# 'Early Voting' started on February 14 and ends February 25, 2022.



# The Dallas Post Tribune

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**OLUME 74 NUMBER 23** 

SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

February 17 - 23, 2022

# Landlords finding ways to evict after getting rental aid

By MICHAEL CASEY



Prince Beatty is photographed on Monday Jan. 10, 2022 in East Point, Ga. Beatty, a 47-year-old Navy veteran, is scheduled to be evicted from his residence this month for unpaid rent, despite his landlord receiving more than \$20,000 in federal rental assistance. (AP Photo/Hakim Wright Sr)

A day before she was due to be evicted in November from her Atlanta home, Shanelle King heard that she had been awarded about \$15,000 in rental assistance. She could breathe again.

But then the 43-year-old hairdresser got a letter last month from her landlord saying the company was canceling her lease in March —- seven months early — without any explanation.

"I'm really pissed about it. I thought I would be comfortable again back in my home," said King, whose work dried up during the pandemic and who now worries about finding another apartment she can afford. "Here I am

back up against the wall with no where to stay. I don't know what I am going to do."

Although the \$46.5 billion Emergency Rental Assistance Program has paid out tens of billions of dollars to help avert an eviction crisis, some tenants, like King, who received help are finding themselves threatened with eviction again — sometimes days after getting federal help. Many are finding it nearly impossible to find another affordable place to live.

"It is a Band-Aid. It was never envisioned as anything more than a Band-Aid," Erin Willoughby, director of the

Clayton Housing Legal Resource Center Atlanta, said of the program.

"It's not solving the underlying problem, which is a lack of affordable housing. People are on the hook for rents they cannot afford to pay," she said. "Simply finding something cheaper is not an option because there is not anything cheaper. People have to be housed somewhere."

The National Housing Law Project, in a survey last fall of nearly 120 legal aid attorneys and civil rights advocates, found that 86% of respondents reported

Continue Evict Page 4

# Judge deals Texas narrow defeat over mail-in ballot limits

A federal judge on Friday night handed Texas' elections overhaul a partial nation's most restrictive defeat days ahead of 2022's first primary over rules that criminalize encouraging only available to voters voters to get a ballot by

District Judge Xavier signed by Republican Gov. Rodriguez in San Antonio is limited but orders Texas not to enforce that narrow part of the law against Harris County, which in 2020 sought to send more able by six months in jail. than 2 million voters mailin ballot applications during the pandemic in the state's largest Democratic strong-

appeal the decision, which comes just days before early voting begins for the

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — first-in-the-nation primary on March 1.

Texas has some of the rules surrounding vote-bymail, generally making it who are at least 65 years old or have an illness or disabil-The ruling by U.S. ity. Under the new law Greg Abbott in September, an elections official who solicits mail-in ballot applications from voters could face felony charges punish-

The lawsuit was filed by officials in Harris County who have described feeling hamstrung to help Houston voters navigate the new Texas was expected to law. The ruling also applies to the Austin area, where

Continue **Texas** Page 6

# Nakia Douglas

### Lincoln High School and Humanities/Communications Magnet graduate



Photo courtesy: Dallas ISD

# Super Bowl has 101 million TV viewers, up from 2021

Article Page 4



Eminem, from left, performs with Kendrick Lamar, Dr. Dre, Mary J. Blige and Snoop Dogg during halftime of the NFL Super Bowl 56 football game. Photo/Chris O'Meara)



Dr. Dre performs during halftime of the NFL Super Bowl 56 football game. (AP Photo/Lynne Sladky)



Snoop Dogg performs during halftime of the NFL Super Bowl 56 football game between the Cincinnati Bengals and the Los Angeles Rams Sunday, Feb. 13, 2022, in Inglewood, Calif. (AP Photo/Tony **Gutierrez**)

DALLAS — "Embrace your life journey. Every experience is purposeful toward your growth and development." -Nakia Douglas

You have a rich educational legacy within and without Dallas ISD. Tell us about your journey as a Dallas ISD student.

My official journey in Dallas ISD didn't begin until my ninth grade year (1989) at Lincoln Humanities/ Communications Magnet High School. While all of my friends and family attended Dallas ISD from elementary through high school, my

mom sacrificed for my sister and me to attend private school from kindergarten through eighth grade.

I graduated from Lincoln

Humanitie/Communications Magnet High School in May 1993. Who was one of your

most influential teachers in

Dallas ISD and why? At Lincoln, the most influential teacher I was privileged to learn from was Dr. Juanita Simmons. Dr. Simmons taught our humanities courses, which were equivalent to college-

Continue Nakia Page 2







Honoring the accomplishments of our Black students, faculty and staff during February and throughout the year!



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Continue Nakia Page 1

level history courses. In Dr. Simmons' classes, we cultur of others, but more importantly to acknowledge, respect, honor and love our own rich heritage. In the midst of our transformational educational journey, Dr. Simmons sponsored several trips to West Africa to deepen our understanding of our African lineage.

Dr. Simmons' impact went beyond the classroom, as her lessons guided our development and success through our collegiate, professional and personal lives.

Tell me about your familial legacy in Dallas ISD.

My mom has worked in Dallas ISD for 29 years, my wife is a Dallas ISD alumna and currently a librarian in the district, my father and uncle were both alumni of Lincoln, most of my cousins who lived in Dallas graduated from South Oak Cliff High School, and my children are students in Dallas ISD.

What school activities did you participate in, and how have they impacted your life?

At Lincoln, I was on the football and soccer teams. Additionally, I was in the choir, Future Teachers of America, **PALS** and Student Council. Off campus, I was in Upward Bound, VA Explorers, Urban League 100 Fellows, and University Outreach.

Participation in these various groups and activities taught me the value of

friendship, respect, community service and the power of collective educational pursuits. My ter student and person. They accepted who I was and helped me become who I was to be in the future.

What brought you back to Dallas ISD after college and what are some of your achievements since graduating?

I began my career as a kindergarten teacher in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, after graduating from Livingstone College. I made the decision to move back to Dallas after my father suffered a stroke. While taking care of my father, I recognized that I wanted to work in Dallas ISD and specifically in my old neighborhood (South Dallas) to show my students that they could make it out of their current circumstances through the power of education.

My journey as a teacher and administrator in Dallas ISD began when Mrs. Linda Smith-Ellis hired me as a first- and fourth-grade teacher at Dr. Martin L. King Jr. Learning Center. While serving the students at MLK, I met and married my wife, who was also a teacher on the campus.

After our marriage, my wife and I moved to Central Texas, where I began my administrative career in Georgetown Pflugerville before returning to Dallas (specifically South Dallas) as an assistant principal at Charles Rice Learning Center. After leaving Charles Rice, I was

teamwork, privileged to serve as principal of Maynard H. Vanguard, Jackson Maynard H. Jackson learned not only to respect, classmates, peers, sponsors Middle School, A. Maceo honor and acknowledge the and mentors made me a bet- Smith High School and lastly, The Barack Obama Male Leadership Academy, before becoming the executive director of the South Oak Cliff Feeder Pattern.

> I currently serve as the executive director of TRIO and Pre-Collegiate Programs at UNT Dallas.

> You have so many wonderful and well-deserved accolades, but at the heart of all your accomplishments is service. What drives that desire to serve?

