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EMPOWERMENT & POLICY CONFERENCE



September 27 - 28, 2019
Hyatt Regency New Orleans, Louisiana

#LAPOLCON2019

Louisiana Economic Development **SALUTES**

THE **Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus**
AND THE **Urban League of Louisiana**
FOR A SUCCESSFUL INAUGURAL
Empowerment & Policy Conference!

Small businesses play a big role in Louisiana's economy, so the state has a variety of programs that cultivate and support small businesses, including:

- Bonding Assistance
- Hudson Initiative
- Louisiana Contractors Accreditation Institute
- Small & Emerging Business Development Program
- Small Business Loan and Guaranty Program

These programs, among others, provide companies with the knowledge and resources to grow and be successful.

**WORKING
TOGETHER TO
CREATE
OPPORTUNITY**

LED

LOUISIANA
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
OpportunityLouisiana.com

Welcome to the inaugural 2019 Empowerment and Policy Conference! Seven months ago, the Urban League of Louisiana and the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus came together to create a space for stakeholders from across Louisiana to examine the issues and opportunities facing African Americans. Whether through data, expert opinion, or lived experience, our goal was to engage, inform, excite, and ignite collective action to advance efforts leading to a sustainable environment for African Americans to thrive.

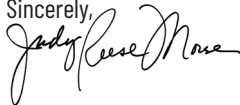
It's an exciting time for the Urban League of Louisiana as we build new relationships and seek dynamic ways to keep equity at the center of policy decisions. For more than 80 years, we have advocated for strategies and legislation that support economic self-reliance, parity and justice under the law. As we continue to expand our work to more parts of the state, we hope to create clear pathways for Louisiana residents to share their insights, concerns, and suggestions and establish opportunities that foster true stakeholder collaboration. We are so excited that you have chosen to be with us, and we hope you will see your role in the collective effort to move communities across the state forward.

This is a moment in history that demands proactive approaches to building a state in which all Louisiana residents can thrive. Whether it is sharing your voice at a community listening session, prioritizing your attendance at a conference, voting and completing the 2020 Census, participating in a policy workgroup or pushing for legislative change, there has never been a more important time for you to join the collective efforts to produce thoughtful and strategic advocacy that can bring about real change.

During the next two days, may your mind remain open, your ears hear a new idea, your eyes see a new opportunity and your heart remember all those we seek to serve every day.

We are the people we've been waiting for – the time is now!

Best wishes for an amazing conference!

Sincerely,


Judy Reese Morse
President and CEO
Urban League of Louisiana





LOUISIANA LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS

Dear Friends, Colleagues, and Distinguished Guests,

I would like to personally welcome you to the inaugural Empowerment and Policy Conference. The Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus is thrilled to be working in partnership with the Urban League of Louisiana to create this unique opportunity for elected officials, organizations, community leaders, and Louisiana residents to come together around issues of importance to our communities.

The mission of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus is to raise the quality of life for African Americans, the indigent, and working people through legislation, education, and economic development. We consider this conference to be a critical part of our ongoing work to engage institutions and individuals across sectors in the development and support of policies that promote equity, advancement, and opportunity for African Americans in our state. It is our hope that over the next two days you will meet someone new, learn something new, and upon return to your work, do something new. There is power in numbers, and we are honored to be on your team.

I'd like to thank each of you for attending our conference and bringing your expertise to our gathering. Your vision, knowledge, and experience is invaluable in helping us pave our way to the future. You are truly our greatest asset and we could not accomplish what we do without your support and leadership. Throughout this conference, I ask you to stay engaged, keep us proactive, and help us shape the future for African Americans in Louisiana.

With gratitude and excitement,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randal L. Gaines". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Rep. Randal L. Gaines, Chairman
Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus



Office of the Governor
State of Louisiana

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



P.O. Box 94004
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70804-9004
(225) 342-7015
GOV.LA.GOV

September 27, 2019

Dear Friends,

It is with great pleasure that Donna and I congratulate the Urban League of Louisiana and the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus on hosting the 2019 Empowerment and Policy Conference in New Orleans.

I want to also thank all of the participants attending this innovative conference. I am sure everyone will be inspired. The Urban League of Louisiana has been doing an outstanding job in assisting under-served communities since its inception 81 years ago. I commend you achieving your mission through three Centers of Excellence, which take a holistic approach to addressing issues that concern low to moderate-income families: The Center of Education and Youth Development, the Center of Workforce and Economic Development, and the Center of Policy and Social Justice.

