

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Teri McClure

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	McClure, Teri, 1963-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Teri McClure,
Dates:	July 12, 2010
Bulk Dates:	2010
Physical Description:	5 uncompressed MOV digital video files (2:25:56).
Abstract:	Corporate executive Teri McClure (1963 -) served as an officer of UPS from 1999, and as a board member of several charitable and professional organizations. McClure was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on July 12, 2010, in Atlanta, Georgia. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2010_077
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Corporate executive Teri McClure was born in 1963, in Kansas City, Kansas. She received her B.A. degree from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri in marketing and economics and went on to earn her J.D. degree from Emory University School of Law in Atlanta, Georgia. McClure began practicing employment and labor law in Atlanta in 1988, and then began working for the United Parcel Service in 1995, as employment counsel to the Corporate Legal Department.

McClure became vice president of operations for UPS in 1999, the year UPS became a public corporation, and then was vice president of operations for the Central Florida district in 2003. During this time, McClure managed over four thousand employees and was responsible for all aspects of package pickup and delivery in that area. She also held an assignment with UPS Supply Chain Solutions during this time, which was the period that UPS was first expanding its supply chain capacities. From 2004 to 2005 McClure served as Compliance Department Manager for UPS, in which capacity she worked to ensure that the company followed ethical and legal business practices. After that, she was quickly promoted to compliance department manager and then was promoted again to corporate legal department manager. In 2006, McClure became the first African American senior vice president, general counsel and corporate secretary at UPS. This was at a time when only 15.7% of top corporate executives were women and only 1.6% of them were African American.

McClure has served on the board of the UPS Foundation, which is the charitable arm of the UPS Corporation. She has also served on the board of The Annie E. Casey Foundation, Junior Achievement Worldwide, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, the Atlanta Legal Aid Society, Equal Justice Works, and the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights. McClure served as co-chair of the Georgia Supreme Courts Committee on Civil Justice and was involved with other civic, religious, and professional organizations.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Teri McClure was conducted by Denise Gines on July 12, 2010, in Atlanta, Georgia, and was recorded on 5 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Corporate executive Teri McClure (1963 -) served as an officer of UPS from 1999, and as a board member of several charitable and professional organizations.

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:

McClure, Teri, 1963-

Gines, Denise (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

McClure, Teri, 1963- --Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

United Parcel Service

Occupations:

Corporate General Counsel

HistoryMakers® Category:

LawMakers

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 Teri McClure, July 12, 2010. 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 Teri McClure, Section A2010_077_001_001, TRT: 0:29:54 ?

Teri McClure was born on December 31, 1963 in Kansas City, Kansas to Donna Mitchell Plummer and Louis Plummer, Jr. McClure's paternal ancestors were enslaved on the Riversdale plantation in Maryland. Her paternal grandfather, Louis Plummer, Sr., was a trained lawyer; but was unable to make a living representing African American clients, and worked for the postal service instead. He married McClure's paternal grandmother, Verona Plummer, who was of mixed race. McClure's maternal grandmother, Marie Harrison Mitchell, was a

social worker; while, McClure's grandfather, Lephus Mitchell, Sr., worked for the railroad and postal service. McClure's parents were both born in Kansas City in 1942, and met at a young age. Her mother worked as a teacher in Kansas City. After moving to the city's predominantly white suburbs, McClure began her education at the Loretto Academy, a Catholic elementary school. Later, she was bused to the Sumner Academy of Arts and Science as part of Kansas City's desegregation program.

Video Oral History Interview with Teri McClure, Section A2010_077_001_002, TRT: 0:29:24 ?

Teri McClure began her education at a private Catholic elementary school in Kansas City, Kansas, although her family attended a Baptist church. In the sixth grade, she transferred to the public schools, and enrolled at John F. Kennedy Elementary School. At the time, McClure lived in a predominantly white community, although she mostly socialized with African Americans. As part of Kansas' integration efforts, she was bused to the Sumner Academy of Arts and Sciences, a formerly all-black school. There, she participated in numerous extracurricular activities, including the debate team, cheerleading squad and school newspaper staff. McClure aspired to study law from an early age; and, during her senior year of high school, interned at the local district attorney's office. Although her parents wanted her to attend college in Kansas, McClure matriculated at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. During the summer breaks, she worked as an INROADS intern at Hallmark Cards.

Video Oral History Interview with Teri McClure, Section A2010_077_001_003, TRT: 0:29:09 ?

Teri McClure studied economics at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, where she was introduced to racial politics. She took courses on black history for the first time, and became an officer of the black students association. Upon completing a bachelor's degree in 1985, McClure enrolled at the Emory University School of Law in Atlanta, Georgia. She attended an orientation program for minority students, where she and her classmates were told that African Americans did not do well at the school. McClure received poor grades during her first semester, but refused to believe that this was due to her race. She lessened her involvement with the National Black Law Students Association, as she felt the group overemphasized the role of racial discrimination; and focused on improving her study skills. During her second year of law school, McClure met her future husband, Reverend Roderick McClure, at a religious conference. She graduated with a J.D. degree in 1988.

Video Oral History Interview with Teri McClure, Section A2010_077_001_004, TRT: 0:28:33 ?

Teri McClure attended the Emory University School of Law in Atlanta, Georgia from 1985 to 1988. At the start of her third year, she secured a position at the Ford and Harrison LLP law firm. She remained there for three years, before moving to the firm of Smith, Currie and Hancock LLP, where her first trial was an age discrimination case. With her female colleagues, McClure also convinced the company to establish a maternity leave policy. She went on to join Troutman Sanders LLP, a large international firm; and, during her tenure there, became dissatisfied with the company's office politics. She decided not to pursue a law firm partnership, and instead joined the United Parcel Service (UPS) as corporate counsel in 1995. McClure specialized in employment law, and advised the company regarding labor regulations to prevent future litigation. She also convinced UPS to expand its legal department, which included only one other attorney at the time of her hiring. In 2005, McClure became the department's head.

Video Oral History Interview with Teri McClure, Section A2010_077_001_005, TRT: 0:28:56 ?

Teri McClure moved to Orlando, Florida to serve as a district manager of the

United Parcel Service (UPS). Unlike her predecessors, McClure lacked experience on the front lines of the company's operations, but she possessed strong leadership skills and asked her more seasoned colleagues for help. McClure eventually returned to the legal department at UPS's corporate headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia. In 2006, she was promoted to general counsel and senior vice president, and became the first African American woman to join the senior management committee of UPS. Outside of work, McClure served as a mentor to young African American women, including her daughters, Kristin McClure and Morgan McClure. With her husband, Reverend Roderick McClure, McClure devoted time to mission work, such as the establishment of a church in Zambia. She shares her advice to young people; and reflects upon her life, legacy and plans for the future.