> "To whom much is given, much is required" is a quote that has resonated with me throughout my entire life. My success in life is due to the sacrifices, encouragement, guidance and support of my mother, teachers, principals, mentors and the "village" who believed in my potential. My service is but a reflection of the gifts I received as a student throughout my educational and life jour-

> For the student who is where you once were, the teacher teaching as you once did, and the administrator leading a campus, what words of encouragement can you offer?

I would tell each person at each level the same thing-the first person you lead is yourself, the first person you believe in is yourself, and the first person you love is yourself. You can't believe, lead, or love anyone else until you believe, lead and love your-



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# EDITORIAL PAGE

THE TRUTH CLINIC

# WHY BLACK HISTORY?

By James W. Breedlove

Since 1926 February has been associated with the celebration of Black History. The initiative for this celebration was spearheaded by noted black historian Carter G. Woodson. But the question possibly arises in the minds of some--why Black history? Isn't history the past? Why bother with it? We certainly can't change it.

That may be true, but let's pause to examine the value of Black History because there are those who still believe that Blacks have no history worth considering. A noted Oxford University scholar stated, "Perhaps in the future there will be some African history to teach. But at the present there is none. There is only darkness...and darkness is not the subject of history".

We must, therefore, seek

out our history because buried therein is a glorious heritage encompassing every aspect of human existence. It is a snapshot of the best and the worst of mankind. It contains the magnificence of the richest civilizations the world has ever known. Black history embraces Cleopatra--the queen of Egypt. It will tell of Pythagorus--the mathematical genius. It will reveal heroes such as Hannibal, Tubman, Drew, Turner, Dubois, Garvey, Malcolm X, King, Bethune and many others. We must study for ourselves and be aware of black men and women who were rulers, warriors, physiphysicists,

astronomers, artists, philosophers, and educators that made history.

Black history also reveals a significant inkblot called American slavery. Hundreds of years have not dimmed the memories of atrocities inflicted on our ancestors as they were reduced to human chattel by force of law. You will see Plessey defining a separate but not equal society. You will see the despicable Tuskegee experiment perpetrated on innocent blacks under the disguise of medical hope.

But as we look back through the chronicles of slavery, oppression, and deception we should not wallow in self-pity or fabricate shallow excuses for today's disparities. should take inspiration from the valiant success story of black survival in the face of overwhelming odds. It is a blood soaked past, the odyssey of a great people who have had horrific crimes committed against it. But we cannot take inspiration from something that we do not

Carter G. Woodson argued, if education is ever to be substantive and meaningful within the context of address the African's historical experiences, both in Africa and the Diaspora. In fact, a positive identity or enhanced self-concept is critical for the academic, social, and personal success of Blacks everywhere. And this vacuum makes Black

**Vote for Judge Clay Jenkins** 

history even more important.

Black History also makes us aware of the cycles America has gone through in the continuing struggle with its conscience. At times it moved toward reconciliation and justice, but at other times it seems to be saying to black people, "Thus far, and no further."

But Black History in America is more than the saga of black people; it is the true story of America stripped of myth and legend, a story in which the cruelty and violence that has undermined and divided our society stands bared to the world.

"No nation, no race," observed Dr. Charles Finch of the Morehouse School of Medicine "can face the future unless it knows the extremes it is capable of.

Maya Angelou said, "If you know something about your past, you can stand a little more erect, you can face the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune."

America. Their blood, sweat and tears turned a virgin land into an industrial powerhouse. Black inventors, artisans, explorers, statesmen, and entrepreneurs made vital contributions to America in world history, it must first all fields of endeavor. But the task is not finished. And today we must accept the history.

> African Americans stand tall. Discover your family history and find out who you are. Let us study this history with the understanding that



James W. Breedlove

we are not, as white supremacy infers, an inferior people. We are going to use that beautiful black history to inspire us to greater achievements and greater independence. It is going to be the basis for proudly telling our story to the outside world.

"If a race has no history," Woodson wrote, "it has no worthwhile tradition, it becomes a negligible factor in the thought of the world, and it stands in danger of being exterminated."

Black history shows us it Black people helped build has been done. Our Black heritage says we can do it again. Our future and the future of generations to come demands that we take up the challenge, to not only lift up our generation, but to pass on a flaming torch that inspires future generations of Blacks to climb higher, ever higher.

Why Black History, you challenge to add to that noble ask? My answer -- because it is OUR HISTORY.

> James W. Breedlove Comments or opinions may be sent to the writer at: thebreed@swbell.net

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#### COMMUNITY CALENDAR

#### DATES FOR THE 2022 TEXAS PRIMARY

Jan. 31

was the last day to register to vote

Feb. 14

early voting starts Early voting ends Feb. 25

Feb. 18

starting date to receive mail-in ballot requests

March 1 **Texas Primary Election** 



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- Barack Obama -

# **Super Bowl has 101** million TV viewers, up from 2021

By DAVID BAUDER



Dr. Dre from left, performs with Mary J. Blige, Snoop Dogg and 50 Cent during halftime of the NFL Super Bowl 56 football game between the Los Angeles Rams and the Cincinnati Bengals Sunday, Feb. 13, 2022, in Inglewood, Calif. (AP Photo/Chris O'Meara)

NEW YORK (AP) — The in Beijing. Super Bowl rebounded to draw an estimated 101.1 million television viewers who saw the Los Angeles Rams beat the Cincinnati Bengals on a late-game drive, proving the dominance of football as an audience magnet.

The audience on NBC and Telemundo was a 6% increase over the 95.2 million TV viewers who saw the Tampa Bay Bucs crowned as champions in 2021, the Nielsen company said on Tuesday.

The ratings improvement for what is traditionally the most-watched event of the year was no surprise, given the run of terrific playoff divisional round was up 20% over last year, and the conference championships were up 10%, Nielsen said.

Besides the good games, a sense — or hope — that the coronavirus pandemic may be winding down might have contributed to the increased audience, said Cole Strain, head of measurement for the research firm Samba TV.

"We felt there was a little more freedom," Strain said.

The halftime show starring Dr. Dre, Snoop Dogg, Eminem and Mary K. Blige was also a hit, and NBC expressed hope that the game's halo will kick-start ratings for the otherwise disappointing Winter Olympics

NBC said another 11.2 million people streamed this year's game, putting the total audience at 112.3 million people. The audience for television and streaming combined is up 12.6% over last year.

For its hometown Bengals, Cincinnati had the highest audience share in the country, meaning the percentage of television viewers watching the game, Nielsen said. Los Angeles didn't even make the top 10 mar-

The most-watched Super Bowl ever remains the 2015 game between New England and Seattle, which had 114.4 games leading up to it. million viewers. Last year's if they were feeling lucky, Viewership for the NFL's slip gave rise to some thinking that the NFL wasn't immune to the overall drop in audience that afflicts virtually all television programs, but this year the NFL defied that gravity.

> Live television viewing in the last three months of 2021 was up over the previous year, and that can be attributed solely to football, Strain said.

> Nielsen estimated that 103.4 million television viewers watched the Super Bowl halftime show, and Samba's data illustrated how it is become an event in itself. Samba estimated that 379,000 households, or roughly more than a million people, tuned in for the half-

time show and left after it was done. Another 1.2 million households, or more than 3 million people, tuned in first for the show and stayed for the game's second

"This year was a very big standout in terms of the halftime show performers versus the last year," Strain said. It was the first time rap artists took center stage at halftime.