Your vibrant vision has been empowering communities through collective impact for decades. Securing equal opportunities for economic self-reliance, eradicating barriers to equality for all in education, housing and business are necessary to bettering life for Louisianans individually and collectively. As one of this nation's premier civil rights organization, your dedication to ensuring everyone has an opportunity to achieve success is paying off.

Again, congratulations and I wish you the best in all of your future endeavors. May God continue to richly bless you and the great State of Louisiana.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Bel Edwards".

John Bel Edwards
Governor





**National
Urban League**

Marc H. Morial
President and CEO

80 Pine Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10005

Phone 212 558 5336
Efax 646 568 2185

www.nul.org
presidentoffice@nul.org

*Empowering Communities.
Changing Lives.*

September 27, 2019

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to join the Urban League of Louisiana and the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus for this unprecedented event, the inaugural Empowerment and Policy Conference. The National Urban League is so proud of this partnership between two organizations whose missions align so deeply. It has the potential to create lasting impact across the state for years to come.

The mission of the National Urban League is to enable African Americans and other underserved urban residents to secure economic self-reliance, parity, power and civil rights. The discussions that will be had over these two days will speak to these issues, and many more. They will bring different perspectives together in powerful and enlightening ways, but that is just the beginning. I urge us all to listen intently and reflect on how we can move forward together in making Louisiana a state where all can thrive. The National Urban League is excited to be a partner in what comes next.

Thank you each for being here and contributing to a vision for equity and parity in my home state. We need every one of us to be a part of bringing this vision to life.

Keep Pushing!

Yours in the Movement,



Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus



Since its establishment in 1977, the mission of the LLBC has always been to raise the quality of life for African Americans, the indigent and working people through legislation, education and economic development. The caucus, currently chaired by Representative Randal Gaines (57th District), has accomplished this through enacting legislation that positively impacts and repealing

legislation that negatively impacts the Black Caucus' constituencies. Since the inception of the LLBC, the number of African-American legislators has increased tremendously which is attributed to the LLBC's legislative skill and wisdom.

Urban League of Louisiana



The mission of the Urban League of Louisiana is to assist African Americans and other communities seeking equity to secure economic self-reliance, parity and civil rights. For over 80 years, the Urban League of Louisiana has fostered and encouraged activities that lead to increased opportunities for underserved communities. The Urban League of Louisiana is one of 88 affiliates of the National Urban League, which provides advocacy and direct service programs spanning 36 states. The strength of "the Movement" has been the identification of equality gaps in the African American community and the League's ability to design and deliver vital programs and policy initiatives to bridge these barriers.

Our Partnership

With policy always close to the heart of the LLBC's mission, and with the collaborative vision of Chairman Gaines, the organization partnered with the Urban League of Louisiana to host the first policy conference of its kind in the State of Louisiana - the 2019 Empowerment and Policy Conference.

The Conference provides a platform for local, state and national thought leaders, policy makers, sector leaders, community leaders and residents to discuss, debate, and advance conversation and thinking around a multitude of issues that impact African Americans in Louisiana.



FRIDAY AGENDA

September 27, 2019 - Empire Ballroom

Time	Session
9:00AM – 5:00PM	CHECK-IN AND ONSITE REGISTRATION
1:00PM – 1:55PM	WELCOME REMARKS AND OPENING
2:00PM – 3:20PM	SESSION ONE: Creating an Environment for African Americans to Thrive in Louisiana Hear perspectives about the challenges and opportunities around key areas impacting the quality of life for African Americans in Louisiana. PANELISTS: Flozell Daniels, <i>President, Foundation for Louisiana</i> Dr. Lisa Delpit, <i>Author and National Education Expert</i> America Lenox, <i>Program Manager, Youth Rebuilding New Orleans</i> John Matthews, <i>Retired, Louisiana Economic Development</i> Tyronne Walker, <i>VP, Communications and Public Affairs, Greater New Orleans Foundation</i> Tracey Ross, <i>Associate Director, All-In Cities Initiative, PolicyLink (Moderator)</i>
3:30PM – 4:50PM	SESSION TWO: Mental Health: The Stigma that Stops Us Access to quality services, substance abuse, stigma and medication in youth and adolescence are critical behavioral health issues across the state. Learn about strategies that increase knowledge about ways to advocate for a stronger mental health system. PANELISTS: Dr. Rebekah Gee, <i>Secretary, Louisiana Department of Health</i> Shawn Kelly, <i>Program Manager, Public Allies New Orleans</i> Pastor Eileen Johnson, <i>Grace & Glory Family Worship Church Intl.</i> Dr. Monteic Sizer, <i>Executive Director, Northeast Delta Human Services Authority</i> Passion Taylor Payne, <i>Corporate Program Director, Dimensional Behavioral Health Services</i> Leon Winters, <i>Founder, Winters Mental Health and Consulting</i> Dr. Denese Shervington, <i>President, Institute of Women and Ethnic Studies (Moderator)</i>
5:00PM – 6:30PM	SESSION THREE: ARMCHAIR CONVERSATION An armchair conversation with the dynamic CNN Political Analysts Angela Rye and Bakari Sellers on a range of topics impacting African Americans nationally, moderated by Rep. Ted James.
6:30PM – 8:00PM	NETWORKING RECEPTION <i>sponsored by Lewis-Price</i>

