

Date:  
From: Name  
To: Name of Manager, supervisor, agency Head, Agency Name

Subject: 2008 NATIONAL TRAINING CONFERENCE, BIG TRIP REPORT

1. Background: Blacks In Government (BIG) was organized in 1975 and incorporated as a non-profit organization under the District of Columbia jurisdiction in 1976. BIG originated as a national response to the need for African Americans in public service. Since that time, BIG has evolved into an organization that focuses on workplace and community issues of mutual interest. BIG's goals are to promote EQUITY in all Aspects of American life, EXCELLENCE in public service and OPPORTUNITY for all Americans.

2. Opening Event: The 30<sup>th</sup> National Training Conference, BIG convened in New Orleans, Louisiana at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center on August 11-15, 2008. In attendance were employees from over 50 Federal agencies and local and state governments.

1 U.S. Congressman William J. Jefferson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District, Opening Plenary Speaker

Key Speaking Points

1. Congressman Jefferson spoke on behalf of Presidential Candidate, Barack Obama, saying that the nomination will mark a glorious moment in our history.
2. The issues of competency and professionalism will take center stage as never before. You must redefine your roles and places in government.

3. Other Notable Events (Highlight your own personal experiences, workshops, etc.)

1 On the first day, Quality of Life. This workshop is dedicated to the eradication of workplace drama and committed to the development of stress-free work zones, using the ancient wisdom of the Proverbs.

2 On the second day, Starting Your Own Business Using Government Money/Buying Investment Properties. This workshop provides information on how to find Federal Government Agencies that provide millions of dollars to everyday people.

3 On the third day, How to Motivate and... This has been the most "controversial" training at BIG for four years straight! In 90 minutes, Jonathan Sprinkles will reveal his famous secrets for subtle ways to know when someone is lying.

4. Closing Event: The 30<sup>th</sup> National Training Conference, BIG closed with the Excellence in Government Service Awards & Recognition Banquet. Congressman Harold E. Ford, Jr., Ninth District of Tennessee took the podium as the keynote speaker. After the keynote address, Prestige and Presidential awards were given out.

5. Recommendation: The BIG conference was a great experience especially for the numerous federal workers. There was a workshop for everyone. Whether you wanted to receive training in Communication Skills, Career Development, Financial Management, Personal Effectiveness, Health Awareness, Quality of Life or Management Leadership there was a workshop for you.

6. Future Events: The 2009 National Training Conference will be held in Baltimore, Maryland.