As a result, Samba said the 15 most-watched commercials came either just before, during or just after the halftime show.

That represents a change from the time advertisers jockeyed to get their ads placed early in the game or, late in the fourth quarter to take advantage of a suspenseful finish.

Nielsen said 21.3 million people stuck around after the game to watch Olympics programming. NBC specifically requested to broadcast a Super Bowl during a Winter Olympics year in the hope that each event would benefit the other, and its executives said they hoped to take the same approach in the future.

Late last year, Nielsen adjusted its estimate of viewership for the 2021 Super Bowl from 92 million to 95.2 million, saying it had undercounted the number of people who watched the game outside of their homes.



Continued Page 1

#### Landlords finding ways to evict after getting rental aid



Prince Beatty takes a seat on a broken speaker outside on the front porch of his home in East Point, Ga. (AP Photo/Hakim Wright Sr.)

cases in which landlords either refused to take assistance or accepted the money and still moved to evict tenants. The survey also found a significant increase in cases of landlords lying in court to evict tenants and illegally locking them out.

"A number of issues could be described as issues related to landlord fraud ... and a set of problems I would describe as loopholes within the ... program that made it less effective to accomplish the goal," said Natalie N. Maxwell, a senior attorney with the group.

National Apartment Association President and CEO Bob Pinnegar said the survey was not based on facts, adding that its members are doing everything they can to keep tenants in their homes, including lobbying to get rental assistance out faster.

"Skewed surveys aren't reflective of the entire situation. By and large the rental housing industry has gone to great lengths to support residents, including when it comes to rental assistance and adherence to laws and regulations," Pinnegar said in a statement.

Legal aid attorneys interviewed across the country confirmed they are seeing a steady increase in cases where tenants were approved for rental help and still faced eviction.

These include the mother of a newborn and two other children in Florida who received rental assistance but was ordered evicted after the landlord refused to take the money. Another Florida landlord lied in court that she hadn't received the money in a bid to push through an eviction.

There have also been cases in Georgia and Texas

landlords where received assistance moved to end leases early, increased rents to unaffordable levels nonpayment to evict someone, lawyers said.

doesn't seem to be working as intended," said Tori Tavormina, an eviction prevention specialist with Texas Housers. "It feels much more like it's a program that is alleviating the pressure of the eviction crisis but not solving the underlying problems."

District Court Judge Shera Grant, who handles housing cases in Birmingham, Alabama, said she and her fellow judges have seen an uptick in cases of landlords getting assistance and returning to court a few weeks later after a tenant has fallen behind on rent to seek an eviction. So far they have prevented them — though she expects a spike in these kinds of cases going forward.

"It's incumbent on the judges to make sure we are paying close attention to our eviction cases and making sure that the landlord is not having their cake and eating it too," she said. "By the same token, we are not forcing landlords to take the money. There are some unfortunate circumstances where the tenant has to be evicted."

believes her landlord was retaliating for earlier complaints about mold and water leaks in her three-bedroom house. The company King was dealing with, NDI Maxim, which manages property for owners, said it "was not at liberty to share details of tenants' status nor their payment records."

Other cases are complicat-

ed by the length of the pandemic and conflicting accounts of landlord and tenant. And they often leave both parties feeling shortchanged.

Despite his landlord getting more than \$20,000 in rental assistance, Prince Beatty is facing imminent eviction from his three-bedroom house in East Point, Georgia.

After the money was approved, Beatty signed an agreement in court late last year to pay several thousand dollars more that he owed as a condition to remain housed. He went back to the or found other reasons than county for additional assistance to cover the balance but says he was denied. "As it is right now, it Unable to find warehouse work during the pandemic, the 47-year-old Navy veteran still can't pay rent and is now \$12,000 behind, in part due to his rent increasing from \$1,250-a-month to \$2,000.

> Beatty, who was told he would be evicted this month, said he wakes most mornings in a panic, wondering if this will be the day when marshals "come and disrespect my stuff and throw it in the street."

His landlord, Monique Jones, said she tried to work with Beatty. But she said he violated the lease by subletting rooms to several other people and that the amount of rental assistance has not covered losses from months of unpaid rent that started before the pandemic.

"It was helpful but it did not address the underlying issue which is his nonpayment of rent," she said of the rental assistance. "That still remains and that is rightfully why I am proceeding. If I have a tenant who will pay rent and abides by the lease, I would not attempt to evict."

Limits with rental assistance often come down to some states and localities failing to follow Treasury In the case of King, she Department guidance calling for policies requiring landlords delay evictions after getting money. Although the program prevents landlords from evicting during the period covered by rental assistance, the Treasury Department can only encourage states to adopt policies that ban evictions up to three months afterward.

**Continue - 2/24/2022** 

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Sammie Berry Minister

Calendar of Events Sunday Bible School 8:45 a.m.

Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

**Tuesday Song Practice** 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Class 9:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Sunday Radio Broadcast

"The Congregation Where Everybody is Somebody"

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10:00 a.m.

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#### Minister S.T. Gibbs, III

Associate Ministers: John Bradshaw Ben Myers Patrick Worthey

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Early Worship 8:00 a.m. **Bible Classes** 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship 10:45 a.m. **Bible Classes** 5:00 p.m. **Evening Worship** 6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 6:30 p.m. Devotional Service **Bible Classes** 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY 11:00 a.m. **Bible Class** 6:30 p.m. Support Groups

# "THE STEADFASTNESS OF THE APOS-**TLES** IN VIEW OF PERSECUTION"

ACTS 5:12-42

No one looks forward to trouble. The fearless Apostles of our text faced their trouble with tremendous conviction. We must understand, as the Apostles, that God's people are not exempt from trouble. In fact, the people of God have always faced trouble and troublous times. As we view the early church, we will come to understand that they faced much opposition and troublous times. Our blessed Lord had exhorted the disciples that they would encounter trouble when He said - "If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you" (St. John 15:20). Jesus also said in St. John

16:33, "These things I have spoken unto you, that in Me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." Yes, troublous periods will occur in the life of God's people, but we must understand that God is greater than the trouble!

The Apostles of out text had greatly incensed the Sadducees. The Sadducees were against the Apostles because of teaching and preaching the resurrection of Jesus Christ (Acts 4:2, 17-18). Not only were the Apostles teaching and preaching the message of the resurrection of Christ, but many miraculous

things were done through them. Multitudes of men and women were added to the Lord and to His church as a result of their ministries! The word of God being authenticated through the miracle working power of these Apostles. According to verses 12-16, many infirmed were brought on their pallets and couches in hopes that the shadow of Peter would pass over them that they might be healed. Also many were delivered from demonic oppression. These miracles greatly disturbed the Sadducees to the point of jealousy (v. 17).

The Sadducees were greatly concerned about the popularity

the Apostles were gaining among the people! The religious authorities were so angry until they "laid their hands on the Apostles and put them in a common prison (v. 18). The word of God has always divided mankind; and so in an effort to suppress the truth, the religious authorities had the Apostles place in a common prison. However, by Divine intervention, God used an angel, a heavenly visitor, to release His Apostles, and the angel instructed them to, "Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life (v. 19-20).

