

## Honoring Our Trailblazers – Women’s History Month

During Women’s History Month, the National Organization of Black Women in Law Enforcement proudly honors our founder, **Gladys Jones**, and the seven visionary women of color who joined her in courage and determination to establish this remarkable organization.

In 1984, these trailblazers came together with a shared vision, to create a network of support, empowerment, and advocacy for minority women in law enforcement. Their commitment became a reality when the organization was incorporated in 1985 in **Washington, DC**. At a time when representation and opportunity for women of color in law enforcement were limited, they chose unity, leadership, and perseverance.

These women faced numerous challenges and obstacles, yet they remained steadfast in their mission. They fought for equality, fairness, professional advancement, and the betterment of minority women across the law enforcement community. Because of their courage and sacrifice, generations of women have been able to serve, lead, and thrive.

Today, we stand on the shoulders of these pioneers. Their vision continues to guide us as we carry forward their legacy of advocacy, mentorship, and service. We honor not only their work, but their unwavering belief that progress is possible when women stand together.

We also recognize and celebrate contemporary leaders who continue the fight for equity and opportunity, including Senator **Angela Alsobrooks** and State Attorney **Tara Jackson**, whose leadership reflects the same spirit of courage and commitment that inspired our founders.

During this Women’s History Month, we celebrate the strength, resilience, and dedication of the women who came before us and those who continue to lead today. Their legacy reminds us that while the path was not easy, their determination paved the way for us to move forward with purpose, pride, and unity.

Standing on the shoulders of our trailblazers, we honor their past sacrifices by leading with courage today and tomorrow.

*We honor them. We thank them. And we remain committed to continuing the work they so boldly began.*

*Michelle D. Bracken*

*National President*