



### *From The President's Pen*

We continue to be some resilient essential workers. Thank you to those who have continued to do the work of NABCJ by attending meetings and strategizing as we face this new normal.

In April, we held two Prayer Calls. Additionally, a prayer call was held on "National Day of Prayer" which was May 7, 2020. Thank you to Chaplain Paula Harris, Pastor Frederick Lamarr, Life Member, and Mrs. Keisha Allen, Chairman, Mansfield Affiliate for your participation. We had a glorious time. Remember Faith over Fear and if you are going to worry why Pray and if you are going to Pray, why Worry! We

will continue to keep those lifted up who have been personally affected by COVID-19 and have been in the hospital or are recovering at home. Likewise, those of you who have family and friends who have been affected by this pandemic, we are sending special prayers as well. I do believe that "Greater" is coming.

I have had discussions with the Executive Committee regarding the status of our Dr. Bennett J. Cooper Golf Scramble and our 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference. We do not know what kind of restrictions and challenges we will face in the near future but we are following up with those establishments to get additional information so that we can make an informed decision regarding our remaining activities.

The Dr. Bennett J. Cooper Day of Service will be held on June 3, 2020. We are asking all members to collectively make an impact by donating to the Foodbank in Cincinnati, Ohio. Dr. Bennett J. Cooper is the founding father of NABCJ and was the Director of the Ohio Department of Mental Hygiene now Rehabilitation and Correction and the first African American Director of a Correctional Agency in the Country. Dr. Cooper and his family resides in Cincinnati, Ohio. We stand on his shoulders and are thankful for his intuitiveness, leadership and service.

May the month of "May" bring you and your family peace, joy and much happiness. Please continue to pray for one another and support each other. We are all "InThisTogether".

Sincerely,

*Staci G. Freeman*

President

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- New Life Members
- Member Spotlight
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Ed.D 1987-88

## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACKS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE OHIO CHAPTER

P.O. Box 328872, Columbus, OH 43232

[www.ohionabcj.org](http://www.ohionabcj.org)

### **The Ohio Chapter of the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice (NABCI) Statement against Killing of Unarmed Black Civilians and other acts of violence:**

As President of the Ohio Chapter of the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice, I along with my Chapter Members are appalled and sickened at what is transpiring across the nation and particularly in the Great State of Ohio. We support the peaceful demonstrations that are occurring. We are also appalled and **"not ok"** with the lack of Social Justice against people of color:

**We are not okay** with an African American man being handcuffed, on the ground with a Caucasian Police Officer putting a knee on his neck for nearly 9 minutes until he took his last breath.

**We are not okay** with vigilante Caucasian Men hunting down, confronting and killing an African American male jogger because they believe he may have broke into a home.

**We are not okay** with law enforcement bursting unannounced into the wrong home and killing an unarmed African American Woman.

**We are not okay** with law enforcement smashing out the windows of a vehicle, and using

excessive force including a Taser against an African American male and female college student who were attempting to leave a protest and make it home prior to the imposed curfew.

**We are not okay** with our African American elected officials being pepper-sprayed by law enforcement while participating in a peaceful protest

**We are not okay** with death threats being made to an African American leader of the Ohio House of Representatives regarding her father who is an African American State Senator.

The Ohio Chapter of NABCI is tired of the reoccurrence of violence and the deaths of African American citizens. Many as the result of fabricated rule violations and egregious allegations of breaking the law strictly because of the color of their skin.

**OHIO NABCI STANDS** in solidarity with all civic organizations against senseless deaths of African American Men and Women at the hands of law enforcement. We are saddened and appalled by the tragic deaths and attempts to intimidate people of color.

NABCI will work to seek equal justice under the law and for African Americans just as we seek equal justice for the perpetrators of the horrendous crimes committed against people of color. We also pray for our Nation and hope that resolutions and meaningful discussions will commence on how we eradicate the overzealous use of force by some law enforcement officers so we can all live in the same communities without fear or target of racism and social injustice.

Respectfully,

*Staci G. Freeman*

Staci G. Freeman

President

[ohionabcjprez@gmail.com](mailto:ohionabcjprez@gmail.com)

330-962-8989

***"Changing The Future Of Criminal Justice"***

# A Message from Your National Midwest Regional Representative



Greetings Ohio Chapter Members,

As we all navigate through these difficult times I want to send my heartfelt prayers to all who have lost loved ones, friends and coworkers during this Pandemic and also those lost not as a result of COVID-19. I also want to send a big THANK YOU to all of the essential workers that stretch across a multitude of professions for battling through this crises and making life easier for the rest of us.