SATURDAY AGENDA

September 28, 2019 - Celestin Ballroom

Time

Session

7:00AM – 1:00PM

CHECK-IN AND ONSITE REGISTRATION

8:00AM – 8:50AM

OPENING AND KEYNOTE: MARC MORIAL

9:00AM – 9:50AM

SESSION FOUR:

\$3.5 Billion...That's Billion with a B

A discussion of the data (PolicyLink Report) and impact of racial inequities in Louisiana, considering the political, social, economic and cultural implications and strategies to create equity and opportunity for all.

PANELISTS:

Krystal Allen, *Founder & CEO, K. Allen Consulting*
Ernest Broussard, *Business Development Manager, HGA*
Jordan Collins, *Technician, Gulf South Engineering and Testing*
Ava Dejoie, *Secretary, Louisiana Workforce Commission*
Ashley Shelton, *Executive Director, Power Coalition for Equity and Justice (Moderator)*

10:00AM – 11:10AM

SESSION FIVE:

Intersection of Race, Identity, and Mission

A look at why acknowledging diversity within the African American community and finding common ground with other communities of color can lead to stronger organizational missions and greater impact.

PANELISTS:

Lanor Curole, *Tribal Administrator, United Houma Nation*
Deon Haywood, *Executive Director, Women with A Vision*
Mary Moran, *Executive Director/Co-Founder, Our Voice Nuestra Voz*
Hyma Moore, *VP, External Affairs, GNO, Inc.*
Jacqueline Thanh, *Executive Director, VAYLA*
Wendi Moore-O'Neal, *Founder, Jaliyah Consulting (Moderator)*

11:20AM – 12:10PM

SESSION SIX:

Lacing the Boot: Supporting a Whole-State Agenda

Exploring opportunities for closing the North-South divide in Louisiana through collaboration and a shared agenda.

PANELISTS:

Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome (Baton Rouge)
Mayor LaToya Cantrell (New Orleans)
Mayor Jeff Hall (Alexandria)
Mayor Jamie Mayo (Monroe)
Mayor Adrian Perkins (Shreveport)
Jade Brown Russell, *Principal, JD Russell Consulting, LLC (Moderator)*

12:15PM – 12:30PM

REMARKS AND EVALUATION

12:30PM – 2:00PM

CLOSING LUNCHEON

Keynote: Governor John Bell Edwards
Special Remarks from Louisiana Congressman Cedric Richmond
Closing conversation with Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus members

Featured Speakers



Governor John Bel Edwards

Governor of Louisiana

John Bel Edwards has served as the 56th Governor of Louisiana since 2016. He was previously the Minority Leader of the Louisiana House of Representatives for two terms, before being elected governor. After graduating from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1988, he served eight years as an Airborne Ranger on active duty with the U.S. Army. He went on to graduate Order of the Coif from Louisiana State University Law Center and set up a civil law practice before running for public office.



Congressman Cedric Richmond

United States Representative

Congressman Cedric Richmond represents Louisiana's 2nd Congressional District in the United States House of Representatives. Cedric currently serves on the House Committee on Homeland Security and the House Committee on the Judiciary. Outside of Committee service, he is a member of the New Democrat Coalition and currently serves as the House Democratic Assistant to the Majority Whip.



Marc H. Morial

President and CEO, National Urban League

Marc H. Morial is President and CEO of the National Urban League, the nation's largest historic civil rights and urban advocacy organization. As Mayor of New Orleans from 1994 to 2002, Morial led New Orleans' renaissance, and left office with a 70% approval rating. A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania with a degree in Economics and African American Studies, he also holds a law degree from the Georgetown University.