These Apostles who were arrested and placed in prison, are seen the next morning obeying the angel's command, for they were in the temple again preaching. During the next morning, the Sanhedrin met and sent for the Apostles. To their astonishment, they were told that the Apostles were missing. Being greatly startled and confused regarding these missing Apostles, a messenger related that the same Apostles were in the temple teaching the people (vv. 21-25). As the officers retrieved the

Apostles and brought them to the council (vv.26-27), the High Priest asked a very pointed and emphatic question, for verse 28 says, "Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us." The Sanhedrin was not only incensed because the Apostles had disobeyed the order to not to preach in Christ's name, but was also experiencing a special guilt because of their positions as leaders and teachers in scheming to kill Jesus. However, the Apostles did not level the guilt upon the leaders only - all of the inhabitants of Jerusalem were guilty, including the rulers (Acts 3:12-17; 4:10).

With unusual courage and conviction, Peter and the

Apostles responded to the High Priest and said, "We ought to obey God rather than men" (v. 29). As Peter and the Apostles continued to witness (vv. 30-32), the council became greatly enraged (v. 33). Through the wonderful intervention by Gamaliel, a great teacher of the law, the Apostles were delivered (vv. 34-39). Sanhedrin agreed to free the Apostles; however, they were beaten for their civil disobedience. Being released, the Apostles continued to do God's will, for verses 41-42 state, "And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name. And daily in the temple, and in every house,

They ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ. May we gain the resolve to preach and teach Jesus, even in the face of severe opposition and shame for His name!

May God Bless!



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### CMS Administrator Chiquita Brooks-LaSure Makes History Among the Most Diverse White House Administration

By Stacy M. Brown, NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent@StacyBrownMedia

A White House photo featuring dozens of African American members of the Biden-Harris administration circulated the internet during the opening days of Black History Month, and one would be hard-pressed to find anyone as proud as Chiquita Brooks-LaSure.

The first Black woman to lead the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), Brooks-LaSure offered the brightest smile when mentioning the historic photo that featured Vice President Kamala Harris and a host of Black staffers who help push the administration's work forward.

"I'm so proud and really moved," the Philadelphiaborn Brooks-LaSure asserted.

"When I got nominated, I heard from women across the country, and I didn't realize how meaningful it would be for so many people for me to sit in this chair," she contin-

"I have older women and younger women come up to me and say how proud they are. That really fuels me to want to use this role in a way to change people's lives, and I feel so grateful for that opportunity."

"The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) resolutely salutes and congratulates Chiquita Brooks-LaSure for her outstanding leadership at Health and Human Services (HHS) CMS. We look forward to expanding the partnership between CMS and the NNPA. Medicare and Medicaid are vital to the present and future of African Americans and other communities of color," affirmed Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr, NNPA President and CEO.

A former policy official who played a crucial role in guiding the Affordable Care Act – or Obamacare – through passage and implementation, Brooks-LaSure enjoys decades of experience working in government and the pri-

As deputy director for poli-

cy at the Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight, and earlier at the Department of Health & Human Services as director of coverage policy, Brooks-LaSure led the agency's implementation of Obamacare coverage and insurance policy provisions.

She assisted the House of Representatives leaders in passing several healthcare laws, including the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008, as part of the Democratic staff for the House's Ways and Means Committee.

As administrator for CMS, Brooks-LaSure oversees programs that include Medicare, Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program, and the HealthCare.gov health insurance marketplace.

was born Philadelphia, raised in New Jersey, and have been living in Virginia for a big chunk of my life," said LaSure, who's married with a young daughter.

"I was always interested in policy from a young age," she explained.

"When I was in graduate school, I had a friend who I took health policy and social policy, and she really got me on the healthcare policy track. I always said, 'once you start on health, you never look back because there's no policy area that has the ability to touch so many lives, especially in the federal government."

The COVID-19 pandemic has upped the pressure on CMS and other agencies, but Brooks-LaSure recalled similarities to when the ACA

"The ACA was born out of a difficult time," she recalled.

"Before we passed the law, not everyone thought we should focus on health policy. We had the Great Recession, and one of the pieces of people's financial security was healthcare because one out of every three bankruptcies resulted from medical costs.

"So, it became imperative to pass the ACA, and I think we're at the same moment today. The pandemic has made it more difficult in terms of wanting to do so many things with healthcare policy."

Brooks-LaSure asserted that Americans now have a greater appreciation of why healthcare is vital and why the uninsured and those not having access to vaccines and drug treatments affect every-

"I think people have seen health disparities at a different level," she stated.

"I think we now have an opportunity to address those [disparities] if we seize this moment."

To that end, Brooks-LaSure noted the six strategic pillars by which CMS would achieve its mission and measure suc-

Advance health equity by addressing the health disparities that underlie America's health system

Build on Affordable Care Act and expand access to quality, affordable health coverage, and care

Engage partners and the communities CMS serve throughout the policymaking and implementation process

• Drive innovation to tackle the health system challenges and promote valuebased, person-centered care

• Protect CMS programs' sustainability for future generations by serving as a responsible steward of public funds

Foster a positive and inclusive workplace and workforce, and promote excellence in all aspects of CMS's operations

Brooks-LaSure said CMS has already made significant progress on those pillars, focusing efforts on improving health equity and access to coverage by working across all federal agencies.

She told NNPA Newswire that a record 14.5 million signed up for 2022 health care coverage during the enrollment period.

"Investing in financial assistance and outreach allows more people to have



Chiquita Brooks-LaSure

access to the care that they need," Brooks-LaSure stated.

As part of Vice President Kamala Harris's Call to Action to Reduce Maternal Mortality and Morbidity, HHS, through CMS, has taken steps to improve maternal health and support the delivery of equitable, highquality care for pregnancy and postpartum care.

CMS has proposed a "Birthing-Friendly" designation to drive perinatal health outcomes and maternal health equity improvements.

According to a release, the designation would initially identify hospitals that provide perinatal care, participate in a maternity care quality improvement collaborative, and implement recommended patient safety practices.

CMS has also encouraged states to take advantage of the American Rescue Plan's option to provide 12 months of postpartum coverage to pregnant individuals enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP.

Brooks-LaSure said history would ultimately smile upon the unprecedented diversity.

"I think that representation matters so much, and we will have changed this country because so many of us are in these roles with our diverse perspectives strengthen policymaking," Brooks-LaSure

"The more you have people who come from different experiences, you make stronger and better policies and making sure the next generation see they can sit in these roles."

Continued Page 1

#### Judge deals Texas narrow defeat over mail-in ballot limits

opponents joined the suit. "Public officials should

be able to recommend that option for folks who are eligible to vote by mail," Harris County Attorney Christian Menefee said. He criticized the new Texas law as "keeping these voters in the dark and discouraging them from voting by mail."

Republican Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton's office did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

The new Texas law also bans 24-hour polling places, drive-thru voting and empowers partisan poll watchers.

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# Day Weather Forecast for DFW

Thursday, Feb. 17

Friday, Feb. 18

Saturday, Feb. 19

Sunday, Feb. 20

Monday, Feb. 21

Tuesday, Feb. 22

Wednesday, Feb. 23



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# US looks to build off Jackson's historic speedskating gold

By BETH HARRIS / AP Photo/Ashlev Landis

BEIJING (AP) — The U.S. speedskating team had been waiting for someone, anyone, to win an Olympic medal. The sport that has delivered more medals than any other for the U.S. in the history of the Winter Games has been in a deep freeze.