Throughout the quarantine most, if not all of us have been forced in some form or fashion to communicate and engage in the “virtual” world of communications. The NABCJ National Board Meeting that was scheduled for April 24-26th in Durham, NC was held by virtual format. Not being in the physical presence of my Board colleagues was somewhat difficult but the virtual format allowed for visual interaction which I believe made the meeting more productive as opposed to just teleconferencing.

The NABCJ National Board of Directors decided that cancelling the 2020 National Conference and Training Institute in New Orleans July 12-16<sup>th</sup> is in the best interest of health and safety of our members, supporters and conference attendees. We hope and pray that our National recovery is such that we can all come together to celebrate and rejoice at the 2021 National Conference and Training institute in Charlotte, NC from July 11-15<sup>th</sup>.

During this Pandemic, I have been engaged in telephonic and virtual dialogue with multiple Law Enforcement organizations such as the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE), Law Enforcement Action Partnership (LEAP), The National Black Police Association (NBPA) and National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Officers (NABLEO). This dialogue included the multiple instances of social injustices that are occurring across the country including those occurring as a direct result of the Pandemic.

The intense dialogue has included organizational responses to the Ahmaud Arbery case in Georgia, the Breonna Taylor case in Louisville, and social distancing being harshly and in some instances brutally enforced in minority communities. There are several videos and photographs of various Police Departments around the Country enforcing social distancing in minority neighborhoods with a heavy hand while the exact same department not doing the same in non-minority neighborhoods. This includes cases where the violation of social distancing was more egregious in the non-minority neighborhoods, but not addressed by Law Enforcement who were physically on the scene.

I have also been in telephonic dialogue with The President & CEO of the Multicultural Healthcare Marketing Group and in attendance with the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Virtual Town Hall meeting series titled “COVID-19 and Black America.” This series was designed to elicit dialogue and feedback from First Responders, Essential workers, Front Line workers and Educators regarding the early lack of Personal Protective Equipment and other issues and/or roadblocks they are experiencing during the Pandemic.

In closing, as we work to overcome our existential fears PLEASE stay safe and healthy while praying that our Nation heals and recovers with minimal loss of life. Prayers and Blessing to us all!