Angela Rye

CNN Political Commentator

Angela Rye is Principal and CEO of IMPACT Strategies, a political advocacy firm in the nation's capital. She is a CNN Political Commentator and NPR Political Analyst. She has been featured as an influential politico, lawyer, and advocate by several publications and outlets from Marie Claire to Ebony and the Washington Post. Rye has an unwavering commitment to ensuring positive change in the political process.



Bakari Sellers

CNN Political Commentator

Bakari Sellers made history in 2006 when, at just 22 years old, he defeated a 26-year incumbent State Representative to become the youngest member of the South Carolina state legislature and the youngest African American elected official in the nation. In 2014 he was the Democratic Nominee for Lt. Governor in the state of South Carolina. Sellers practices law with the Strom Law Firm, LLC in Columbia, SC and is a Political Commentator at CNN.

Panelists

Panel 1: Creating an Environment for African Americans to Thrive in Louisiana



Flozell Daniels, Jr.

President & CEO, Foundation for Louisiana

Flozell Daniels, Jr., President and CEO of Foundation for Louisiana, is a public policy and community engagement strategist with expertise in community development, resilience building, legislative strategy, and leadership development.



Dr. Lisa Delpit

Author and National Education Expert

Dr. Delpit is a nationally and internationally known speaker/writer whose work has focused on the education of children of color and the perspectives, aspirations, and pedagogy of teachers of color.



America Lenox

Program Manager, Youth Rebuilding New Orleans

America Lenox is a community leader passionate about impacting civic engagement and community outreach. She is a devoted mother committed to bridging the gaps and ensuring youth and families have sustainable resources to meet their needs.



John W. Matthews, Jr.

Retired Senior Director of Small Business Services, Louisiana Economic Development (LED)

John W. Matthews, Jr. is a native of New Orleans who recently retired from the Louisiana Economic Development (LED) in May of 2019, following an illustrious career that began at Texaco and eventually led to multiple appointments by the Governor of Louisiana.



Tyronne B. Walker

VP, Communications and Public Affairs, Greater New Orleans Foundation

Tyronne currently serves as Vice President of Communications and Public Affairs at the Greater New Orleans Foundation. In this role Tyronne oversees all external affairs, government relations, and communications of

the Foundation. In addition to leading initiatives like GiveNOLA Day which raised a record \$5.9 million for nonprofits across Southeast Louisiana in 2019, Tyronne also oversees the foundation's policy and advocacy work.



Tracey Ross - Moderator

Associate Director, All-In Cities Initiative, PolicyLink

Tracey Ross leads the All-In Cities Initiative at PolicyLink. In this role, she works with cities across the country to adopt policies and practices to promote racial economic inclusion equitable growth.

Panel 2: Mental Health: The Stigma that Stops Us



Dr. Rebekah Gee

Secretary, Louisiana Department of Health

Dr. Rebekah Gee is the Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health, the state's largest agency with a budget of \$14 billion. Her oversight responsibilities include public health and other direct service programs for citizens in need such as behavioral health, developmental disabilities, aging and adult services, emergency preparedness, and the Medicaid program. Under Dr. Gee's leadership, over 450,000 Louisianans are newly insured under Louisiana's Medicaid Expansion, and for the first time, many are receiving much needed primary and preventive health care.



Dr. Monteic Sizer

Executive Director, Northeast Delta HSA

Dr. Monteic A. Sizer serves as Executive Director of Northeast Delta Human Services Authority (Northeast Delta HSA). He joined the organization in May 2013 as its first Executive Director. In his role, he advocates on behalf of citizens located in the twelve Northeast Delta HSA parishes.



Shawn Kelly

Program Manager, Public Allies New Orleans

Shawn Kelly is an organizer, trainer, and advocate for social change. He works in Young Adult Leadership Development as Program Manager of Public Allies New Orleans. He is also a fellow at the New Orleans Youth Alliance, where he and other young people fight on behalf of the youth of New Orleans.



Eileen Johnson

*Senior Pastor, Grace & Glory Family
Worship Church International*

Pastor Eileen Johnson serves as Senior Pastor of Grace & Glory Family Worship Church International in New Orleans. She also serves as Director of Community Relations at Audubon Nature Institute and has over 30 years public relations and community outreach experience.



