# OUR 45TH EDITION AND WE WOULD LIKE TO SHOW YOU SOME OF OUR HISTORY!



#### **WELCOME TO THE MINORITY BUSINESS DIRECTORY**



#### Cleveland C. Washington, Jr.

Founder and Publisher

It's a milestone birthday! Thank you for being a part of our 45th annual Maryland Minority Business Directory. This community resource would not exist without the creativity, generosity, strategy and collaboration you will read about as you travel through the pages of this directory. Our 2025 edition is a celebration of the diversity, inclusion and success that each of you bring to our community.

I encourage you to turn to this directory first when you are researching goods, services, experts and non-profits. The odds are high that solutions for your search will be found in this directory.

When you are looking to build your network, I challenge you to schedule a Zoom, coffee or lunch meeting with someone you haven't met yet in this book. You never know where that meeting will lead.

The Maryland Minority Business Directory also would not be what it is today without my hard-working and talented staff. I salute each of you.



#### In Loving Memory, Jacquelyn L. Washington

Cleveland Washington Publisher

The Minority Business Directory is forever dedicated to my daughter, Jacquelyn L. Washington, known as "Little Jackie." I continue to feel inspired by how she lived her life. She lived each day to the fullest. Her life was violently cut short on May 18, 1998. During her short life, Little Jackie touched so many. All those who knew and loved her miss her deeply.

"Little Jackie"

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### OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR Wes Moore

Office of the Governor

December 1, 2024

Dear Friends:

Please accept my heartfelt congratulations in celebrating the 45th publication and 2025 edition of the Minority Business Directory.

Your commitment to uplifting minority business owners since 1979 serves as an important message to the community of the significance of our minority businesses. To make Maryland more competitive, we need to uplift our entrepreneurs. That's why we are working together to ensure Maryland is the best state in the country to start, build, and grow a business.

For your work in building a brighter future for all Marylanders, we are truly grateful. Together, we will create a stronger, more dynamic state that leaves no one behind.

Sincerely,

Wes Moore Governor

> 100 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21404 (410) 974-3400 TTY Users Call via MD Relay governor.maryland.gov



Wes Moore, Governor

Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor

Y. Maria Martinez, Special Secretary

#### Dear Friends:

It is with great pleasure that I express my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to Cleveland C. Washington, Jr., the Founder and Publisher of The Minority Business Directory. Now celebrating its 45th year, this publication continues to be an invaluable resource for both consumers and businesses.

The business owners and professionals who contribute to and support this publication also uplift our community. Beyond its comprehensive business listings, the Directory offers an extensive array of public service information, including social, civic, educational, and medical resources, along with advertisers who provide additional support.

Governor Wes Moore envisions a Maryland economy that is equitable, inclusive, and competitive for all working families. In my role as the Special Secretary in the Office of Small, Minority & Women Business Affairs, my team and I are tasked to carry out his vision. I extend my sincere thanks to the entire team at The Minority Business Directory for your dedication to making that vision a reality.

With deep appreciation,

Maria Martinez

Y. Maria Martinez Special Secretary





**BRANDON M. SCOTT MAYOR** 100 Holliday Street, Room 250 Baltimore, Maryland 21202



Congratulations on the publication of the 2025 Maryland Minority Business Directory, the 45th edition. The Minority Business Directory is Maryland's oldest business and professional directory featuring minority owned and managed businesses. Over the years this directory has been an invaluable resource, encouraging cooperation between local businesses and promoting diversity and equal opportunity in the state of Maryland.

Minority and women-owned businesses are major contributors to our national, state, and local economies. Successful entrepreneurial undertakings like these provide jobs, promote economic growth, and diversify our economy—attracting new residents and improving the quality of life in our communities.

I want to thank all who have contributed to this year's Minority Business Directory and wish you all success as you continue to demonstrate your commitment to diversity and inclusion. On behalf of the people of Baltimore, thank you for your leadership in driving entrepreneurial advancement for minorities throughout the region.

In service,

Brandon M. Scott

Brandon M. Scott

Mayor

City of Baltimore

phone: 410.396.3835 fax: 410.576.9425 e-mail: mayor@baltimorecity.gov

# The City Council of Baltimore



#### Resolution

Be it hereby known to all that The City Council of Baltimore offers its sincerest congratulations

to

### Cleveland C. Washington, Jr.

your Minority Business Directory's 2025 Edition - 45 Publication.
Success of Small Business.

The entire membership extends best wishes on this memorable occasion and directs this resolution be presented on

this 11th day of November 2024.

President Pick I. Mosby

#2472

Resolution

Council President Mosby

By and all Members



#### **Michael Cassell**

Real Estate Broker, Appraiser, Consultant & Expert Witness Creative Real Estate Services, Inc., Express Appraisal Services, Inc.

