



BIG Bulletin

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A Publication for Members of Blacks In Government (BIG)

Blacks In Government's 2008 30th Annual National Training Conference

President's Message



Darlene H. Young

Dear Conferees:

Welcome to Blacks In Government's (BIG) 30th Annual National Training Conference held August 11-15, 2008 at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans, Louisiana; hosted by Region VI. We believe this National Training Conference is a viable instructional tool and career development resource for federal, state and local government employees.

We also believe you will benefit from this first-class training which incorporates more than 200 quality workshops on management and leadership skills, career development, communication, information technology, EEO/Personnel, personal effectiveness, federal agency forums, symposiums, special enhancement programs, youth empowerment workshops/oratorical and information superhighway contests, career fair, and more than 100 exhibits. In addition, you can qualify for Continuing Education Units (CEUs) offered for some of the programs.

As you know, the Federal workplace continues to be a constantly evolving environment, in which career advancement largely depends on how we keep pace with those changes. The theme for this our 30th Annual National Training Conference, "Rising Above the Storm: Navigating New Challenges with High Professional Competency and Dedication to Public Service."

The training, knowledge, and educational insights that you, the participant, will receive at this Conference will help you to excel in your present position and future career advancement goals. It is envisioned that the skill sets gained during the Conference will increase one's value to their agency's mission as well as assist in providing a high level of service to your agency customers both internal and external. In addition, you will have numerous opportunities to network with more than 2000 other professionals from public service and private sector organizations. I believe the programs offered at this Conference will provide you with a rich and rewarding life-long experience that will benefit you personally and professionally.

Enjoy the Conference!

Thank You for Thinking BIG!

Darlene H. Young

Darlene H. Young
National President

NATIONAL TRAINING CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

OPENING PLENARY

Monday August 11th

- **Speaker, Representative William Jefferson -2nd Congressional District Louisiana,** 9:00 a.m. Convention Center, Hall I & J
- Concurrent Workshops/Agency Forums/SEPs
- State, County, Local Government Forum: Town Hall/Luncheon, Grand Ballroom

Tuesday August 12th

- Agency Heads Forum Breakfast with the National President, 7:00 a. m. -8:30 a. m. Hilton, Windsor Room
- Graduate School, USDA Special Enhancement Program, 8:00 a.m-5:00p. m. Rooms 383,384,385,388
- AE/EEO Forum, 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Hilton Grand Ballroom B
- President Picture Signing, 4:30 p. m.- 5:30 p. m. Exhibit Hall
- National President's Reception, 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Exhibit Hall
- Katrina Town Hall, Dr. Calvin Mackie, Professor, Author, Motivational Speaker, Entrepreneur. 7:30p. m. -9:30 p. m Jefferson Ballroom, Hilton 3rd Level

Wednesday August 13th

- Health Initiatives Forum, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Hall J Room 291
- Memorial Wall, 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Hilton Grand Ballroom A-G Level 1
- Gospel Extravaganza, 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Hilton Grand Ballroom A –G Level 1

Thursday August 14th

- Youth Empowerment, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Hilton Grand Salons Ballrooms Level 1
- Legislative Luncheon, 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Grand Ballroom A Level 1
- New Life Member and Gold Plus Member Reception, 5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Grand Ballroom A/B
- BIG National Youth Summit,7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., Hilton Jefferson Ballroom , Level 3

Friday August 15^h

- BIG ISSC & Oratorical Competition Breakfast, 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Jefferson Ballroom, Level 3
- National Youth Program Oratorical & ISSC Competition, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Jefferson Ballroom, Level 3

CLOSING SESSION

- Excellence in Government Service Awards and Recognition , 7:00 p.m. – 10 :00 p.m. Hall J
Keynote Speaker, Chairman, Harold E. Ford, Jr. Democratic Leadership Council