Erin Jackson provided a welcome thaw with a victory in the 500 meters Sunday, becoming the first Black woman to win an Olympic speedskating medal. It was the first speedskating medal of the Beijing Games for the Americans, and their first individual medal since 2010.

"We needed that bad," Brittany Bowe said. "Obviously we've had a ton of success at the world level and have fallen far short at the Olympic level. That race was bigger than just Erin. That's for Team USA."

The U.S. won just one medal four years ago in Pyeongchang, a bronze in women's team pursuit. At the 2014 Sochi Games, the Americans were shut out.

"We've taken a lot of punches on the chin the last couple Olympics, so it's great we could celebrate tonight," national team coach Ryan Shimabukuro said.

They hope to be doing a lot more of it in the second week of the Games. Jackson's gold is the lone U.S. medal through eight events at the Ice Ribbon oval. The Americans didn't qualify anyone in the women's 5,000 or men's 10,000.

"I hope that that can be a springboard for something

special to happen here in the next couple days," Bowe said.

Kimi Goetz added, "It's a

good sign for our program." The U.S. men advanced to the team pursuit semifinals on Tuesday and are a

favorite for gold. Bowe next competes in the 1,000 on Wednesday, along with Jackson and Goetz. Bowe finished 10th in the 1,500 and 16th in the

500. Goetz was 18th in the

Joey Mantia skates in the 1,000 on Friday and returns in the mass start on Saturday, the last day of speedskating. He finished sixth in the 1,500, where he had been a favorite to medal.

Jackson's gold was the first for an American woman since Chris Witty won the 1,000 at the 2002 Salt Lake City Games and the first in the 500 since Bonnie Blair won three straight titles from 1988 to 1994.

Jackson came into Beijing ranked No. 1 in the world in the sprint, having won four of eight races during the World Cup season.

"Even though she was one of the favorites going in, she knows how tight the field is. She knows that anything in the 500 can go wrong and you're out, but she never let it get to her," Shimabukuro said. "She focused on the process and didn't worry about the results.

No American had won a long-track speedskating gold since Shani Davis took the 1,000 in 2010. He was the

first Black American to win an individual gold at the Winter Olympics. Jackson was the first Black woman to make a U.S. long-track speedskating team four years

Allyson Felix, the most decorated woman in Olympic track and field history, saluted Jackson with the tweet: "This!! Wow! Congrats @ErinJackson480."

American Joey Cheek, the men's 500 champion at the 2006 Turin Games, tweeted, "YEEEESSSSSSS!!!!!!!!"

Jackson had been waiting a week to compete in her signature event in Beijing.

"I saw no nerves," Bowe said of her longtime friend. "For her to be able to achieve that with the pressure she had on her, with

the story, coming in as No. 1 ranked in the world, the level of respect is out of this world."

Jackson almost didn't make it to Beijing. She slipped in the 500 at the U.S. trials and finished third. Bowe won the event and later gave up her spot on the team to Jackson. The U.S. ended up with a third quota spot, which allowed Bowe to compete in the sprint.

"What she did is going to be a springboard to give so many little girls and boys the opportunity to look up to someone that they haven't been able to look at and relate to," Bowe said. "That goes far beyond what any of us can imagine. She's an human. incredible incredible athlete."

#### **CITY OF DALLAS CIZ22-AVI-2020** DALLAS AIRPORT SYSTEM DALLAS LOVE FIELD CROSSFIELD TAXIWAYS **7555 LEMMON AVENUE** DALLAS, TEXAS 75209

BID DUE DATE: MARCH 18, 2022 @ 1:00 p.m. CONSTRUCTION ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Bids are required to be submitted electronically using the City of Dallas Bonfire website: https://dallascityhall.bonfirehub.com/portal/?tab=openOpportunities. Bid submissions are due at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, March 18, 2022. Submittals will not be accepted after the due date and time and hard copy submittals are not permissible. The Bids will be publicly opened by the City at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, March 18, 2022 in the Express Business Center, Rm L2ES at City Hall. Bid Openings can be viewed on the City of Dallas Webcasting Website (https://dallastx.swagit.com/bid-pur-

chasing). A proposal bond for five percent (5%) of the greatest amount proposed is required with the submittal of your bid proposal. A virtual Pre-Bid Conference and Site Visit will be held via Microsoft TEAMS at 11:00 a.m. Friday, February 11, 2022. The link to the meeting: https://bit.ly/PrebidCrossfieldTxwy Bid Packets, Plans and Specifications may be obtained beginning February 2, 2022 from the City of Dallas Bonfire site. Volume I, Volume II, Plans, and all Addenda are posted to the City of Dallas Procurement Services Bonfire website.

For information regarding this project contact Patricia Davis at patricia.davis@dallascityhall.com The Dallas Airport System maintains the right to reject any and all bids.

#### FAA REQUIRED LANGUAGE IN PUBLISHED **ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS**

#### **Description of Proposed Work:**

The intent for the Dallas Love Field Crossfield Taxiways project is to reconfigure the taxiway system within the midfield area of Dallas Love Field between Taxiways M and C, by constructing dual Crossfield Taxiways that will be aligned perpendicular to Runways 13R-31L and 13L-31R. The primary goal of the midfield reconfiguration is to provide the airport with a more efficient connection between the two runways and reduce pilot confusion by standardizing the taxiway intersections. The reconfiguration will be able to accommodate a new centralized Aircraft Deicing Facility that can serve the current and future airline operational needs. Lastly, the reconfiguration of the taxiways will allow for the continuation of the existing Vehicle Service Road (VSR) to provide a complete loop around the perimeter of the aircraft movement surfaces from the current endpoints in the midfield area.

Estimated \$47M - \$50M project. Project timeline is 650 calendar days.

#### **DBE GOAL: 15%** NOTICE OF REQUIREMENT FOR AFFIRMATIVE **ACTION to ENSURE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT**

1. The Offeror's or Bidder's attention is called to the "Equal Opportunity Clause" and the "Standard Federal Equal Construction Employment Opportunity Contract Specifications" set forth herein.

OPPORTUNITY

2. The goals and timetables for minority and female participation, expressed in percentage terms for the Contractor's aggregate workforce in each trade on all construction work in the covered area, are as follows:

#### **Timetables:**

Goals for minority participation for each trade: 18.2% Goals for female participation in each trade:

These goals are applicable to all of the Contractor's construction work (whether or not it is Federal or federally assisted) performed in the covered area. If the Contractor performs construction work in a geographical area located outside of the covered area, it shall apply the goals established for such geographical area where the work is actually performed. With regard to this second area, the Contractor also is subject to the goals for both its federally involved and non-federally involved construction.

The Contractor's compliance with the Executive Order and the regulations in 41 CFR Part 60-4 shall be based on its implementation of the Equal Opportunity Clause, specific affirmative action obligations required by the specifications set forth in 41 CFR 60-4.3(a) and its efforts to meet the goals. The hours of minority and female employment and training must be substantially uniform throughout the length of the contract, and in each trade, and the Contractor shall make a good faith effort to employ minorities and women evenly on each of its projects. The transfer of minority or female employees or trainees from Contractor to Contractor or from project to project for the sole purpose of meeting the Contractor's goals shall be a violation of the contract, the Executive Order and the regulations in 41 CFR Part 60-4. Compliance with the goals will be measured against the total work hours performed.

