



THE  
**NATIONAL BAR**  
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**100 YEARS**

# 45<sup>th</sup> Annual **MIDYEAR CONFERENCE**

**AND** Gertrude E. Rush Awards Gala

## Conference Agenda



March 20 - 23, 2025

Marriott Des Moines Downtown

700 Grand Avenue • Des Moines, IA, 50309

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## Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Registration, *3rd Floor*

12:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Board of Governors Meeting  
*Fort Des Moines Museum*  
*75 E. Army Post Rd.*

4:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Welcome to Des Moines Reception  
*Iowa State Bar Association*  
*625 E. Court Avenue*

**Sponsored By: Carney & Appleby, P.L.C., Iowa State Bar Association  
and Iowa State Bar Foundation**

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Dine-A-Rounds

## Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup>

7:30 AM – 6:30 PM

Registration

8:30 AM – 8:45 AM

Opening Remarks/Special Guests, *3rd Floor*

### **Continuing Legal Education Seminars:**

8:45 AM – 9:45 AM

**Resurrecting the Insurrection Clause** (*Anticipate CLE Approval*)  
*Des Moines Ballroom, 3rd Floor*

The Insurrection Clause, Section 3 of the Fourteenth Amendment, was enacted after the Civil War to bar Confederates from regaining power, undermining Reconstruction and otherwise interfering with the full citizenship rights of African Americans. The Insurrection Clause disqualifies most federal and state officers who “have engaged insurrection or rebellion” against the United States or “given aid or comfort to enemies” of the United States from holding any federal or state office. Recent court decisions have significantly weakened the Insurrection Clause rendering it ineffective to protect the Rule of Law and attacks upon democracy. Can it be resurrected? This program will discuss the historical basis for the Insurrection Clause, court decisions undermining its effectiveness, and a pathway to restoring its important protections.



**Speaker: Henry Hamilton III**

All events held at the Marriott Des Moines Downtown unless otherwise specified.  
CLE Seminar schedule subject to change. CLE credit pending.



10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

**Courage to Confront: A Proactive Solution-oriented Approach to Withstanding Challenges to DEI** (*Anticipate CLE approval*),  
*Des Moines Ballroom, 3rd Floor*

War has been declared on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. We must fearlessly confront these attacks. These attacks seek to undo decades of advances in education, employment and corporate leadership, and rob educational institutions and workplaces of the benefits which flow from diverse and inclusive workplaces and educational institutions. This panel of experts will discuss strategies for: Promoting collaborative and sustainable organizational commitment to DEI; developing and navigating solutions for organizations and individuals to not only recapture what has been lost but also to Win; and Empowering the communities in which we live and serve to economically support only those corporations and entities that support our communities.

**Moderator:** Past President Paulette Brown, first African American female President of the American Bar Association and Past President National Bar Association

**Panel Members:**

- Keisha Bross, NAACP, Director, Opportunity, Race, and Justice, and author of newly released NAACP Black Consumer Advisory
- Danielle Carr, Chief, Officer of Inclusion, Lowenstein Sandler LLP, and President - Association of Law Firm Diversity Professionals
- Dean Clifford Dawkins, Associate Dean, Rutgers Law School
- Dariely Rodriguez, Acting Co-Chief Counsel, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law
- Kimberley Ann Ward, Vice President National Bar Association



PAULETTE BROWN



KEISHA BROSS



DANIELLE CARR



DEAN CLIFFORD DAWKINS



DARIELY RODRIGUEZ



KIMBERLEY ANN WARD

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

**Heman Marion Sweatt Awards Luncheon**, *Des Moines Ballroom, 3rd Floor*



1:45 PM – 3:15 PM

**Impact of the 92%: Black Women Embracing Our Resilience and Redefining Our Purpose** *(Presented by the NBA's Women Lawyers Division)*  
*Iowa Ballroom, 2nd Floor*

This discussion explores the vital role of Black women lawyers in advancing equity, justice, and systemic change in the years to come. The conversation is anchored in the pivotal statistic that 92% of Black women voters voted a particular way in the 2024 presidential election, reflecting a deep alignment with justice and equity-driven initiatives. With the nation now facing a significant rollback of these initiatives, there are significant challenges ahead and repositioning required.

