



JANUARY 2025

## A LETTER TO COMPA

Greetings COMPA.

As we stand at the threshold of 2025, I am filled with hope and optimism for what the new year holds for our shared mission. The road ahead is full of possibilities, and together, we can make a lasting impact on public administration, equity, and leadership in our communities.

Over the past year, we have made significant strides in advancing the values we hold dear—diversity, inclusion, and social justice. However, the work is far from done. In 2025, we will continue to push the boundaries of what is possible, empowering minority voices in public service, championing policies that promote fairness, and creating a more equitable future for all.

This is a year for us to reflect on our collective strength as a community. As public administrators, we face challenges that demand innovation, resilience, and a deep commitment to the public good. But it is in times of challenge that our true potential shines. We are the catalysts for change, the voices of progress, and the leaders who will shape the future of public service for generations to come.

I implore each of you to continue leading with integrity, passion, and empathy. Whether in local governments, state agencies, or nonprofit organizations, your contributions matter, and your impact is felt across the country. Our commitment to diversity in leadership ensures that public administration reflects the rich tapestry of communities we serve, and it is through your dedication that we are building a more just and inclusive society.

In 2025, let us embrace the opportunities before us. Let us be bold in our vision, united in our mission, and steadfast in our pursuit of equity and justice. As we work together, let us remember that each step we take brings us closer to the world we are striving to create—a world where every community has access to the opportunities and resources they deserve.

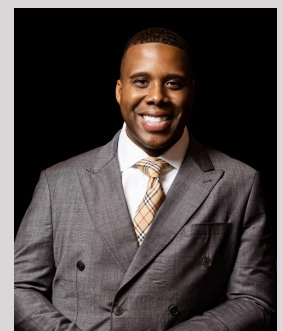
On behalf of the entire COMPA leadership team, I thank you for your continued dedication and passion. Here's to a year of transformation, growth, and progress. Together, we will continue to inspire change and lead with purpose.

Wishing you and your loved ones a healthy, prosperous, and inspiring 2025!

With gratitude and solidarity,  
Segura

Donovan L. Segura, Ph.D.

President, Conference of Minority Public Administrators (COMPA)



## JESSICA SANTIAGO PROMOTED TO DIRECTOR ROLE AT THE NEW JERSEY ALLIANCE



The New Jersey Alliance of Family Support Organizations (NJAFSO) is proud to name Jessica Santiago the Director of Family Support Organization Programs. In this role she will lead the training curriculum and technical assistance for the 15 Family Support Organizations throughout the State of New Jersey.

Santiago joined the NJAFSO ten years ago as a program coordinator. She has assisted with the realignment of the state's Family Support Organizations (FSO) and changed the FSO service delivery model, making it more effective and efficient.

"Ms. Santiago is well-deserving of this promotion," says NJAFSO Executive Director De Lacy Davis. "She has travelled all over the state of New Jersey to train and facilitate processes for executive directors in various counties. I am confident that she will continue to thrive in her new position and contribute significantly to the success of the Family Support Organizations."

New Jersey's Family Support Organizations are family-led, community-based, non-profit agencies whose mission is to provide support, advocacy, and education to families and caregivers of children with emotional, behavioral and mental health needs. Family Support Organizations (FSO's) are funded by the State of New Jersey Department of Children and Family. The Alliance supports the Family Support Organizations through training, technical assistance, policy development, identification of best practices, data collection and resource development.

**COMPA  
CONFERENCE**  
MARCH 9-12, 2025  
BATON ROUGE, LA



## CALL FOR PROPOSALS

"Elevating Public Service Through Public Servants"

For more information, visit  
<https://compaspanet.org/call-for-proposals>

**Submissions are due by November 24th, 2024**

## REGISTRATION

Regular Registration: November 9 - January 19

Late Registration: January 20 - January 31

All details can be found in our virtual program booklet on our website.

## ACCOMODATIONS

### CROWNE PLAZA EXECUTIVE CENTER BATON ROUGE

Located in the heart of Baton Rouge, just off I-10 and College Drive, Crowne Plaza executive center Baton Rouge is a short drive from Baton Rouge metro airport (BTR). Conference room rate is \$125/night, the deadline to register for COMPA hotel is January 31, 2025.



Group Code: MPA

## NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE TO COMPA MEMBERS

As we transition into the New Year, remember to think positively.

Positive thoughts are magical;

they transform:  
Sound into movement  
Movement into dance  
Smiles into laughter, and  
Life into a celebration  
Sit quietly in the early morning and meditate.

The reward is sweet peace that transcends the imagination.  
Wishing you a 2025 as beautiful as a bouquet of flowers!

**SUBMITTED BY:  
CHARMAINE  
WILLIAMS**

## COMPA CONFERENCE 2025

The Conference of Minority Public Administrators Planning Committee and the Southern University and A&M College Host Committee are eager to welcome their members to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, in March 2025 for the organization's Annual Conference.

The committees are excited to host what promises to be an amazing Conference from March 9 to 12, 2025. The theme, Elevating the Voice of Public Administrators and Policymakers, underscores the commitment to empowering public administrators (leaders) who are shaping the future of public service.

The conference will feature presentations from students, academicians, and practitioners who work to elevate public administration in their various spheres of influence daily. These presentations will be featured within seven tracks. Stay tuned; the event details will be announced via the COMPA website ([www.compaspanet.org](http://www.compaspanet.org)), including keynote speakers, professional opportunities, entertainment, etc., will be announced in the coming weeks.

This is a conference you do not want to miss. The conference registration, lodging, sponsorship opportunities, award submissions, and more are all open. Visit our annual conference section on the website for more details.

### COMPA WEBINAR SERIES: JANUARY 15 AT 11:00 A.M. CST

## A TIME TO TRIAGE: DEIA IN AMERICA

### PRESENTED BY: MS. BOB-E SIMPSON EPPS

This session will focus on DEIA, the escalating backlash against such efforts, and the importance of continuing to build just and inclusive organizations in today's environment.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://sus.zoom.us/j/93088125759?pwd=N3RNSSt3K3IUeWx4aWVNS1ZuY01mdz09>

Meeting ID: 930 8812 5799

Passcode: 202425