3. The Contractor shall provide written notification to the Director of the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) within 10 working days of award of any construction subcontract in excess of \$10,000 at any tier for construction work under the contract resulting from this solicitation. The notification shall list the name, address, and telephone number of the subcontractor; employer identification number of the subcontractor; estimated dollar amount of

the subcontract; estimated starting and completion dates of the subcontract; and the geographical area in which the subcontract is to be performed.

4. As used in this notice and in the contract resulting from this solicitation, the "covered area" is Texas, Dallas County,

#### All Contracts

(1) Buy American Preference-source Title 49 USC 5010 The Buy-American Preference requirement in 49 USC 50101 requires that all steel and manufactured goods used on AIP projects be produced in the United States.

#### Contracts over \$2,000

Davis Bacon Requirements - source 2 CFR 200 Appendix II(D), 29 CFR Part 5 The Davis-Bacon Act ensures that laborers and mechanics employed under the contract receive pay no less than the locally prevailing wages and fringe benefits as determined by the Department of Labor.

#### Contracts over \$10,000

(2) Affirmative Action Requirement - For contract of \$10,000 or more, a contractor having fifty or more employees, and his sub-contractors having fifty or more employees and who may be awarded a sub-contract of \$50,000 or more, shall maintain an affirmative action program within one hundred twenty days (120) of the commencement of the contract.

#### Contracts over \$25,000

(3) Debarment and Suspension Source 2 CFR part 180; 2 CFR part 1200; DOT Order 4200.5 – The contractor entering into a contract with the City are not presently suspended, excluded or debarred by any Federal department or agency from participating in federally-assisted projects.

(4) Government Wide Requirement for Drug-free Workplace. Source Title 49, Part 32; The City of Dallas will require an agreement with the contractor, as a condition of the award, to comply with the requirements in Source Title 49, Part 32 Subpart B or Subpart C.

#### **Title VI Solicitation Notice:**

The City of Dallas Department of Aviation, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

Commodity Code(s): 33055, 80194, 90900, 90903, 90910, 90976, 91200, 91216, 91223, 91240, 91244, 91275, 91300, 91310, 91336, 91339, 91345, 91356, 91360,

#### **JOINT PRIMARY ELECTION**

(Republican & Democrat)

#### **VOTERS GUIDE (shorten)**

view complete Guide at: www.dallasposttrib.com

ELECTION DAY: March 1, 2022 EARLY VOTING: February 14 - 25

#### Governor

#### Chad Prather (R)

- Prather is a political commentator that graduated from Columbia International University.
- His top campaign issues include elections, agriculture, trafficking, right to life, energy, border security, education, and the economy.

#### Paul Belew (R)

- Belew is a criminal defense attorney with over 25 years of
- · His top campaign issues include education, healthcare, energy, agriculture, THC, and gambling.

#### Danny Harrison (R)

- Harrison is a businessman based in North Texas.
- · His top campaign issues include small business, border security, property rights and public beaches.

#### Allen B. West 9R)

- West is a 22-year combat veteran, former Congressman representing Florida, and the former chairman of the Texas State Republican Party. He has a bachelor's degree from the University of Tennessee, and master's degrees from Kansas State University and US Army Command and General Staff Officers College.
- His top campaign issues include rule of law, border security, property taxes, energy, education, election integrity, and gun rights.

#### Greg Abbott (R)

- Abbott was first elected as governor in 2014. He previously served for six years as a justice on the Texas Supreme Court and for 13 years as Texas Attorney General. He received a B.B.A. from UT Austin and his law degree from Vanderbilt University.
- His top campaign issues include law and order, healthcare, pro-life, second amendment rights, election integrity, property tax relief, energy, and a balanced state budget.

#### Don Huffines (R)

- Huffines is a business owner and real-estate developer that also served as a state senator from Dallas for four years. He graduated with a B.B.A. from UT Austin.
- His top campaign issues include border security, election integrity, property taxes, critical race theory, social media censorship, the power grid, term limits, and transportation.

#### Joy Diaz (D)

- Former public radio journalist Joy Diaz says her top three campaign issues are the Border, Public Education and State Preparedness; other issues on her platform include Energy and the Environment, Criminal Justice, Infrastructure, Immigration, Transportation, Seniors and Veterans
- Native of Mexico City, Diaz is a graduate of Universidad de Cuautitlan Izcalli

#### Beto O'Rourke (D)

- Former El Paso Congressman Beto O'Rourke's campaign platform include issues that expand Medicaid, create World Class Schools and Jobs; He says his focus is on what the people of Texas want and what is happening in the state
- He is a fourth generation Texan and has served as a member of Congress, a small business owner, and city councilman.

#### Rich Wakeland (D)

- Campaign platform issues include reliable electric power, growing the high-tech industry, and protecting farmers and ranchers from drought
- · Business owner, principal engineer at Wakeland Engineering, and veteran; earned Engineering and Law degrees from Texas A & M University, University of Texas at Austin and University of Texas at Austin School of Law

#### Michael Cooper (D)

· An automobile executive who was born and raised in Beaumont, Texas; was President of the NAACP Beaumont chapter; his campaign platform issues for Governor includes Education, Criminal Justice Reform, Texas Economy, Climate Change, Human Rights, Texas/Mexico Border Security, Healthcare and Affordable Housing

#### Inocencio (Inno) Barrientez (D)

• No Information Available

#### **Lieutenant Governor**

#### Carla Brailey (D)

- Current Assistant Professor at Texas Southern University; former First Vice Chair of the Texas Democratic Party; campaign platform includes Accessible and Affordable Housing, Human Rights, Women Rights, Education
- · Undergraduate degree from Texas State University and, earned a Masters and PhD degrees from Howard University

#### Michelle Beckley (D)

- Current State Representative, District 65 Carrolton; authored numerous bills involving LGBTQ Equality, Public Health and Women's Reproductive Health
- Born and raised in Carrolton; graduate of Texas A&M University

#### Mike Collier (D)

- Collier has over two decades of experience as an auditor and energy expert; In 2020, he was President Biden's Senior Advisor for the State of Texas; his campaign platform includes fixing the Power Grid, Healthcare, Income Equality, Climate Change, Prioritize Needs of Working families, Creating Good Paying Jobs and Benefits, Holding the Line on Property/Sales Tax Increases
- Born and raised in Georgetown, Texas; graduate of The University of Texas Austin

#### Trayce Bradford (R)

- Bradford is a grassroots activist that was president of Texas Eagle Forum. She received a bachelor's degree from Texas
- Her top campaign issues include religious liberty, anti- taxpayer funded lobbying, human trafficking, pro-life, election integrity, and energy.

#### Daniel Miller (R)

- Miller is a tech consultant and president of the Texas Nationalist Movement.
- His top campaign issues include Texas secession, property taxes, border security, election integrity, energy, pro-life, and reducing executive power.

#### Zack Vance (R)

- Vance is a former Marine and Purple Heart recipient and recently worked in cable news. He is a graduate of UNT.
- His top campaign issues include property taxes, education, housing, public safety, energy, and healthcare.

#### Todd M. Bullis (R)

- Bullis has worked as in a software development company and is currently involved in home school networks. He believes that the state government has separated too much away from God.
- His top campaign issues include pro-life, election integrity, COVID-19, and eliminating public education.