Gerard R. Lowe

National Midwest Regional Representative

National Bylaws Committee Chairperson

National Finance Committee Member

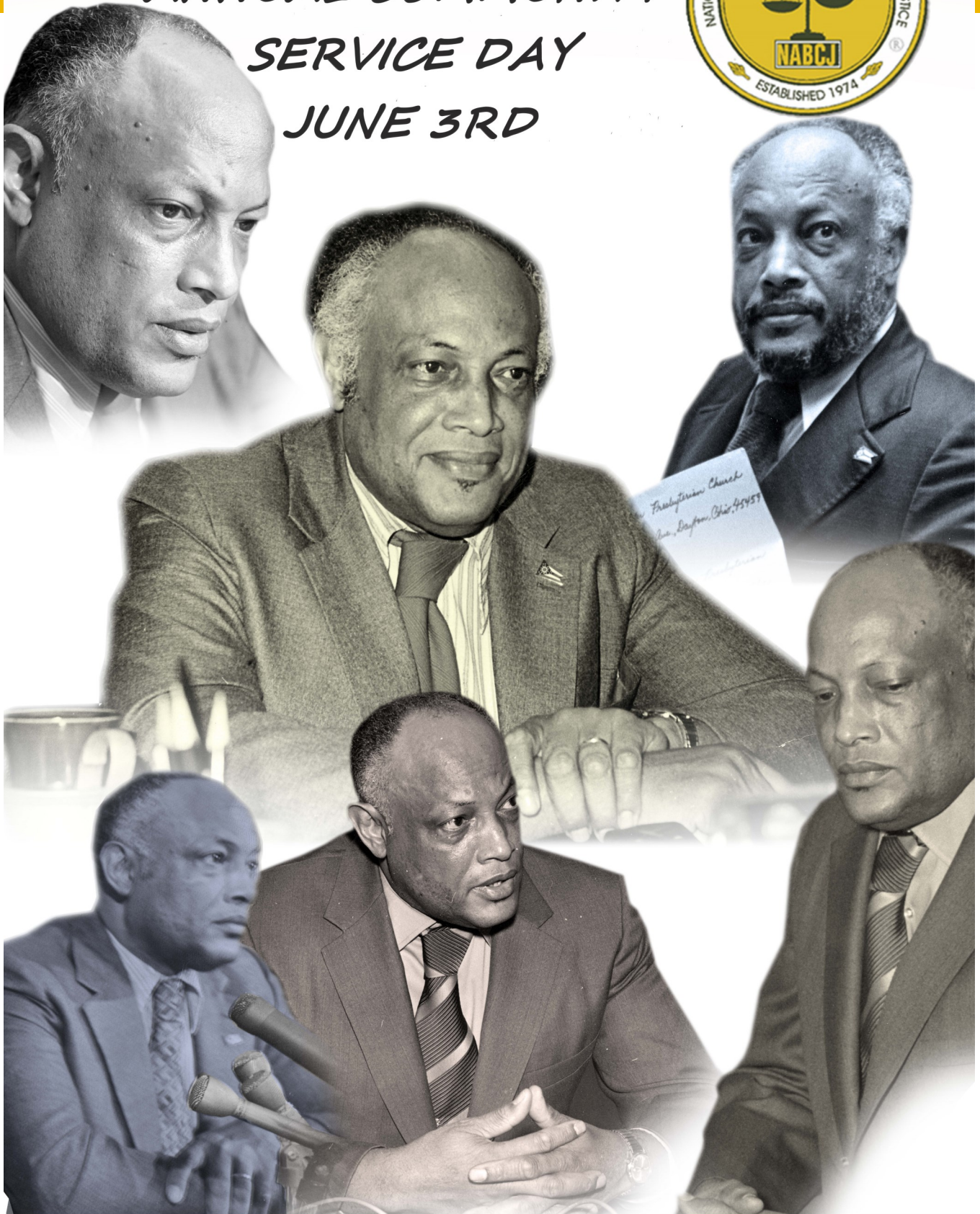
National Membership Committee Member

National Communications & Public Relations Committee Member

National Legislative Affairs & Public Policy Liaison



*NABCIJ*  
*ANNUAL COMMUNITY*  
*SERVICE DAY*  
*JUNE 3RD*



*Dr. Bennett J. Cooper, Sr.*

*June 3, 1921 - March 3, 2013*

# Ohio Chapter Observes Dr. Bennett J. Cooper, Sr. Day of Service

The Ohio Chapter of NABCJ designated June 3<sup>rd</sup> as Dr. Bennett J. Cooper Day of Service. Dr. Cooper was the first African American to become a prison superintendent (Warden) in the state government system and the first African American Director of the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction.

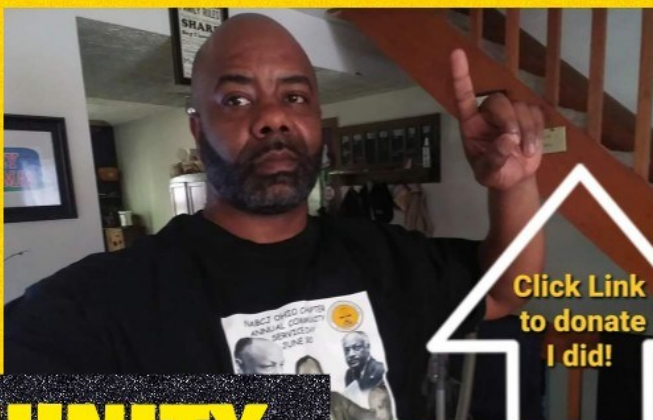
The Ohio Chapter honored Dr. Cooper as being a legend, trailblazer and fighter for justice by giving back. All members of the Ohio Chapter were encouraged to participate in an online giving campaign by hosting a virtual food drive where the proceeds would benefit the Freestore Foodbank in Cincinnati, Ohio. Cincinnati was the home to Dr. Bennett J. Cooper, Sr. and many of his family members still reside there. The Freestore is no stranger to the Ohio Chapter of NABCJ. Dr. Cooper's daughter, Eileen Cooper Reed, served as Vice President of the foodbank for many years. Because of the collective efforts of our members, family and friends, over \$1,600. 00 has been donated to the foodbank. The virtual food drive ends June 30, 2020.

June 3<sup>rd</sup> is Dr. Bennett J. Cooper, Sr's birthday. He would have been 99 years old. We are honored to celebrate his life and legacy.