Michael Cassell, CRB, CRS, GRI, CRA, is the Broker and owner of Creative Real Estate Services, Inc.; and Express Appraisal Services, Inc.. He has more than 26-plus years of experience. His company offers sellers the unique opportunity to sell a home, anywhere in Maryland, that is in any condition or, if necessary, to repair or renovate their homes and to pay the cost of the repairs at the settlement. He was Chairman of the MD Real Estate Commission, and was responsible for the State's 50,000+ Brokers and Agents. Some of his many awards include three times "Broker



of the Year" for MD and "Broker of the Year" for the USA. He is listed in "Who's Who in Real Estate in America." For three years, The Baltimore Sun listed him as "One of the outstanding Black business leaders in MD" and the 2nd largest Black business in the area. He has taught the Real Estate Licensing class at local colleges. Mr. Cassell's goal is to always operate with absolute integrity while protecting his clients' best interests and exceeding their expectations. His motto is "Mike will get you more." He can be reached 24/7 at 410 409-7345 or Mike@MikeCassell.com.

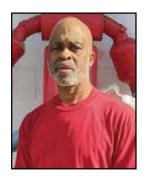
#### Charles A. Sparks Jr. V.P., Sparks Quality Landscaping

Sparks Quality Landscaping was established in 2009 with an emphasis on residential and commercial lawn care and maintenance. Sparks Quality Landscaping is a Certified Minority Business Enterprise registered in Baltimore City. The company has a long list of repeat, faithful residential customers while being able to secure multi-year contracts with major clients such as Housing Authority of Baltimore City, Baltimore City Public School System, Towner Management and the City of Baltimore. Mr. Sparks is a graduate of (HBC) Hagerstown Business College with a degree in Business Administration. He says he is blessed to have this opportunity and owes much of his success to his father, who paved the way.



#### Marvin Blume Sr. President, Marvin's Muffler Works

When Marvin Blume Sr. quotes his customers a price, he sticks to his word, no matter what it takes to get the job done. Just as he makes customer service a priority, he does the same when it comes to his employees. The Baltimore native opened Marvin's Muffler Works more than four decades ago and takes pride in the fact that he can count the number of employees he has had at the Brooklyn shop on two hands. The full-service shop specializes in high performance exhaust, American and foreign vehicles, trucks and motorhomes. He believes his clients should understand where their money is going and often brings them into the service area to show them what was fixed. When not at his shop, Mr. Blume enjoys racing cars and camping.



#### Pamela McMichael, RN-BSN President and Founder, Trustworthy Staffing Solutions

Pamela McMichael, RN-BSN, is the president and founder of Trustworthy Staffing Solutions, a Maryland licensed health care staffing agency that began operating in 2005 with a primary goal to provide compassionate, competent and professional service. In 2007, Ms. McMichael expanded to form a residential services agency that provides quality in-home nursing and personal care for elderly and medically impaired clients. She is an active member of Maryland National Capital Homecare Association. In January 2016, Ms. McMichael, along with her husband Calvin, opened the H.O.P.E. Training Center. The center is dedicated to her deceased parents, Harvey and Harriet Brown, both entrepreneurs and owners of HB Tours and Travel, Inc. H.O.P.E stands for Helping Other People Excel, which



expounds Ms. McMichael's pursuit to be a benefit to others. She and her husband are also certified CPR/ First Aid instructors for the American Red Cross. She utilizes the center to train and help develop healthcare skills in others. Ms. McMichael is most fulfilled when helping people grow professionally. Using her vision and ability to nurture others has led to long-term solutions and success.





Mark Wrenn
President and Owner, M&G Customs

What started as a business run from a Southwest Baltimore backyard by Mark Wrenn and Gerald Winder over 26 years ago, has grown into a successful high-end automotive shop. M&G Customs provides its clients with top of the line accessories including radios, remote starters, alarms, wheels, tires, window tinting and more. Mr. Wrenn takes pride in working to satisfy his customers' requests and enjoys seeing them smile as they return to pick up their cars. He strives to keep his services affordable by offering payment plans on all purchases. Mr. Wrenn, who is always up for a new challenge, fully warranties his work. He credits his wife and two children for always being there for him. He is active with his church, Transformation Ministries.



