

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with DeMetris Sampson

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Sampson, DeMetris, 1955-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with DeMetris Sampson,
Dates:	September 16, 2017
Bulk Dates:	2017
Physical Description:	6 uncompressed MOV digital video files (2:34:03).
Abstract:	Lawyer DeMetris Sampson (1955 -) was the first African American partner of a major Dallas law firm, and the first African American woman to be named a managing partner in a majority law firm in Dallas. Sampson was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on September 16, 2017, in Dallas, Texas. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2017_169
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Lawyer DeMetris Sampson was born on July 30, 1955 in Tyler, Texas. Sampson earned her B.B.A. degree from the University of Texas at Austin in 1977. She earned her J. D. degree from the University of Texas School of Law in 1980, and her L. L. M. in Taxation degree from Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law in 1986.

Sampson began her legal career at the City Attorney's Office in San Antonio, Texas in 1980. She then worked as Chief Counsel for the Texas House of Representatives Judicial Affairs Committee in 1981. She then worked in private practice in Dallas, and later joined the Dallas County District Attorney's Office in 1984, and left in 1985 for private practice. In 1987, she joined the law firm of Heard Goggan Blair & Williams, which was also known in Dallas as Blair Goggan Sampson & Meeks. She became the first African American female to be named a partner in a majority firm in Dallas in February 1989, and she became managing partner of the Dallas office. She served on the Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP management committee and as a chairperson of the management committee from 2006-2008. She also served as an advisor to Ron Kirk, who was the first African-American mayor of Dallas from 1995 until 2002. Sampson retired from Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP in 2014.

In 1990, Sampson was named an Outstanding Young Texas Ex by the University of Texas. She also received distinguished honors from the university in 2008 and in 2012 was awarded the Legacy of Service Foundation Award by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. (Omicron Mu Omega Chapter) at its 25th Image Award celebration. At her retirement in 2014, Sampson was honored by Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson of Texas on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives for her distinguished career.

During her career, Sampson served as a member of the Ex-Students Black Alumni Task Force, a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and as board chair of the Zan Wesley Holmes, Jr. Community Outreach Center. She also served as president of the J. L. Turner Legal Association and as president of the Dallas Association of Black Women Attorneys. In 1991, she was named to the East Texas State University Board of Regents.

DeMetris Sampson was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on September 16, 2017.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with DeMetris Sampson was conducted by Larry Crowe on September 16, 2017, in Dallas, Texas, and was recorded on 6 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Lawyer DeMetris Sampson (1955 -) was the first African American partner of a major Dallas law firm, and the first African American woman to be named a managing partner in a majority law firm in Dallas.

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:

Sampson, DeMetris, 1955-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Sampson, DeMetris, 1955- --Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Lawyer

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 DeMetris Sampson, September 16, 2017. 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 DeMetris Sampson, Section A2017_169_001_001, TRT: 1:28:32 ?

Video Oral History Interview with DeMetris Sampson, Section A2017_169_001_002, TRT: 2:29:59 ?

Video Oral History Interview with DeMetris Sampson, Section A2017_169_001_003, TRT:

3:29:32 ?

Video Oral History Interview with DeMetris Sampson, Section A2017_169_001_004, TRT:
4:30:44 ?

Video Oral History Interview with DeMetris Sampson, Section A2017_169_001_005, TRT:
5:29:47 ?

Video Oral History Interview with DeMetris Sampson, Section A2017_169_001_006, TRT:
6:05:29 ?