



OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 1, 2010  
**PHOTO RELEASE**

Press Contact: Jalyne R. Strong (312) 603-5690  
[jrstrong@cookcountycourt.com](mailto:jrstrong@cookcountycourt.com)

**Black History Event Honors Community Treasures and  
Salutes the Country and People of Haiti**

CHICAGO – ( MARCH 1, 2010) -- **The 11th Annual African-American History Month Celebration, sponsored by the Clerk’s Office’s African-American Employees Committee (AAEC), was held on Feb. 25.** This year’s theme was “African-American Community Treasures, Celebrating Our Haitian Connection: A Salute to Jean Baptiste Pointe du Sable the ‘Father of Chicago.’” The program recognized individuals for their unique and worthy contributions to society. A presentation was made to the country of Haiti, and to the Haitian native who founded the city of Chicago. Accepting awards on behalf of the Haitian-American community of Chicago were Professor Ludovic Comeau, PhD, of the Du Sable Heritage Association and Ms. Janine Raymond, President, Friends of Haiti.

The community treasures honorees included: Dr. Lucious Fullwood, Senior Pastor at Bellevue Baptist Church; Ms. Toy Hamilton, Race Car Driver; Mr. Sidney L. McKamey, Special Investigative Technician for the U.S. Department of Justice; Mr. Harry Porterfield co-anchor on CBS 2 – Chicago; Ms. Myrna Shoulder, a recently retired employee of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County who was a valuable member of the African-American Employees Committee member; Miss Camiella Williams, youth/social justice and political education liaison for the Blair Holt Memorial Foundation; and Miss Glennita Williams, founder and president of America’s Guardian Angels.

Hon. John O. Steele, Justice, Appellate Court of Illinois, served as Master of Ceremonies and he received a special surprise award for his contribution to the Annual Black History event. The program featured entertainment provided by the CCC (Clerk of the Circuit Court) Ensemble, musical selections by Mr. James Collins, “Young Gifted & Black” and Ms. Edwina Ratliff, “Lift Every Voice & Sing.”

###



During the Clerk's Office's African-American history month program on Feb. 25, Clerk Brown (far right) and Ronald Wade (far left) pose with honorees (standing from left to right): Mr. Harry Porterfield, Justice John O. Steele, Professor Ludovic Comeau, PhD, Ms. Janine Raymond, Mr. Sidney L. McKamey, and Dr. Lucious Fullwood, and Rev. Anthony Dumas, who gave the opening prayer. Seated (left to right) are other honorees: Ms. Myrna Shoulder, Ms. Camiella Williams, Ms. Toy Hamilton and Ms. Glennita Williams.



Clerk Brown and Ronald Wade are joined by Clerk's Office employees of Haitian descent, Whitney Bigaud, Traffic Division (second from left), and Yves Saincilaire, Law Division (second from right), during a special salute to Haiti with presentations to Ms. Janine Raymond (second from left), President, Friends of Haiti, and Professor Ludovic Comeau, PhD, (third from right) of the Du Sable Heritage Association.