Passion Taylor Payne

*Corporate Program Director, Dimensional
Behavioral Health Services, Inc.*

Passion Taylor Payne is one of the Founding Directors and holds the title as Corporate Program Director for Dimensional Behavioral Health Services, Inc. (DBHS); which is located in Alexandria, La.



Leon C. Winters

*CEO and Lead Therapist, Winters Mental
Health and Consulting*

Mr. Winters is the CEO and Lead Therapist for his own company which focuses on assisting children and families through the toughest transitions in life. He has gained extensive knowledge providing services to families in times of crisis and bridging the gap between the school and community.



Dr. Denese Shervington - Moderator

President, Institute of Women & Ethnic Studies
Dr. Denese Shervington has an intersectional career in public health and academic psychiatry. She is

the President of The Institute of Women and Ethnic Studies (IWES), a community-based translational public health institute in New Orleans. She is also the Chair of Psychiatry at Charles R. Drew University.

Panel 3: Armchair Conversation



Angela Rye

CNN Political Commentator

Angela Rye is Principal and CEO of IMPACT Strategies, a political advocacy firm in the nation's capital. She is a CNN Political Commentator and NPR Political Analyst. She has been featured as an influential politico, lawyer, and advocate by several publications and outlets from Marie Claire to Ebony and the Washington Post. Rye has an unwavering commitment to ensuring positive change in the political process.



Bakari Sellers

CNN Political Commentator

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Ted James - Moderator

Louisiana State Representative

State Representative Edward "Ted" James' represents District 101 in the Louisiana House of Representatives. His passion for leadership is driven by a deeply held desire to impact the lives of others while transforming the community he simply calls "his village."

Panel 4: \$3.5 Billion...that's Billion with a B



Krystal Allen

Founder & CEO, K. Allen Consulting

Krystal Hardy Allen is the Founder & CEO of K. Allen Consulting™, a doctoral candidate at Columbia University, and a former school leader. Operating within the U.S., South Africa, and soon Nigeria, K. Allen Consulting™ is a global education consulting firm that empowers students, educators, and communities through professional development, thought leadership, and philanthropy.



Ernest Broussard

*Business Development Manager, Hunt,
Guillot, and Associates*

Ernie Broussard has 42 years of professional experience in government, urban policy, capital project/program management, land use administration, state and federal program administration, and a host of planning and economic development initiatives. He is currently the Business Development Manager for Hunt, Guillot, and Associates (HGA) Lake Charles office; a multi-disciplined full-service engineering group that has national and international notoriety.



Jordan Collins

Technician, Gulf South Engineering and Testing

Jordan Collins is a Technician at Gulf South Engineering and Testing. He holds a bachelor's in psychology from the University of New Orleans and an Associate of Applied Science in Process Technology (PTEC) from Nunez Community College, and holds a number of other certifications. He is a graduate of the Urban League of Louisiana's Training to Work Adult Reentry Program, where he received intensive case management, mentoring, career & workforce fundamentals, and financial literacy. Jordan is an advocate for the formerly incarcerated, having been previously incarcerated himself. He is married and is the father of a 16-month old daughter.



Ava Dejoie

Secretary, Louisiana Workforce Commission

Secretary Dejoie has more than 20 years of leadership experience in public administration and is passionate about finding solutions that make Louisiana an outstanding place in which to live, work and grow a business. As Secretary, she is responsible for providing the strategic vision to enhance the growth of Louisiana's economy and its workforce, by putting people to work in fulfilling, family-sustaining careers. Her extensive background in Louisiana workforce development includes experience as a business liaison for the Louisiana Department of Education as well as serving as a founding board member of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System.



Ashley Shelton – Moderator

Executive Director, Power Coalition for Equity and Justice

Ashley K. Shelton is the Executive Director of the Power Coalition, a statewide 501c3 table in Louisiana, which uses a broad-based strategy that combines community organizing, issue advocacy, and civic action all while increasing the capacity of community organizations throughout the state. She has led both C3 and C4 strategies to move more than 500,000 voters throughout the state of Louisiana having significant impact in elections in the major metros including New Orleans, Baton Rouge and Shreveport.

Panel 5: Intersection of Race, Identity and Mission



Lanor Curole

Tribal Administrator, United Houma Nation

Lanor Curole is a citizen of the United Houma Nation (UHN) in Southeast Louisiana and a life-long resident of Lafourche Parish where she continues to live within the tribal community. She is the current President of the Consortia of Administrators for Native American Rehabilitation (CANAR), which is a national organization that advocates for the employment needs of American Indians with disabilities.