#### Dan Patrick (R)

- Patrick was first elected as Lt. Gov. in 2014. He previously served as a state senator and was a talk radio host. He has a B.A. in English from the University of Maryland Baltimore County.
- His top campaign issues include pro-life issues, border security, election integrity, and school choice.

#### Aaron Sorrells (R)

• Sorrells is a small business owner from Lubbock, TX. His top campaign issues include individual rights, property taxes, border security, election integrity, education, and term limits.

#### **Attorney General**

#### Eva Guzman (R)

- Guzman was a justice on the Texas Supreme Court from 2009 - 2021. She received her bachelor's degree from University of Houston and her law degree from South Texas College of Law
- Her top campaign issues include enhancing quality of government, standing up for families and children, veterans, law enforcement, and election integrity.

#### **Louie Gohmert (R)**

- Gohmert is a Congressman from East Texas serving since 2005. He received his bachelor's degree from Texas A&M and his law degree from Baylor University.
- His top campaign issues include balanced budgeting, border security, ending the death tax, and overturning the Affordable Care Act.

#### Ken Paxton (R)

- Paxton was first elected in 2015 as Attorney General. He previously served 10 years as a state representative and two years as a state senator. He received his bachelor's and graduate degree from Baylor University and his law degree from the University of Virginia School of Law.
- His top campaign issues include preserving the constitution, border security, pro-life, second amendment, voter ID, and law enforcement.

#### George P. Bush (R)

- Bush was first elected as General Land Commissioner in 2015. He is a Navy veteran and a former teacher. He received his bachelor's degree from Rice University and his law degree from the University of Texas School of Law.
- His top campaign issues include border security, government accountability, human trafficking, and law enforcement.

#### Joe Jaworski (D)

· Jaworski is third-generation Texas Trial Attorney and former Mayor of Galveston; His term as mayor was defined by his rebuilding Galveston's storm devastated public housing; his campaign platform includes Expanding Medicaid, Creating a Civil Rights Division, Supporting Cities, Counties and School Districts in their local decision-making authority and Creating a Voter Access Division

#### Rochelle Mercedes Garza (D)

- Garza says she became a lawyer for the people, fighting for children, immigrants and families as a civil rights lawyer; her top issues are Healthcare, Voting Rights, Reproductive Rights • She graduated from Brown University and the University of
- Houston Law Center; she is active on county and state- wide boards including Jane's Due Process, the State Bar of Texas' Laws Relating to Immigration and Nationality Committee and the Cameron County Bar Association

#### Lee Merritt (D)

· Merritt is an American Constitutional Attorney, national leader, and a champion for families whose rights and liberties are violated; his top priority issues are Voting Rights, Public Education, Women's Reproductive Rights, Accountability for

Power Grid, Mental Health Crisis and Economic Empowerment

• His undergraduate degree is from Morehouse College, and he earned a law degree from Temple University James Beasley School of Law

#### Mike Fields (D)

- Mike Fields served in the United States Army Reserves for eight years; he was Assistant District Attorney for Harris County and Assistant Attorney General for the Texas Attorney General's office.
- A native Texan, Fields earned his undergraduate degree from Texas State University and a law degree from St. Mary's School of Law

#### **UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 30**

#### Arthur Dixon (D)

- Attended American University in Washington D.C.
- Campaign Issues include universal basic Income a \$15 Minimum Wage, Free Healthcare, Free Community College, Green New Deal and the legalization of Marijuana

#### Jessica Mason (D)

- Mason grew up in Hamilton Park and is a Navy Veteran. She currents works as an Affordable Housing Coordinator.
- Top Campaign Issues: A. Universal Healthcare; B. Criminal Justice reform; C. Community Reinvestment in Public Education, After School Programs and Community Centers; D. Green Jobs; E. Affordable Housing; F. Unions for All

#### Vonceil Hill (D)

- Vonciel Hill earned an undergraduate degree from Rice University, a Masters of Library Science from Atlanta University, a Masters of Arts from Rice University, a Masters of Divinity from Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University Perkins School of Theology and law degree from University of Texas at Austin School of Law
- Top Campaign Issues include living wages and equitable contracting, Excellent education at every level, Equal access to quality Health Care

#### **Jasmine Crockett**

- St. Louis native Jasmine Crockett is a graduate of Rhodes College and earned a law degree from the University of Houston School of Law; the Civil Rights and Criminal Defense Attorney is currently Texas State Representative
- Top Campaign Issues include Voting Rights, Healthcare, Workers Rights, Abortion Rights and Environmental Justice

#### Criminal District Attorney - Democratic John Creuzot (incumbent)

- Serves as the current DA, seeking reelection; Earned his undergraduate degree from the University of North Texas, and his law degree from Southern Methodist University
- · Known for his work on drug courts, criminal justice reform, and evidence-based sentencing; Previous professional experience includes over 21 years as a Felony District Court Judge, seven years as a Dallas County Assistant District Attorney and Chief Felony Prosecutor, and private practice as a criminal defense lawyer.

#### Elizabeth Davis Frizell (D)

- Currently an attorney at her firm, The Frizell Firm; Earned a BA in Political Science and Government, and her JD from Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of
- · Previously served as Criminal District Court Judge in Dallas County, Court No. 7 from 2007-17; Has 20 years of judicial and 28 years of legal experience; Her priorities for the court include unification, transparency, and accessibility.

#### Dallas County Judge Billy Clark (D)

- Billy Clark grew up in Waco and graduated from the University of Texas at San Antonio. He received a Master in Public Administration Education at the University of Oklahoma and his law degree from University of North Texas Dallas. Clark is the Managing Attorney for The Law Firm PLLC.
- Top campaign issues: Bring a proactive leadership style, A fair and consistent criminal justice system, Overhaul the Emergency Management Plan

#### Clay Jenkins (D) (Incumbent)

- Clay Jenkins is an Oak Cliff native that graduated from Baylor University and received his law degree from Baylor Law School. He has been county Judge since first being elected in 2010.
- Top Campaign Issues: Fight back COVID19, Ensure Children have access to quality education, Ensure children have access to quality health care

#### County Court at Law No. 1 Countywide - Dallas LeDouglas Johnson (D)

- Attorney practicing commercial litigation at Shamoun & Norman, LLP; earned undergraduate degree from Duke University and a law degree from Southern Methodist University School of Law
- Has also practiced in the areas of Intellectual Property Litigation, Toxic Tort Defence, Probate and Estate Planning; currently serves as the District 4 City Planning Commissioner for the City of Dallas

#### D'Metria Benson (D)

- Four-term incumbent Judge, Dallas County Court at Law No. 1; graduate of Texas Christian University and The University of Texas at Austin
- One of longest-serving civil judges in Dallas County, seeking a fifth term; currently serves as Local Administrative County Judge of all the Statutory County Courts in Dallas County.





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#### **NEWS YOU OUGHT TO KNOW!**

Police reports complicate Herschel Walker's recovery story - By BRIAN SLODYSKO

WASHINGTON (AP) — One warm fall evening in 2001, police in Irving, Texas, received an alarming call from Herschel Walker's therapist. The football legend and current Republican Senate candidate in Georgia was armed with a gun and scaring his estranged wife at the suburban Dallas home they no longer shared.

Officers took cover outside, noting later that Walker had "talked about having a shoot-out with police." Then they ordered the onetime Dallas Cowboy to step outside, according to a police report obtained by The Associated Press through a public records request.

