

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with John W. Daniels, Jr.

PERSON

Daniels, John W.

Alternative Names: John W. Daniels, Jr.; John Windom Daniels

Life Dates: June 11, 1948-

Place of Birth: Birmingham, Alabama, USA

Residence: Mequon, WI

Work: Milwaukee, WI

Occupations: Corporate Lawyer

Biographical Note

Noted corporate lawyer and civic leader John Windom Daniels, Jr. was born the second-oldest of eight children to John and Kathryn Townsel Daniels on June 11, 1948 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Daniels graduated from North Central College in Illinois with his B.A. degree in 1969 as the recipient of a National Science Foundation Fellowship. In 1970, at the age of twenty-one, Daniels became a Ford Foundation Fellow, and two years later, graduated from the University of Wisconsin with his M.S. degree.

Daniels then attended Harvard Law School, graduating with his J.D. degree in 1974. Soon after graduation, Daniels passed the bar exam, and began working for Quarles & Brady L.L.P., a full-service law firm with offices in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Madison, Wisconsin; Chicago, Illinois and Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona. Daniels was the first African American hired by the firm. In 1980, Daniels was elected to the American College of Real Estate Attorneys. The following year, Daniels became partner at Quarles & Brady. In 1983, Daniels was appointed Bar Examiner of the Wisconsin Board of Professional Competency by Wisconsin's governor. Daniels was named to the State of Wisconsin's Strategic Planning Council in 1987, and the following year, the Wisconsin Supreme Court appointed him to the Children's Hospital Foundation Review Committee for the Child Abuse Prevention Fund.

Daniels was listed as one of the best lawyers in America by Real Estate Law in 1993. In 1994, he became a partner and a member of the management committee of his firm. Daniels joined the Greater Milwaukee Foundation Board of Directors in 2004, one of the oldest and largest community foundations in the United States. 2007 marked a new

milestone for Daniels, as he became the first African American appointed to lead a major law firm in Wisconsin when he was named chairman and managing partner of Quarles & Brady L.L.P.

Related Entries

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

McKinley School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Custer High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Wells Junior High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

North Central College [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

University of Wisconsin-Madison [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Harvard Law School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Quarles and Brady, LLP [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1974 to ?]

Chair, Lawyer

V and J Foods, Inc. [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1982 to ?]

Chairman, Founder

North Milwaukee State Bank [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Chairman of the Board

Greater Milwaukee Foundation [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Board Member

Ralph Evinrude Foundation [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Board Member

Ko Thi Dance Company [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Board Member

American Bar Association [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Member

Black Law Students Association [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

President

American College of Real Estate Lawyers [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

President