

EST. JUNE 2007



African American
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF
NEW JERSEY

15TH ANNUAL BUSINESS LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Collaborating for our
collective success

24 SEPTEMBER, 2025
8:30 AM - 3:00 PM

SHERATON - EDISON

125 RARITAN CENTER PARKWAY - EDISON, NJ 08837



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**FIRESIDE CHAT:
BEST PRACTICES IN
PUBLIC CONTRACTING**

9:55 AM - 10:40 AM



MODERATOR:
DR. JOHN E. HARMON, SR., IOM
Founder, Pres. & CEO
AACCNJ



KEITH WRIGHT, PH.D.
Spiritual leader & Author
Former Director
PANYNJ



MICHAEL GARNER, MBA, CCA
Chief Business Diversity Officer
City-Wide
Mayor's Office of M/WBEs, NYC

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**EXPANDING ACCESS TO NEW
JERSEY'S CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS:
Addressing Systemic Barriers,
Enhancing Transparency &
Equity in the Procurement
Process**

10:45 AM - 11:30 AM



MODERATOR:
MARKIS ABRAHAM
Director
Hudson County
Office of Business
Opportunity



LAWRENCE WOOTEN
Senior Manager
Supplier Diversity
American Water



BIANCA REYES
Supplier Diversity
Manager
PSE&G



GLENDATHOMAS
CEO
Electralines



JEANETTE BARNARD
Deputy Dir., Div. of
Property Mgt. &
Construction (DPMC)
NJ Treasury

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**A CALL TO ACTION:
Community Development &
Ownership, Creating
Generational Wealth through
Opportunities**

12:30 PM - 1:15 PM



MODERATOR:
TAI COOPER
Chief Devel. Officer
NJ Economic Development
Authority (NJEDA)



ADENAH BAYOH
IHOP Franchisee
Restaurateur & Real
Estate Developer



JOY BUTTS
V.P. Business Devel.
Mgr., CSBC, Strategy
Growth & Operations
Chase Bank, N.A.



CATHERINE RINALDI
Executive Vice President
Gateway Development
Commission

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**FROM DEBT TO DYNASTY:
Mastering Business Finances
for Long-Term Wealth**

1:20 PM - 2:05 PM



MODERATOR:
FUNKAE OLAYINKA
CEO
GHIT Consulting, Inc.



MARCUS DYER
Treasurer, AACCNJ
Associate
Withum Smith & Brown



LISA LOVELL, MBA
Financial Planner
Prudential



MATT VERNEY
Market President
Trust

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**REDEFINING THE
WORKPLACE:
Artificial Intelligence,
Workforce Readiness,
Innovation**

2:10 PM - 2:55 PM



MODERATOR:
GARY MANN
Chairman, AACCNJ
CEO, Jasfel Analytics



TOM BERGERON
CEO
Business in NJ Everyday
(BINJE)



ANJU (A.J.) HYPPOLITE
Software Engineer
Office of Innovation
State of NJ



BRANDON YOUNG
President & CEO
Young Management