**Deborah Lacy, RN, MS**Founder & CEO, Lacy's Professional Nursing Services, Inc.

Lacy's Professional Nursing Services, Inc (LPNS) is a licensed Private Duty Nursing & Staffing Agency with the primary goal of providing clients with superior health care services, emphasizing "compassion and competency." LPNS is a certified MBE/WBE/DBE and serves clients across the entire spectrum of life. Services offered are: Private duty & shift nursing, personal care, escort and chore services, staffing, nurse consultant, delegating nurse, CPR/FA & Certified Medication Technician (CMT) Training, assisted living (2 facilities), respite, g-tube, tracheotomy and ventilator management. Mrs. Lacy has 40 years of nursing experience and will "Always be eternally grateful to her wonderful grandparents, proud mother, loving, patient and supportive husband, family,

loyal friends and caring colleagues." Mrs. Lacy received her B.S. in Nursing from Coppin State College, Masters from University of Baltimore and is a 2018 graduate (Cohort 5) of the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Business Program. In 2022, in the presence of her loving family and friends, she received the Guiding Light Award for her ongoing community work assisting people with limited abilities. The Lacy's are members of Southern Baptist Church. "God has Always and will continue to get the glory for EVERYTHING in my life."



Carlton J. Moss, Jr., Esquire Law Office of Carlton J. Moss, Jr., LLC

Carlton Moss, a 26-year-veteran of the legal profession, has an established law practice that is accessible, accountable and attentive to his clients' needs. He prides himself in taking a personal approach and centers his firm's philosophy on the principles of zealous advocacy and service to others. His Bel Air law practice serves injured people throughout Maryland and focuses on personal injury cases such as auto accidents, slip and falls, work-related injuries and medical negligence. Mr. Moss has fundraised for the Sickle Cell Association of Harford and Cecil Counties, is a strong supporter of both the Girl and Boy Scouts, and Black Youth in Action. Mr. Moss is a graduate of Morehouse College, where he met his wife, a graduate of Spelman College. He received his law

degree with honors from North Carolina Central University, School of Law. Mr. Moss sits on a local attorney grievance peer review panel and is a member of the Maryland Bar Association, Harford County Bar Association as well as the Maryland Association for Justice.



Martha Ann Newby, CEO Owner, Newby's Tax

Martha Ann Newby has served her community for over 41 years. Her goal is to help her clients face their financial obligations, with knowledge and conviction. Ms. Newby retired from the Federal government in 2003, after 31 years of service. She is a certified tax preparer, who has been in business for over 30 years. Her professional experiences include tax preparation of personal, small business, corporation, S corporation and estate taxes. Ms. Newby has been an active member of Gospel Tabernacle Baptist Church for over 50 years. Additionally, she is a life member of Blacks in Government, Tau Gamma Delta Sorority, Inc. and the Baltimore West Democratic Club.



#### **Andrea Scott** Realtor and Owner, Brownstone Tax and Financial Services

Andrea Scott's career in the tax and financial industry began nearly 21 years ago when she began doing her personal taxes. She identified a need for a wraparound of services in the financial services industry. "People want to know they can trust you through their financial journey," she shares. In 2007, she graduated from the University of Baltimore with her Master's in Legal and Ethical Studies. Brownstone Tax and Financial Services is the umbrella of other financial services companies, real estate, The Brownstone Insurance Agency (life auto, home, business insurance), and The Brownstone Training Academy (Pre-licensing for Life/Health and Property and Casualty Insurance). Ms. Scott's company is MBE/WBE certified through the City of Baltimore; she is a



graduate of the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Business Program and ICCC (Inner City Capital Connections, Business Program). "Let us help you through your financial journey from where you are at to where you want to be," says Ms. Scott.

#### John Bugg Select Agent and Registered Representative, State Farm Insurance

John Bugg is dedicated to helping families understand the value of insurance and proper financial planning. Nothing is more satisfying to him than making a difference in his clients' lives. Mr. Bugg, a former Urban League vice president, and now a major force in the insurance industry, has vowed to continue serving his community by taking a lead role in educating Marylanders on the importance of taking precautions when it comes to protecting themselves, their assets and future generations. As a "Select Agent," Mr. Bugg is licensed to sell property, casualty, life and health insurance. He credits his success to his spiritual relationship and his commitment to working to empower his community. Mr. Bugg graduated from Morgan State University and is married to Corea Mitter Bugg.



#### **Romona Lewis** Co-Owner, Compassionate Health Care Nursing Services

Romona Lewis' caregiving career dates back to when she was just 15. Her experience working as a "Pinky" volunteer at Bon Secours Hospital sparked a lifetime passion. She graduated from the University of Maryland School of Nursing and has spent more than three decades as a nurse. In 2005, she opened her homecare agency called Compassionate Healthcare Nursing Services. The agency provides in-home care to medically fragile children and adults, including eldercare, wound care, medication administration and skilled nursing visits. Ms. Lewis is a registered nurse and proud mother of two sons, one of whom is also a registered nurse and co-owns the business. Ms. Lewis takes a caring, nurturing approach with her clients and enjoys making a difference. She spends time mentoring disadvantaged children when not working.