The panel discussion will examine the unique and impactful role Black women lawyers have in developing and implementing transformative policies having longstanding implications. The panelists will discuss upcoming policy changes and potential shifting jurisprudence forthcoming that will likely impact marginalized communities disproportionately. The panelists will also discuss ways in which we can position ourselves, including through philanthropy, mental health and wellness, and tapping into our internal resilience, as Black women.

Attendees will gain actionable insights and strategies to counteract setbacks, amplify their advocacy, and sustain their purpose in advancing justice and equity.

**Moderator:** Jennifer Fisher Golden, Director and Senior Counsel Boeing Intellectual Property – Engineering, Test & Technology

**Panel Members:**

- Barbara Arnwine, President and Founder, Transformative Justice Coalition
- Dean Adrien K. Wing, Associate Dean, University of Iowa College of Law
- Marcia Lynn Sells, Co-President, Russell Philanthropies



JENNIFER FISHER GOLDEN



BARBARA ARNWINE



DEAN ADRIEN K. WING



MARCIA LYNN SELLS



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3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

**NBA Centennial Commission Presidential Showcase: Looking Towards the Future of Black Attorneys, *Des Moines Ballroom, 3rd Floor***

The primary focus of the Presidential Showcase is for the audience to understand the impact and role NBA lawyers have played throughout its history, advocating and protecting human rights. Importantly, this panel will also focus on why the NBA is still relevant today and will continue to be relevant at least for the next 100 years.

**Facilitator:** Sonya Hoskins, Secretary, National Bar Institute

**Moderator:** Ashley Upkins, NBA President-Elect

**Panel Members:**

- Dean Roscoe Jones, the first African American Dean at Drake University
- Dean Adrien Wing, Associate Dean, University of Iowa College of Law
- Judge Odell McGhee (Polk County, Iowa)
- Judge Carl Stewart (Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals)
- Past President Arnette Hubbard, the first female president of the National Bar Association



SONYA HOSKINS



ASHLEY UPKINS



DEAN ROSCOE JONES



DEAN ADRIEN WING



JUDGE ODELL MCGHEE



JUDGE CARL STEWART



ARNETTE HUBBARD

5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

**Zumba, Women Lawyers Division, *Iowa Ballrooms (F,G,H), 2nd Floor***

6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

**Recognition of Centennial Affiliates and Unveiling of Centennial Artwork Reception**

*State Historical Museum of Iowa  
600 E. Locust Street*

9:00 PM – 11:00 PM

**Cocktails and Conversations - NBA Conference Spades Night**

*Windows on 7th, Lobby Level  
Hosted by Faegre Drinker*



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## Saturday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>

7:30 AM – 7:30 PM	Registration
8:00AM – 10:00 AM	NBA's Leadership Development Institute, <i>3rd Floor</i>
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Centennial Community Forum on Financial Literacy & Entrepreneurial Success, <i>Des Moines Ballroom, 3rd Floor</i>
11:30 AM – 5:00 PM	A Monumental Journey – <i>Touring History, Meet in hotel lobby</i> - Lunch and Tour of NBA Archives and Exhibits <i>Drake University Law School</i> <i>2500 Carpenter Avenue</i> - Ceremonial Visit, Glendale Cemetery – Special Tribute to Gertrude E. Rush <i>4909 University Avenue</i> - NBA Monumental Journey Statue (Burying of Centennial Time Capsule) <i>2nd and Grand Avenue</i>
5:00 PM – 6:00 PM	Down time
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM	Gertrude E. Rush Awards Reception, <i>Rock River Grille, 2nd Floor</i>
7:30 PM – 9:30 PM	Gertrude E. Rush Awards Gala, <i>Iowa Ballroom, 2nd Floor</i>

## Sunday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>

10:00 AM	Church Services <i>Corinthian Baptist Church</i> <i>(one of the locations where NBA Founders met as they organized the NBA)</i> <i>814 School Street</i> <i>Des Moines, IA 50309</i>
12:30 PM	Departures



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