Deon Haywood

Executive Director, Women with a Vision

For more than 25 years, Deon has worked as a human rights defender and advocate for black women, working class and low-income women, and LGBTQ communities in the Deep South. Through her relentless advocacy, she has grown Women with a Vision into a leading voice for black women and criminalization in the American South, advancing community-led policy solutions on the international and national stages and at home in Louisiana.



Mary Moran

Executive Director/Co-Founder, Our Voice Nuestra Voz

Mary Moran is a national leader on issues-organizing and black and brown coalition building. Her ultimate commitment is to the freedom of black and brown people. She is the co-founder of, and currently leads, Our Voice Nuestra Voz (OVNV), an issues-organizing effort in New Orleans.



Hyma Moore

VP, External Affairs, GNO, Inc.

Hyma Moore serves as the Vice President of External Affairs for Greater New Orleans, Inc. In this role, Hyma leads the organization's public face, supporting the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) in communications and policy decisions on behalf of the 10-parish region.

**Jacqueline Thanh***Executive Director, VAYLA*

Jacqueline Thanh is an agent of change and the daughter of Chinese Vietnamese refugees with an extensive history in intersectional direct services and survivor advocacy. She has dedicated the last decade of her career to championing comprehensive health equity by working intimately with social determinants of trauma in communities across racial and cultural lines.

**Wendi Moore-O'Neal - Moderator***Founder, Jaliyah Consulting*

As a cultural worker, activist, facilitator, and educator, Wendi O'Neal works to connect social and economic justice groups' mission, vision and values with how everyday work gets done. She uses spiritually grounded practices, visual art, story circles and song sharing as tools for growing inspiration and building democratic process.

Panel 6: Lacing the Boot: Supporting a Whole-State Agenda

**Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome***Baton Rouge, LA*

Sharon Weston Broome was sworn in on January 2, 2017. She is the first woman to be elected as the leader of the capital city of Louisiana. Her focus is to unite the citizenry around the common goals of equality in education, economic development, justice, housing and other quality ways of life.

**Mayor LaToya Cantrell***New Orleans, LA*

On May 7, 2018, Mayor Cantrell was sworn in as the first female Mayor of New Orleans, just in time to celebrate the city's tricentennial, or 300th anniversary. Mayor Cantrell is working to produce results that will create a more equitable and safe New Orleans for all residents.

**Mayor Jeff Hall***Alexandria, LA*

Jeff Hall is the first African-American mayor of Alexandria. Upon taking office on December 4, 2018, he stepped down as a Democratic member of the Louisiana House of Representatives for District 26. Jeff is working towards a safe and unified Alexandria.

**Major Jamie Mayo***Monroe, LA*

Jamie Mayo has served as the mayor of Monroe since 2001. Mayor Mayo's administration has six major focus areas: Economic Development, Public Safety, Partnerships in Education, Beautification, Housing & Growth, and Marketing Monroe. Under the Mayo administration, the City of Monroe is enjoying its best fiscal position in history.

**Mayor Adrian Perkins***Shreveport, LA*

Adrian Perkins assumed his duties as the 56th Mayor of Shreveport on December 29th, 2018. A graduate of Harvard Law and the first African-American cadet elected Class President in West Point Academy's history, Perkins is now using his knowledge and experience to serve his hometown. He is focusing on policing reform, economic development, and smart-city initiatives.

**Jade Brown Russell - Moderator***Founder and Principal of JD Russell Consulting, LLC*

Jade Brown-Russell is a proud native of New Orleans. Jade is Principal of JD Russell Consulting, LLC ("JDR"), a full service consulting firm focusing on regulatory compliance, legal counsel, corporate turnaround/workout services and governmental relations. Jade began her professional career at Sidley Austin LLP in Chicago, Illinois, where she gained experience in mergers, acquisitions, dispositions, corporate governance and securities related transactions.

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ESSENCE



VOICE

VOICING OUR INFORMATION FOR CENSUS EQUITY

AN INITIATIVE OF



Urban League of
Louisiana

Join the Urban League of Louisiana in our commitment to ensuring a complete count for the 2020 Census! Efforts are already underway to promote awareness and education through community partnerships, our Complete Count Committee, and more.

The Census is
10 QUESTIONS THAT WILL IMPACT
OUR COMMUNITIES FOR THE NEXT 10 YEARS

Follow us on social media to learn how to get involved locally.
Visit www.census2020.gov for more information.

