dues through the SC Bar...THANK YOU! For those of you still needing to pay your 2021 membership dues, please do so by mailing your checks to the SCBLA at: **P.O. Box 1092, Columbia, SC 29202.**

We also sent out a survey this month to current members. The information gathered will be used to drive programming, future events, and overall organizational planning. Let's all work together to engage each other and increase our membership!

SCBLA CIRCUIT REPRESENTATIVES

There is still a vacancy for the Circuit Representative position in the **6th** circuit. If you or someone you know are interested and wish to be considered to fill the vacancy, please email [Jasmine](#). Keep in mind, you must live within the circuit if you wish to serve.

DIVERSITY COMMITTEE'S VIRTUAL FIRESIDE CHATS

The next installment of the SC Bar's Diversity Committee's Virtual Fireside Chats: Beyond the Robe is Feb. 25 from 6-7:30 p.m. featuring retired Circuit Court **Judge Richard E. Fields** and Circuit Court **Judge Deadra L. Jefferson**.

Committee member **Sutania A. Fuller** will have a candid conversation with Judge Fields and Judge Jefferson, talking about their journeys to the bench and their experiences in law.

The program will be available to view on the SC Bar's [Facebook Live](#) and on the SC Bar's [website](#). Registration is **not** required and the event is open to anyone who wants to attend. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact Sutania A. Fuller at sfuller@lex-co.com.

CLE COMPLIANCE REPORTS ARE DUE

Please be reminded that the SC Bar CLE Compliance reports and fees are due at the Commission no later than **March 1, 2021**.

****Submissions for the e-Newsletter are to be made by midnight on the last Sunday of each month!****

Contact Us



P.O. Box 1092 Columbia, SC 29202