Much of what happened that day remains shrouded from view because the report, which Irving police released to the AP only after ordered to do so by the Texas attorney general's office, was extensively redacted.

What is apparent, though, is that Walker's therapist, Jerry Mungadze, a licensed counselor with a history of embracing practices that experts in the field say are well outside the mainstream, played a pivotal role in extracting Walker from the situation.

The incident adds another layer to Walker's already turbulent personal history, which includes struggles with mental health and accusations that he repeatedly threatened his ex-wife. And it will test voters' acceptance of Walker's assertion that he is a changed person.

#### Dallas police officers face charges from 2020 protests

DALLAS (AP) — Two Dallas police officers accused of injuring demonstrators during 2020 protests following George Floyd's killing fired less-lethal ammunition at people who were backing away from police and didn't pose any danger, arrest affidavits said.

The Dallas Morning News reports that the affidavits it obtained Thursday dispute some police and attorney statements that injured protesters weren't complying with police.

Prosecutors announced charges Wednesday against Sr. Cpl. Ryan Mabry and former Sr. Cpl. Melvin Williams. Police say Williams was fired Jan. 25 for violating the department's use-of-force policy in a separate incident and Mabry is on administrative leave pending the outcome of an internal affairs investigation.

Both are accused in cases involving men who suffered serious injuries, including one who lost an eye and another whose cheekbone was smashed.

whose cheekbone was smashed.

Mabry was charged with three counts each of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and official oppression related to the protests, while Williams faces two counts of aggra-

vated assault with a deadly weapon and three counts of offi-

cial oppression.

Prosecutors said that Williams also faces an official oppression charge related to the July incident for which he was fired after being seen on video punching a man.

Williams' attorney, Robert Rogers, said the affidavits "put a creative spin on these events," adding that the "false narrative will be completely eviscerated" in court.

Mabry's attorney, Toby Shook, echoed those comments, saying he expects evidence presented at trial will show at least two of those injured were provocateurs.

"There's a lot more evidence that's going to come to light than what's in that affidavit," Shook told the newspaper.

### Whoopi Goldberg returns to 'The View' after suspension

NEW YORK (AP) — Whoopi Goldberg returned to "The View" on Monday after a two-week suspension for remarks about the Holocaust, expressing surprise at some people who had reached out to her during her absence.

Goldberg had been criticized for comments Jan. 31 on the daytime talk show where she said the Holocaust was not about race, but rather about man's inhumanity to others. She apologized, but ABC News President Kim Godwin told her to sit out two weeks.

"I want to thank everybody who reached out while I was away," Goldberg said at the opening of Monday's show. "I'm telling you, people reached out from places that made me go, 'wait, wait, what? Really? OK. I listened to what everybody was saying and I was grateful."

She did not specify any of the people who reached out to her.

Jewish leaders had criticized her initial statement, noting that Nazi leader Adolf Hitler had referred to Jews as an inferior race. Goldberg apologized online the night she made the remark, and on the next day's show.

"Yes, I am back," Goldberg said as she took the stage with her co-hosts on Monday.

# A-Rod, once scorned by Trump, in group buying his D.C. hotel - By BERNARD CONDON

Former New York Yankees slugger Alex Rodriguez, once vilified by Donald Trump as a "druggie" and "joke" unworthy of wearing the pinstripes, is now a key part of an investment group seeking to buy the rights to the ex-president's marquee Washington, D.C., hotel, people familiar with the deal told The Associated Press.

A-Rod's involvement in the \$375 million deal, which could close within weeks, would make the athlete-turned-entrepreneur an unlikely financial savior for Trump, allowing him to recoup millions he invested and perhaps even emerge with a profit from his money-losing hotel.



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# Black History Month at Dallas College Features Author, Lecturer, Educator Ilyasah Shabazz

# Daughter of Malcolm X

DALLAS – Ilyasah Shabazz carries the lessons of her parents in ways that are both intimate and public. After all, she has shared her family with the world, most notably following the 1965 assassination of her father, El Hajj Malik Al Shabazz, better known as Malcolm X.

better known as Malcolm X.
One of six daughters born to Malcolm X and Dr. Betty Shabazz, she is an award-winning author and educator whose advocacy for education is centered in building intergenerational relationships. Shabazz is continuing her parents' work of pursuing economic, social, and criminal justice for all. History, she said, is at the core of who we are as a nation.

Shabazz will discuss her work, views on the importance of history, as well as thoughts about voter suppression efforts during a virtual lecture on Feb. 23 as Dallas College observes Black History Month.

"I believe that every American child must learn that Black history is American history, and that American history is also Hispanic, Native American and Asian history. There's no American history unless each and every voice is heard on the pages of our textbooks," said Shabazz, who teaches perspectives on justice at John Jay College in New York. "I think that this is really the beauty of our America."

Shabazz has had a front row seat to history. She was a witness to the 1965 slaying of her father. An author of several books, she has moved beyond seeing her parents as icons and helps others to adjust their lenses and view them as parents – humans, even. Part of Malcolm X's lectures were about the unwillingness of some to view the humanity of all races.

Malcolm X, she said, was instrumental in bringing human rights to the forefront of the civil rights movement.

"My father provided the biggest critique of America to live up to her promise of liberty and justice for all. I think that now we have the opportunity to do better and instill a value system for our children. Thank God this generation is compassionate. Black Lives Matter, too. Every child deserves to know that they're worthy of lave."

Her mother, she said, taught her children to love themselves and in doing so equipped them to love others. "I wa

"I want to see justice for you," she quoted her mother as saying.

"If we don't learn the lessons (of history), we'll continue in this cycle of divisiveness. Our humanity and the injustice of those issues that challenge one's humanity... We demand our human rights. I think a renewal of the human spirit is critical to igniting an international movement to save our planet and eliminate poverty and dispose of injustice.

"My mother fought to preserve a part of the Audubon Ballroom where my father was assassinated. It is a cultural institution that harnesses the legacy of my parents. We can't just sit back and know that it exists and do nothing," said Shabazz.

When asked how her father would view today's social justice and political climate, she said he would be encouraged by this generation and how they have responded to injustice. The brutal 2020 slaying of George Floyd introduced new voices and new hopes to the movement, she said.

"My father said that it would be a generation of young people who would recognize that those in power have misused it and demand change," Shabazz said. "And we see that in all of the marches that took place while we were forced to quarantine ourselves, not knowing what COVID was. We were questioning immorality," she said.

Shabazz is an award-winning author and served as project advisor for the award-winning PBS documentary "Prince Among Slaves." She is also the author of "Growing Up X." She is co-chair of the Malcolm X and Dr. Betty Shabazz Memorial and Educational Center.

Shabazz will speak virtually to Dallas College students at 4 p.m. Feb. 23.

The event may be viewed online via Webex while the livestream will be hosted at the following campus locations:

- Brookhaven (S220)
- Cedar Valley (D230)
- Eastfield (C135C)
- El Centro (Student Center)
- Mountain View (Treetop Lounge)
- North Lake (H237)Richland (SH117)

In addition to the



Ilyasah Shabazz

Shabazz lecture, Dallas College has planned an engaging list of activities that celebrate the contributions and achievements of Black Americans. Events include a walk-through of recent history along with

wellness and health and cooking classes. There is also a trip to the African American Museum of Dallas and an African American Read-in that features the Harlem Renaissance.