

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with The Honorable Lena C. Taylor

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## Overview of the Collection

<b>Repository:</b>	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
<b>Creator:</b>	Taylor, Lena Carolyn, 1966-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Lena C. Taylor,
<b>Dates:</b>	January 27, 2022
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2022
<b>Physical Description:</b>	8 uncompressed MOV digital video files (3:40:52).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Attorney and state legislator Lena C. Taylor (1966 - ) represents the 4th district in the Wisconsin State Senate, where she has chaired the Joint Committee on Judiciary and Corrections and co-chaired the Joint Committee on Finance. She also has served as vice chair of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin and chair of the Legislative Black and Hispanic Caucus. Taylor was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on January 27, 2022, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2022_005
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Attorney and state legislator Lena C. Taylor was born on July 25, 1966, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She received her B.A. degree in English in 1990 from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and her J.D. degree in 1993 from Southern Illinois University School of Law, in Carbondale, Illinois.

After graduating from law school, Taylor worked as a public defender until 1996, when she opened Taylor and Associates Law Office in Milwaukee. In 2003, she won a special election to the Wisconsin State Assembly, representing the 18th district, comprising the west side of the City of Milwaukee. In 2004, Taylor was elected to the Wisconsin State Senate, representing the 4th district, comprising part of the City of Milwaukee's north side, as well as the village of Shorewood, the southern half of the city of Glendale, and part of northern Wauwatosa. She was appointed to the Joint Committee on Finance and the Joint Committee on Judiciary and Corrections in 2004, of which she became chair in 2006. Taylor ran for Milwaukee County Executive in 2008. In 2012, she was named co-chair of the Joint Committee on Finance. In 2013, she became an attorney at Pitman, Kyle, Sicula and Dentice in Milwaukee, where she also has served as senior counsel. Taylor ran for mayor of Milwaukee in 2020 and for lieutenant governor of Wisconsin in 2021.

In the Wisconsin State Legislature, Taylor has served on the Committee on Agriculture and Tourism, the Committee on Insurance, Licensing and Forestry, the Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety Joint Review, the Committee on Criminal Penalties Joint Survey, and the Committee on Tax Exemptions. She also has been a columnist for the Milwaukee Courier and served as secretary of the West End Development Corporation, vice chair of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin, and chair of the Legislative Black and Hispanic Caucus.

Taylor received the Becky Young Community Justice Award in 2009, the Wisconsin Builder's Association's

Friend of Housing Award from 2009-2016, the National Legislator of the Year Award from the National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies in 2010, the Conservation Champion award from the League of Conservation Voters and the Public Service Support for Reproductive Rights award from Family Planning Health Services, Inc., in 2012, and the Friend of Agriculture Award from the Wisconsin Farm Bureau.

Taylor and her son, Isaiah, live in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Lena C. Taylor was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on January 27, 2022.

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# Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with The Honorable Lena C. Taylor was conducted by Larry Crowe on January 27, 2022, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and was recorded on 8 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Attorney and state legislator Lena C. Taylor (1966 - ) represents the 4th district in the Wisconsin State Senate, where she has chaired the Joint Committee on Judiciary and Corrections and co-chaired the Joint Committee on Finance. She also has served as vice chair of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin and chair of the Legislative Black and Hispanic Caucus.

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# 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®.

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# 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.

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# Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

## Persons:

Taylor, Lena Carolyn, 1966-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

## Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews  
Taylor, Lena Carolyn, 1966---Interviews

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## Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

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The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

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Wisconsin. Legislature. Senate.

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## Occupations:

State Senator

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## HistoryMakers® Category:

PoliticalMakers

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## 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 The Honorable Lena C. Taylor, January 27, 2022.  
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).

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## 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.

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## Detailed Description of the Collection

### Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Lena C. Taylor, Section A2022\_005\_001\_001, TRT: 1:30:12 ?

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Lena C. Taylor, Section A2022\_005\_001\_002, TRT: 2:28:51 ?

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Lena C. Taylor, Section A2022\_005\_001\_003, TRT: 3:29:40 ?

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Lena C. Taylor, Section A2022\_005\_001\_004, TRT: 4:28:48 ?

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Lena C. Taylor, Section A2022\_005\_001\_005, TRT: 5:29:11 ?

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Lena C. Taylor, Section A2022\_005\_001\_006, TRT: 6:28:51 ?

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Lena C. Taylor, Section A2022\_005\_001\_007, TRT: 7:29:53 ?

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Lena C. Taylor, Section A2022\_005\_001\_008, TRT: 8:15:26 ?