#### Jennifer Quinn, President All-Pro Placement: Your Staffing Solutions Trusted Partner for Exceptional Talent

All-Pro Placement is a leading provider of tailored staffing services, dedicated to delivering exceptional value and meeting the unique needs of each client. Our customer-centric approach ensures that we focus on providing the best staffing practices to match your organization's goals and culture. We specialize in professional support services across a wide range of industries. With our certifications as an MBE/MDOT, WBE, WOSB, and Small Business, All-Pro is committed to fostering diversity and supporting local economies. Whether you're looking for short-term staffing solutions or long-term hires, our team is here to ensure that your business gets the best talent, at the best value.







Thel Moore, Jr., MBA, ASFP - Record of Completion President, Moore's Income Tax Service, LLC

Moore's Income Tax Service was established in 1976 by Thel Moore, Sr., in the basement of his family home. Thel Moore, Jr. would clean trash cans, greet clients and escort them to the basement office. Moore's Income Tax Service assists clients with bookkeeping, payroll, record keeping and filing requirements, reducing tax liabilities, solving business and personal tax problems, and electronic filing and future tax planning. Mr. Moore, Jr. is committed to continuing the legacy of integrity and outstanding customer support his father established. Mr. Moore, Jr. is a member of the National Black MBA Association, National Association of Tax Professionals, and the National Society of Accountants. He received his BSN from Coppin State College and MBA from

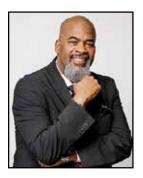
University of Phoenix. Mr. Moore Jr. is a retired uniformed officer and he loves spending time with his family.



Shelia Russell Williams Realtor and Owner, Faith Realty, LLC

"I always say, if we know better, we'll do better," shares Shelia Russell Williams. "I love to get the word out and help people see how they can better their lives and become a homeowner, paying their own mortgage instead of paying someone else's mortgage." Ms. Williams has a team of five realtors working with her at her faith based real estate firm. She and her colleagues at Faith Realty pray over every contract. The team educates their clients on how to become credit ready through their 1st Time Home Buyer Seminars. Ms. Williams serves as a Board of Directors member and Vice President of Real Estate Brokers of Baltimore, was recognized by the National Women's Council in 2022 as a Mover and Shaker, was named the Greater Baltimore Board of Realtors

Realtor of the year in 2022 and Distinguished Sales Associate of the Year Award 2020/2021, and designated as an "Agent of Change" in 2021 by the Baltimore Business Journal, among other accolades and accomplishments. She volunteers with Project Place to find housing for homeless veterans in Baltimore, is a volunteer with Belair Edison and a supporter for the National Alliance to End Homelessness.



**James Brooks** Owner, Brooks Contracting

James Brooks is a big fan of seeing the before and after pictures after he completes a project. His construction company serves as a general contractor and specializes in asphalt, paving, concrete, demolition and remodeling of commercial properties and for government projects. He launched the company in 2004 and is MBE certified in the city and state and DBE certified at the federal level. Mr. Brooks, who takes pride in keeping his pricing competitive, is honored to serve as president of a new association for local contractors.



**Kenyatta Clinton** Owner, Brooks Clinton Funeral Service, P.A.

Kenyatta Clinton opened his funeral home with a mission of helping families that can't afford the high cost of funeral services and now has three locations: Randallstown, York Road in Baltimore and North Avenue in Baltimore. He takes pride in working closely with the families he serves and supporting them through the grieving process. He started Brooks Clinton Funeral Service in 2019, after spending a decade learning the ropes of the industry. Brooks Clinton Funeral Service offers cremation, full-service funerals and a place for families and friends to gather socially to celebrate and memorialize the lives of loved ones. He says families are particularly moved by the crowning ceremony that they offer. Mr. Clinton is active in his community and participates in West Baltimore area

community association meetings. He studied Health Science at Kennesaw State in Georgia and attended Catonsville Community College.



**Barry Curtis** President and Owner, BEST Fence, LLC

There is perhaps a surprising link between Barry Curtis' role at the helm of BEST Fence, a commercial fencing installation company, and his previous life as an investment banker. With nearly two decades of experience in advising companies on their financial and business strategies, he applies the same skills to providing his clients with optimal solutions for their fencing needs, with respect to design, efficiency and budget. BEST Fence offers the full gamut of fencing products and solutions to governmental agencies, corporations, schools, largescale contractors and more. The Company's client roster includes large general contractors like Clark, Gilbane and Whiting Turner, large publicly-traded companies like Under Armour and Exelon/BGE and six of the largest



counties in the state of Maryland. Mr. Curtis is a member of the board of directors of Enterprise Community Investment, Community Preservation and Development Corporation, Pavement Corporation and is an Operating Capital Partner with Vicour Partners. Mr. Curtis is a CPA, received his undergraduate degree from Howard University and his MBA at the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

#### Ashley Rock Wylie, RN, MS, MBA Co-Owner and Program Director. Above it All Co-Owner and COO. Fleurs d'Ave Floral Boutique

Ashley Rock Wylie's entrepreneurial path revolves around growth, new blooms and planting seeds for the future. This registered nurse divides her time between her Above it All Mental Health program and Fleurs d'Ave Floral Boutique. Above it All (AIA) provides Therapy, Therapeutic Mentoring (PRP) and Substance Use Disorder treatment to youth and adults. AIA's mission is to equip families with the knowledge, skills and resources they need to become productive members of society. In 2018, she and her husband, Brandon, launched their West Baltimore floral boutique after acquiring a florist business that had served the community for over 50 years.



