



T.J. REDDICK BAR ASSOCIATION

Established 1982

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Date: January 4th, 2019

IMMEDIATE ATTENTION:

Broward County Board Of Commissioners
115 South Andrews Avenue
Fort Lauderdale FL, 33301

Dear Mayor and Commissioners:

The T.J. Reddick Bar Association enthusiastically supports the naming of a wing in the Broward County Central Courthouse after Judge T.J. Reddick. African Americans are historically overrepresented in the criminal justice system, and the consequences are reflected in the length of the sentences they serve. Conversely, African American attorneys (especially African American women) are historically underrepresented in the legal profession; virtually unseen in senior levels of major law firms, legal departments of companies, and often in the judiciary. These two facts highlight exactly why T.J. Reddick is such a powerful symbol in Broward County. The placement of an African American Judge's name on the North Wing of the courthouse will help to strengthen the belief in the system that operates within its walls. Minorities and disenfranchised citizens of this County will know that integrity and fairness is valued regardless of the reasons they enter the courthouse.

In 1982, a group of social engineers decided that it was important for African American attorneys in Broward County to have a support network where none existed. Courts and law firms were an unwelcome destination for Black attorneys. There was no safe space to share information and engage with the community, nor was there a path to the bench for African Americans. The group that sought to change this included attorneys W. George Allen, Alcee L. Hastings, Benjamin F. Lampkin, Jr., Henry Latimer, Raleigh R. Rawls, James Brown, William Hutchinson, Jr., Judge Zebedee Wright, and of course, Thomas J. Reddick, Jr. The attorneys named the Association after T. J. Reddick, the first African American attorney to open an office and practice law in Broward County, and the first African American appointed to the Broward County Bench. That is why naming a wing after Judge Reddick is both inspiring and necessary. It is not only that he represents the possibilities for African Americans in Broward; he is also a symbol of the endearing reality that strides in diversity are often made in the face of systemic obstacles.

Today we strive to honor the legacy of our founders through service, advocacy, and success in our field. Members of the Association have become true pillars in the South Florida community. Our members have become members of Congress, State Legislators, and College Presidents, and members of the Judiciary. Many of our members practice in this Courthouse, some of whom were friends of Judge Reddick. All of our members are mindful of the importance of his representation in the Courthouse. Naming the North Wing after T. J. Reddick will make the Courthouse more reflective of the community it serves.

This journey toward diversity is comprised of many small steps, but it cannot be made without leadership that understands that the journey benefits everyone. The T.J. Reddick Bar Association would like to thank Vice Mayor Holness and the Broward County Board of Commissioners for making this momentous stride toward creating a more inclusive environment in both the Central Courthouse and the broader community.

Very truly yours,

L. Christopher Saunders
President
The TJ Reddick Bar Ass. Inc.
Address: P.O. Box 1500 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33302
Website: www.tjreddickbar.com



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Broward County Bar Association

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website: www.browardbar.org

1/7/2019

To Broward County Commission:

As President of the Broward County Bar Association, and on behalf of our Board of Directors and members, I would like to take this opportunity to express my wholehearted support of the two impending courthouse wing dedications: the North Wing, to be named in honor of Judge Thomas J. (T.J.) Reddick, and the West Wing, which is to be named in honor of Walter "Skip" Campbell Jr. Both men were prominent members of the Broward County legal community, each a pioneer in their own right.

Judge Reddick, in addition to becoming the first Black attorney to open an office and practice law in Broward County, the first Black appointed to the Broward County Court of Record and the first Black elected to serve as Circuit Court Judge in the State of Florida, also served as a Broward County Public Defender. Therefore, it is fitting that the wing containing the Office of the Public Defender should be named for Judge Reddick.

We are proud of the fact that Walter "Skip" Campbell, Jr., was not only a longtime member of the Broward County Bar Association, but also served as President of the Broward County Bar Association, 1996-97. He also served as a member of the Florida Election Commission, went on to become a member of the Florida Senate, and then served as the Mayor of Coral Springs. We enthusiastically endorse the naming of a wing in the Main Courthouse after this pillar of the legal community.

If you have any questions, or would like further information, please feel free to contact me directly.

Best Regards,

Edwina V. Kessler
President, Board of Director

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CITY ATTORNEY
Earl Hall, Esq.

CITY CLERK
Andrea M. Anderson

Ken Thurston
Mayor

January 10, 2019

Dear Mayor Mark Bogan and the Broward County Commission,

It is my honor and great pleasure to recommend the naming of the new wing of the Broward County Courthouse after the Honorable T.J. Reddick. Judge Reddick was the first black attorney to open an office and practice law in Broward County, the first Black attorney appointed to the Broward County Court of Record, and the first Black elected to serve as Circuit Court Judge in the State of Florida. Although Judge Reddick passed away in 1993, his legacy remains active through the TJ Reddick Bar Association and Scholarship fund. Therefore, in my humble opinion, it would be more than fitting to name this new wing in his honor for his contributions in Broward County.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Ken Thurston", written over a horizontal line.

Mayor Ken Thurston
City of Lauderhill





BCWLA
Broward County Women
Lawyers' Association

BROWARD COUNTY WOMEN LAWYERS' ASSOCIATION
106 Southeast 9th Street
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316
BrowardWomenLawyers.com

January 16, 2019

To Broward County Commission:

As President of the Broward County Women Lawyers' Association, and on behalf of our Board of Directors and members, I would like to take this opportunity to express our support of the two pending courthouse wing dedications: the North Wing, to be named in honor of Judge Thomas J. (T.J.) Reddick, and the West Wing, which is to be named in honor of Walter "Skip" Campbell Jr. Both men were prominent members of the Broward County legal community, each a pioneer in their own right.

African Americans are historically overrepresented in the criminal justice system. African American attorneys (especially African American women), however, are historically underrepresented in the legal profession, including the judiciary. It is no wonder, then, that T.J. Reddick, who was the first African American attorney to open an office and practice law in Broward County, the first African American appointed to the Broward County Court of Record, and the first African American elected to serve as Circuit Court Judge in the State of Florida, is such a powerful symbol in Broward County. The placement of an African American Judge's name on the North Wing of the courthouse will help to strengthen the belief in the system that operates within its courtrooms. It is also fitting that the wing containing the Office of the Public Defender should be named for Judge Reddick, who also served as Broward County Public Defender.

Walter "Skip" Campbell, Jr., who served as a President of the Broward County Bar Association, a member of the Florida Election Commission, the Mayor of Coral Springs, and a member of the Florida Senate, was a pillar of the legal community. It is therefore fitting that a wing of our Courthouse is named after him.

If you have any questions, or would like further information, please feel free to contact me directly.

Thank you,

Madeleine Q. Mannello
Broward County Women Lawyers' Association
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