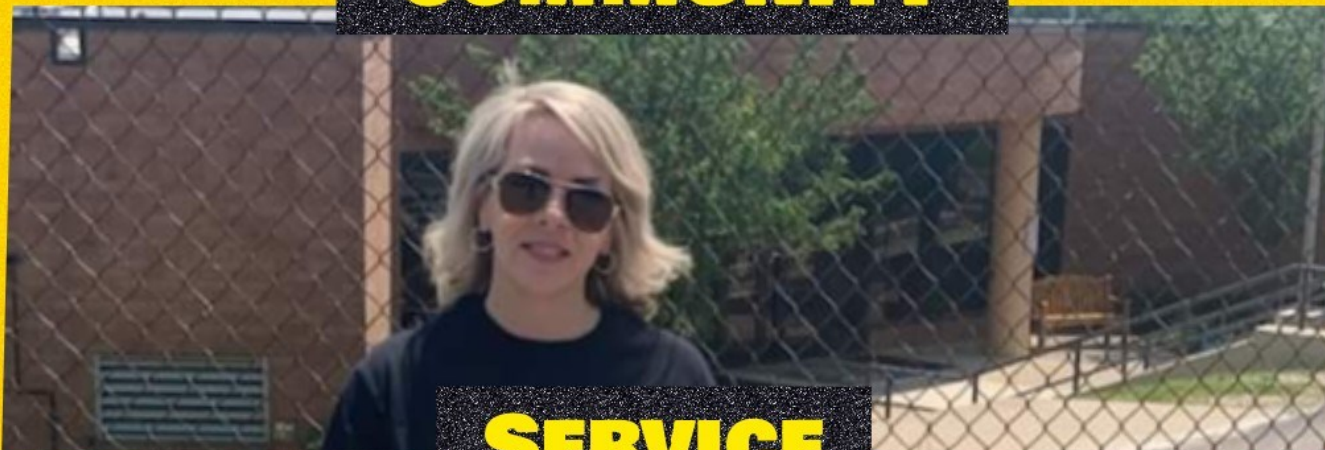




# Ohio Chapter Observes Dr. Bennett J. Cooper, Sr. Day of Service



**COMMUNITY**



**SERVICE**



**DAY**



# Ohio Chapter Observes Dr. Bennett J. Cooper, Sr. Day of Service

I donated!  
Will you?



TOGETHER,  
WE CAN  
SOLVE  
HUNGER



# New Life Members

Wanza Jackson-Mitchell



Donald Redwood



Dorothy Redwood





# Membership Spotlight



Congratulations to Quintina Huff on earning her Master's Degree in Criminal Justice from Tiffin University.



Congratulations to Tanquia Crawford on her promotion as Lieutenant at the Dayton Correctional Institution for ODRC.



Congratulations to Khadijah Keys on earning her Associates Degree in Criminal Justice from Ivy Tech.



Congratulations to Randon Watson who was promoted to the position of Deputy Warden at the Marion Correctional Institution. (ODRC)



Congratulations to George Kennedy who was promoted to Behavioral Healthcare Provider 2, Southeast Regional Administrator. (ODMH)



Congratulations to Charlsie Banks as she was named the 2019 Employee of the Year at Dayton Correctional Institution.



Congratulations to Kimberly Clipper who received her Master's Degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling from Ashland Theological Seminary.

# Membership Spotlight



Congratulations Roni Burkes-Trowsdell on becoming the President of the Ohio Warden's and Superintendent's Association (OWSA).



Congratulations to Officer Derrick Smith for being named Dayton Correctional Institution's Correction Officer of the Year for 2019.



Congratulations to Ruchelle Pride for being inducted into the Prestigious Marquis Who's Who Biographical Registry.



Congratulations to Chief Tiffany Tims who has been elected to serve as the Vice President of Region 4 for the National Organization of Black Executives in Law Enforcement (NOBLE).





Happy National Correctional Workers Week!

Thank you

for keeping our communities safe.