Along with offering unique floral creations, she sees the boutique as a catalyst for continued economic growth along the North Avenue corridor. She received her MBA from University of Baltimore and her master's degree in Health Leadership and Management from University of Maryland School of Nursing.

D. Danard Smith Wealth Management Advisor, LPL Financial

D. Danard Smith takes pride in developing effective and professional relationships with each of his clients. It's a strategy that has paid great dividends in terms of meaningful connections over the last 39 years. Mr. Smith, a LPL Registered Representative, specializes in retirement planning, individual retirement accounts, and financial planning. Along with serving individuals, he also enjoys assisting churches and charities with their financial needs. A native of Baltimore, Mr. Smith graduated from William Penn College in Iowa, where he earned a B.A. in social sciences. He has been in the financial industry since 1984, when he started his career at State Farm Insurance Companies, and moved to the brokerage path in 1992. Mr. Smith joined LPL in 2010. He is a member



of the Baltimore Municipal Golf Board of Directors and a past board member of many organizations including the Baltimore Polytechnic Institute Alumni Association, the Episcopal Community Services of Maryland, the Pi Omega Foundation, the Baltimore Delta Alumnae Foundation Inc., the St. James Episcopal Church Foundation and the Associated Black Charities Gala Committee. He enjoys playing golf, traveling, water sports and listening to music.





**Tamala Price** Owner, Carev Hardware

When you turn to Carey Hardware for your building and repair needs, you're not only leaving with improvement products. You are putting money back into the Northwest Baltimore Community. In 2017, Tamala Price took over the hardware store that her father started back in 1986. She has always worked in the store and dreams of one day passing it to her children and grandchildren. She takes pride in providing the kind of customer service rarely found in big-box stores. Along with goods, Carey's Hardware also offers repair services. The most popular three reasons customers come to the Better Business Bureau accredited store include window and screen repair needs, key duplication and for old plumbing supplies. Ms. Price volunteers in numerous organizations including for the Matthew

Henson Community Development Corporation and the Robert W Coleman Community Association.



Charles A. Sparks President, Sparks Quality Fence Company

Charles Sparks started Sparks Quality Fence Company in 1991. The company serves residential and commercial clients in Maryland and beyond. Sparks Quality Fence offers many products, including chain link, wood, ornamental iron and vinyl fencing as well as decks, playground installation and paving. Mr. Sparks has been happily married since 1974 and has two adult children. He attended Baltimore City Community College, Community College of Baltimore and American University School of Law. Before entering the fencing industry, Mr. Sparks worked as a Baltimore City police officer. Sparks Quality Fence is a leading fencing industry innovator and Certified Minority Business Enterprise Company with Baltimore City. The company's work is displayed throughout Baltimore with large projects

such as Mount Auburn Cemetery Entire Perimeter Chain Link and Iron Fence, Dunbar High School Football Field Perimeter Fence, The Avenue Bakery 2229 Pennsylvania Avenue Concrete Driveway, Ornamental and Chain Link Fence, John Hopkins Biotech Park, and DHMH Public Health Laboratory. Sparks Quality Fence supplies and installs fence products for Parks & People Foundation.



**Jacqueline Hodges** Owner, Hodges Window Distribution

A window into Hodges Window Distribution reveals a far different view than what you may expect to see at a window company. You will not find a sales team. Instead, owner Jacque Hodges talks with clients personally and serves as a middle person between the manufacturers and contractors. Ms. Hodges is proud to provide historic windows for a number of Baltimore City clients. Hodges Window Distribution is a sister company to Hodges Window and Glass, a window repair and shower installation company that Ms. Hodges' husband ran before she took over the reins. Ms. Hodges' professional background includes more than two decades as a shock trauma nurse. She gives back to the community by visiting the elderly at nursing homes and supporting the Alopecia Fund for children.



**Clifton Cornish** Owner, CBY Enterprises Inc.

Clifton Cornish is driven to get the job done, no matter what it takes. His drive puts him in the lane for success at his licensed and bonding trucking company, CBY Enterprises, Inc. After growing up in the 1960s, saying that he one day wanted to drive a dump truck, like his dad, he brought that vision to life in 1985. The family business has a fleet of 15 dump trucks and works with clients in the Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Delaware areas. The company offers such services as hauling and snow removal. You won't find Mr. Cornish cooped up in an office. He takes pride in going out in the field, to make sure every job is running smoothly. He treats every job, big or small, with equal importance. Mr. Cornish recently launched a new business venture in Anne Arundel County called 9 Five Kitchen and Bar, which features

a restaurant with American Cuisine, a bar and event space for up to 300 people. Mr. Cornish is active in his church, Empowered Church Ministries.



