Volume 1, Issue 1 May 2020 MIAMI ALUMNAE CHAPTER OF DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.





### Who Are We?

#### **Mission Red Alert**

The mission of the Social Action Committee is to monitor and brief the chapter on social and legislative issues and advocate for the rights of people of color. Additionally, we seek to provide activities that will foster voter registration, voter education and the full restoration of voting rights for individuals who have paid their debt to society. Advocating for affordable quality health care, gender equality and eradicating voter suppression and racial profiling is also a part of our mission.

## **Chapter President**

Kay Williams-Dawson president@dstmiami.org

#### **Social Action Chairs**

Regina Sandilands Veronica J. Williams Socialaction@dstmiami.org

#### **Election Dates for 2020**

# **Election Day**

O Primary Election: August 18O General Election: November 3

# **Deadline to Register**

O Primary Election: July 20

O General Election: October 5

# Census 2020

There is still time to complete your Census. Help to save our communities. Be counted. #DSTUCount

2020census.gov

# **Red Alert #WORK**





#### **RED ALERT on the MOVE!**

2019 - 2020 Phenomenal activities of the Social Action Committee

- Miami Gardens Domestic Violence Walk
- Trayvon Martin Peace Walk
- Stacey Abrams Town Hall
- Senator Annette Taddeo's 2020 Florida Legislative Preview
- Homestead Gun Buy-Back Appreciation
- · 55th Anniversary of Selma March
- Florida Voting Rights Training
- Black Professionals Summit (Meet the Candidates)
- Florida Social Action Leadership Workshop
- · South Dade Farm Share Distribution
- Delta Days at the Nation's Capital
- Delta Days at the State Capital
- Delta Days at Miami-Dade County
- Attended Census Training
- Walked for Ahmaud Arbery (2.23 miles)

## **Amendment 4**

# What you should know about Amendment 4 - Christina Roye, ESQ.

The Voting Rights Restoration for Felons Initiative, also known as Amendment 4, passed by ballot initiative on November 6, 2018. The proposition restored the voting rights of Floridians with felony convictions after they complete all terms of their sentence including parole and probation.

The trial between the ACLU vs State of Florida began in April 2020. The State argues that the plain meaning of Amendment 4, requires that all terms of someone's sentence must be completed before they vote. However, the Plaintiffs in that case were allowed to participate in the March 17th primary thanks to a temporary restraining order issued by a federal judge.

In the meantime, people with felony convictions can take advantage of the "fast track" program that was created by the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office, the Miami-Dade Public Defender's Office, and the Miami-Dade Clerk of Courts. (https://www.miami-dadeclerk.com) With this program, judges can set aside some financial penalties that would otherwise prohibit someone with a felony conviction from voting. A person with a felony conviction must file a motion with the court to modify their sentence. This can be done through an attorney or by simply going to the clerk's office and telling them that you want to file the motion to modify. The individual must express that they have an inability to pay the fines & fees. Restitution that was required as a part of the sentence is not included in this program, neither are any murder or sex offenses.

# **Election Spotlight - Judges**

Miami-Dade Circuit Group 55:



**Olanike "Nike" Adebayo**, civil litigator and criminal defense attorney at Olanike Adebayo P.A. in Pembroke Pines. For more information: nikeforjudge.com



**Joe Perkins**, commercial litigator at Garbett, Allen & Roza in Miami. For more information: josephperkins.com

# **Election Spotlight - Attorneys**

Miami-Dade State Attorney's Race:



**Katherine Fernandez Rundle**, Current Miami-Dade State Attorney. For more information: kathy2020.com



**Melba Pearson**, Attorney and Criminal Justice reform advocate. Served as an Assistant State Attorney for over 15 years under Attorney Rundle. For more information: melbaformiami.com

# **Red Alert Spotlight**

# 31st Annual Delta Days in the Nation's Capital, Washington D.C. February 22, 2020-February 25, 2020

My first experience at the Delta Days at the Capital was extraordinary! I had no idea what to expect, so I was blown away by the various informative sessions. Each session pumped me to do more to make a difference in our community!

Several speakers stressed the importance of participating in the census and the impact that an under count would mean in our neighborhoods. The results of the census determine the number of seats in the House of Representatives, federal funding for education, health facilities, highways, etc. It is important to let people know that any information revealed on the census is confidential for 72 years, and workers who break the law can receive fines of \$250,000 or up to five years in prison.

Another focus for our community is Voter Education and Voter Registration. We must do all we can to locate some of the 8 million Black Americans who are not registered to vote. In 2016, Florida was one of the six states that had many unregistered Black people. We must get them registered and inform Floridians that they have several voting options:

- •Vote early at any voting location, but on election day, they MUST vote at the designated precinct.
- •Vote by mail and return ballot on time.
- •Vote on Election at assigned precinct.

On Monday, Rev. Dr. Frederick Haynes III, of Dallas, Texas took us to church.

On Tuesday, we visited the offices of Senator Marco Rubio and Senator Mitch McConnell, neither were in. Senator McConnell's aide met with a group of us briefly.

I highly recommend this DST Activity!

Cherish the moments! Dr. Rosalyn Walker

#### **Red Alert Virtual Social Action Week**

May 18: Virtual Mythbusters and Truth about #VotebyMail

May 19: Census Tuesday: Complete your 2020 Census

May 20: Virtual Town Hall Election 2020. The New Normal: Leading

Miami-Dade County Post COVID-19

May 21: Virtual Fundraiser: Gun By Back Couch Party with

@DJBoWeezy #Give13

May 22: COVID-19 Nursing Home Donation Drive (Sorors Only)

**Events will be streamed on Facebook and YouTube Live!** 



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