Thank You Educators

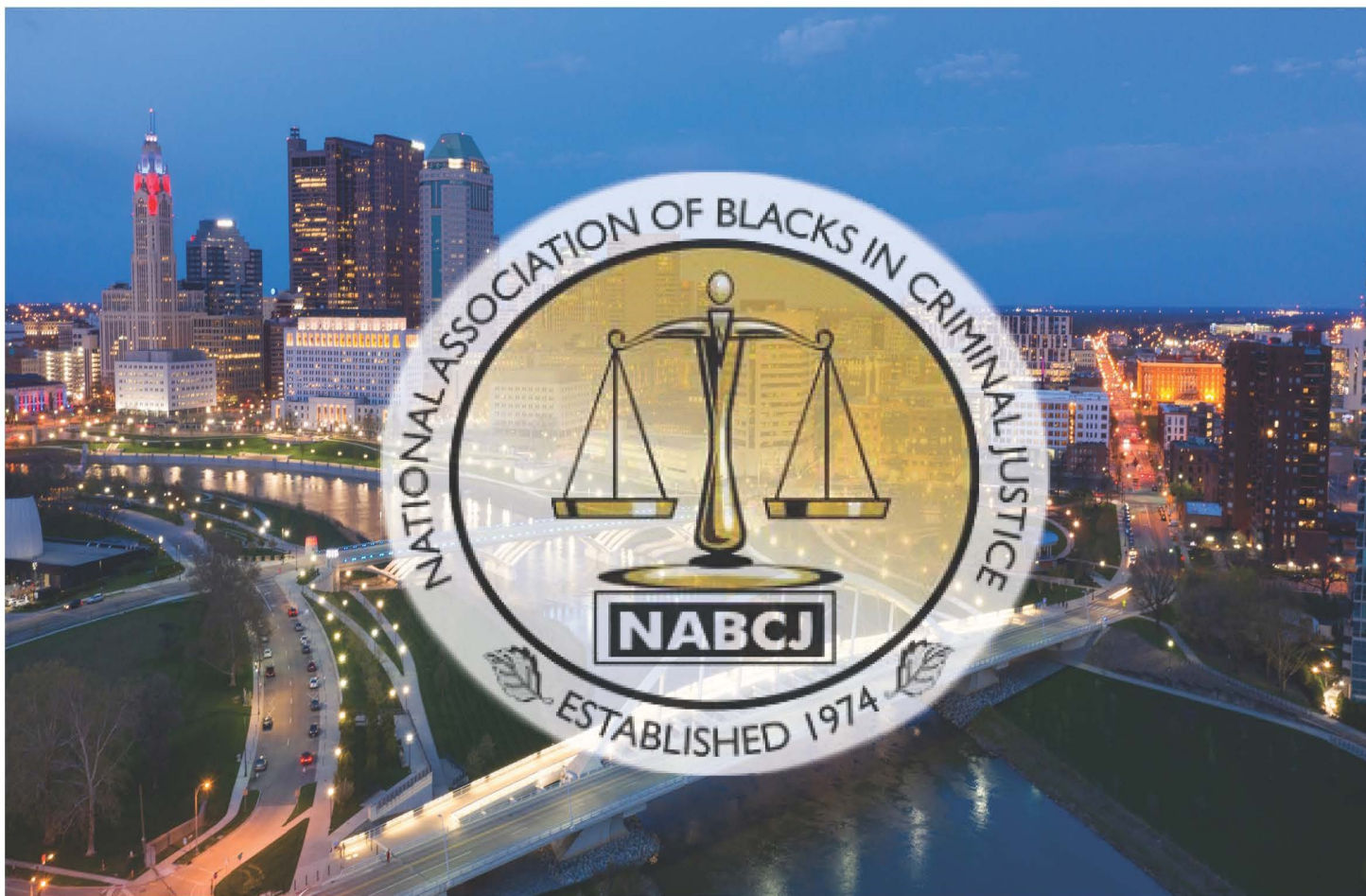
Teacher Appreciation Week  
May 4 - May 8, 2020



*May all the care and kindness  
you give to others  
come back to warm your heart.*



*Happy Nurses Day*



## SAVE THE DATE

33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Ohio Chapter NABCJ Conference  
October 18 - 20, 2020

THEME: "NABCJ Improving Criminal Justice by Using  
the Three R's – Review, Restructure, and Reform."

Location: Embassy Suites Columbus Airport  
2886 Airport Drive  
Columbus, OH 43219

Phone reservations can be made by calling 1-800-EMBASSY reference group code BCJ.

There will also be a link for reservations at [www.ohionabcj.org](http://www.ohionabcj.org)

Please watch your e-mail for more information.



# FOCAL POINT

The Ohio Chapter of the National Association of Blacks In Criminal Justice

Heather Smith, Editor

Volume 1, Issue 3



***Get In Touch With Us Today***

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