#### Dr. Benjamin Shelton, DDS and Dr. Cohloe-Shai Shelton, DDS Partners. Shelton Family Dental

"We believe a healthy mouth is a gateway to a healthy body," share father-daughter dental team, Dr. Benjamin Shelton, who founded the practice in 1976, and his daughter, Dr. Cohloe-Shai Shelton. Shelton Family Dental helps patients "achieve the smile they deserve" through many dental treatment options in general, cosmetic, and periodontal dentistry. Veteran, Dr. Benjamin Shelton, earned his undergraduate degree from Morgan State University and his Doctorate of Dental Surgery at Howard University Dental School. Dr. Cohloe-Shai Shelton received her B.S.and M.S. degrees from Hampton University and her Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from Meharry Medical College. The Sheltons take pride in creating lasting, trusting relationships with their patients and serving as a one-stop



shop for all of your dental needs. They are involved together and separately in many associations including, the National Dental Association, Maryland State Dental Association, American Dental Association, Baltimore City Dental Association and Academy of General Dentistry.

#### **Terence Williams** President, A-1 Firearms

Terence Williams opened A-1 Firearms, an e-commerce store, after retiring from 25 years of Coast Guard service. He is a registered Federal Firearms Licensed (FFL) dealer. His store carries handguns, shotguns, rifles, ammunition and accessories geared for those who are looking for home protection and/or for sport. He also provides firearms training. Beyond the products, Mr. Williams takes pride in taking the time to educate his clients about the law and on what products will best fit their self defense and/or outdoor activity goals. He offers military and first responder discounts. Mr. Williams, a graduate of Jackson State University, is a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and the Prince Hall Shriners.



#### **Malcolm Day** Owner and COO, M4 Security

Malcolm Day, Owner and COO of M4 Security, refers to professional integrity, effective crisis intervention and protective security as the triple threat that the organization's clients need. He credits these leadership qualities as the foundation for his insured and certified armed and unarmed security quard/private detective agency. Mr. Day employs highly skilled certified instructors to teach Handaun Wear and Carry, HQL, Private Detective Certification, Tactical Weapons Certification, Executive Protection Training, CPR and Narcan Certification. The company also offers executive protection and transportation for VIPS. He is a proud graduate of Morgan State University, with a B.S. in Marketing and a minor in English. Mr. Day created the strategic marketing plan for Morgan State University's



Office of Undergraduate Admissions. His expertise, commitment, and passion helped increase student enrollment from 5,000 to 8,000, during his tenure. He gained his experience in the security field from working for Maryland Department of Juvenile Services at the Charles H. Hickey School-Youth Detention Center and the Morgan State University Police Department. "Our mission is your security!" he says.

#### Dr. Garland K. Davis, DDS Garland K. Davis Family Dentistry

"We care for our patients like we care for our own families, which means we take the time to understand each patient's concerns," explains Dr. Garland K. Davis of his approach to dentistry over the last 31+ years. He and his team at his Laurel practice go to great lengths to make each patient feel comfortable. A lifelong learner, Dr. Davis continues to train in the newest dental technology to offer his patients the latest treatments in such areas as dental implants, Invisalign clear aligners, computer-aided design for same day crowns and laser gum treatment. This Maryland native loves spending time with his wife and children, attending Baltimore Ravens games and participating in charity events in his community. Dr. Davis is a graduate of the University of Maryland School of Dentistry and also completed his undergraduate studies there.







**Kelvin Haynie** Owner, Furniture Installation and Service Technicians, LLC (F.I.S.T.)

Kelvin Haynie's biggest professional accomplishment came when he had the opportunity to bring his services to the National Museum of African American History and Culture in DC. What he started as a weekend furniture installation side job more than 31 years ago grew into a full-time endeavor with 11 employees and work up and down the East Coast and in the Midwest. Furniture Installation and Service Technicians serves government, commercial and private clients and has expertise in major and minor lines of systems and modular furniture. The company is GSA scheduled, 8a certified and a member of the United States Black Chamber of Commerce. F.I.S.T. is A+ rated by the BBB.



**Shari Fleming** The Law Office of Shari Fleming

Shari Fleming is a Maryland licensed attorney with a sincere desire to help individuals and families preserve and pass generational wealth while also supporting the causes they love. She is Principal of the Law Office of Shari Fleming, which is a law firm geared towards helping individuals and businesses build, protect, and preserve their wealth and legacy, and its practice areas include business formation/succession planning, real estate, estate planning, and estate administration (trusts and probate). Ms. Fleming also serves as a Gift Planning Consultant who helps charities strategically plan to accept gifts involving estates, trusts, and other deferred giving opportunities. She is a graduate of Lincoln University (PA) and the University of Maryland

School of Law. Her post-law school education includes achievement of the designations of Accredited Estate Planner® and Chartered Advisor in Philanthropy®. She founded the Our Legacy Matters community with the purpose of advancing the concepts of ownership, wealth maintenance, and wealth retention, and in 2021, Ms. Fleming was named one of The Daily Record's 2021 Leadership in Law Generation J.D. honorees, due to her dedication to the practice of law and her community.



**B.J. Borden** Principal Agent, Borden Insurance Agency

Choosing Borden Insurance Agency for your auto, home, life and business insurance needs is comparable to having 100s of companies working to find you the best policies to protect you and your family. Erie, Allstate, Nationwide, Safeco, Progressive, State Auto, Travelers, The Hartford and AAA are among the main companies B.J. Borden and his team represent. Mr. Borden, who has 40 years of experience, shares how his team is there at moments of truth: After a fire destroyed one family's home, his team secured them temporary housing while they had their home rebuilt, thanks to their coverage. The agency has an office in Columbia and in Glen Burnie and also does bonds and notary services. Mr. Borden, a licensed realtor in Maryland, serves on multiple boards,

including the Howard County Sports Hall of Fame and the Howard County Youth Program (HCYP), for which he is Director of Basketball Operations. He and his wife, Christine, launched the non-profit, Skyy 2 Win Youth Foundation, Inc., to help Baltimore area and Nairobi, Kenya youth learn life skills through sports, to organize basketball camps and to make sure finances never stop a child from playing. He started a youth basketball referee training program to provide at-risk teens an income source. Mr. Borden is a University of Baltimore graduate. He received his Master's in law from Trinity Law School, where he focussed on non-profit law to "share the blessings God has bestowed upon my family and me," maintained a 4.0, graduated Summa Cum Laude and received the Exceptional Masters Student Award.



Richard Green, Jr. Owner, Maryland Janitorial Services

While some companies set out to offer the lowest price, Richard Green's philosophy centers ground giving his clients the best service for a great price. That has meant pivoting during the Covid-19 Pandemic to add on disinfectant fogging to all cleaning services. This BBB accredited business specializes in ecofriendly commercial cleaning jobs for small to large sized offices, multi-unit apartments, medical offices, post construction sites and warehouses. "We focus on the details so you can have a clean, orderly office every time," says owner Richard Green, who launched his company in 2014 and has more than 21 years of experience. He found his niche after researching starting a business and saw cleaning as one of the best



start-up services to pursue. The company provides complimentary consultations and estimates and is Customer Service, Bloodborne Pathogen, Medical Cleaning and Bio-hazard Cleaning certified.

#### **Greg Daniels** Contractor and Realtor, Woodmark Building Group, LLC

Greg Daniels recognizes the value in delivering the best service to his clients and always giving them more than expected. It results in repeat business. He says his dedication to education and the philosophy that the clients' needs are the most important part of the process is what sets his business apart from his competition. Woodmark Building Group, LLC is licensed in Maryland and Pennsylvania for home improvement and in Maryland for new construction. Mr. Daniels, who sees himself as an advocate for his clients, has extensive knowledge and experience in buying and selling, investing, remodeling and building -- both for his clients and for his own accounts. He is active in various civic and charitable organizations. "I believe as we gain successes in life, we must always give back." Mr. Daniels attended University of Maryland, Baltimore County.



#### LaQuicha Brown Owner, Berries by Quicha

Get ready to be "Berry" impressed. Barack Obama, Beyoncé, Michael Bloomberg and Sinbad are among the client list, who have enjoyed Berries by Quicha's gourmet chocolate covered strawberry creations. LaQuicha Brown starts with high-quality sweet strawberries dipped in gourmet chocolate. From there, her creations get adorned with decorative accents, ranging from a simple band of sprinkles to even your company's logo or an edible photo design of your choice. Ms. Brown started making her confections from her home kitchen and then seized an opportunity to open her retail shop at the Best Western in Baltimore in 2013. Next came a location in Federal Hill, which she expanded in late 2021 from 1000 to 3000 square feet.



"I love the creative side," shares Ms. Brown, who channeled the skills she gained from her Morgan State sociology degree and criminal justice minor (she plays detective to figure out what her clients want) into making a name for herself in the DMV. Ms. Brown is a mom of three teens, ages 19, 22 and 24.





**Erica P. Clifton**President and CEO, Chesapeake Home Health Care, Inc.

Erica P. Clifton, CEO and President of Chesapeake Home Health Care (CHHC), is deeply committed to supporting and caring for others. Her journey in the home healthcare industry began after earning her accounting degree from Oral Roberts University, assisting her future mother-in-law with financial management for her home healthcare business. Nearly three decades later, she continues to find fulfillment in caring for sick and medically fragile children. Ms. Clifton has extensive expertise in finance, accounting, auditing, tax, and business management, developed through high-level roles within the federal government, CPA firms, and various small businesses. She emphasizes the importance of providing meaningful support to families with medically fragile

children. "We're not just sending warm bodies, we're sending assistance and care to help guardians and parents bear the burden of a sick or medically fragile child. Those families need to know they are not alone." In 2021, CHHC expanded to include Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) and Care Companion services for both seniors and children. With over 30 years of experience, Ms. Clifton is driven by the community impact her company makes and plans to establish an adult medical daycare and a certified nurse training program.



**Tracy Hopkins Bramble** Realtor, Notary Public, Investments

Tracy Hopkins Bramble is a committed Real Estate Agent who began her career in the real estate sector in 2006 and re-entered the field in 2021. She has provided services to clients across Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Caroline County, Harford County, and Howard County, holding a license to operate throughout the state of Maryland. Known for her engaging personality and extensive knowledge, she has cultivated a loyal clientele, ensuring thoroughness in every transaction while aiming to establish lasting trust as both a Realtor and a friend. Additionally, Ms. Hopkins Bramble recently joined an investment team with Key Innovation Invention Group LLC, where she assists sellers in transferring properties to prevent foreclosures

and manage estates left by loved ones. As a notary and title insurance producer, she has also supported veterans in refinancing their homes to enhance affordability. Ms. Hopkins Bramble is dedicated to meeting clients' diverse real estate needs, whether clients are interested in renting, buying, selling, or seeking commercial properties.



**Timera D. Loftin**Owner, Loftin Love Christian Daycare & Learning Center

Timera D. Loftin is in the business of laying the foundation for future success stories with a strong moral compass. She is the founder of Loftin Love Christian Daycare & Learning Center in Windsor Mill, which provides a warm, loving Christian based atmosphere for ages six weeks to five years. Ms. Loftin is vested in being the difference she seeks. She is the Children's Director at Pleasant Rock Baptist Church, the church her father founded 31-plus years ago. She credits her parents for instilling the sense of love in her that is the cornerstone of her approach to education. Ms. Loftin is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and a dance, model and etiquette teacher at Studio A Modeling, Etiquette and Dance Academy. Honored by Black Wall Street with

the Joe Manns Black Capital Award for Entrepreneurship, Ms. Loftin graduated cum laude from Lincoln University, where she received her B.S. in Early Childhood and Elementary Education; she earned her Master's in Education Administration from Coppin State University.



**Heather Glenn** Founder & CEO, Dividends Agency

Heather Glenn credits her father, a small business owner, for instilling an entrepreneurial spirit and drive to build something meaningful in her at an early age. This foundation inspired Ms. Glenn's marketing and public relations focus at Ashford University, shaping her career dedicated to empowering small and medium sized businesses to thrive. With 20 plus years in marketing, Ms. Glenn is an expert in B2B and B2C customer acquisition strategies. As the Founder and CEO of Dividends Agency, she leads her team in delivering innovative marketing solutions. Known for her ability to bridge the gap between technology and customer engagement, Ms. Glenn's approach consistently drives impactful results. Featured in CEO Weekly for how



she introduced Al-powered chatbot solutions to her clients, Ms. Glenn's comprehensive solutions also center around brand identity, web design, content creation, and lead generation. She continues to push the boundaries of innovation, offering customized marketing strategies that focus on disrupting, distracting, and distinguishing brands in a crowded marketplace to guide her to build their brands, attract the right customers, and grow their online presence.

#### **Gayle Johnson** Owner, Kre8ing Your IdeaS

Kre8ing Your IdeaS is a family-owned embroidery company that cultivates the creativity of its customers through personalized apparel and accessories. Committed to the growth and development of its community business partners, the company provides accessible and affordable branding opportunities and partnerships while providing a one of a kind, customized Kre8ive experience. Gayle Johnson, owner and founder of Kre8ing Your IdeaS, explains bringing clients' visions to life gives her and her team the opportunity to test the limits of their Kre8ivity daily. "If you can dream it, we will try it!" Ms. Johnson's own vision to provide a service to her community has blossomed into a nationally recognized brand and a flourishing legacy. She



and her team are committed to delivering a one of a kind customer experience with diliaence, skill and attention to detail to every fellow Kre8ive that walks through their doors. From beginning to end, whether its pricing quotes, design consultations, individual or bulk orders, they have you covered.

#### Christopher R. Lundy, Esq. Director of the Baltimore City Mayor's Office of Small & Minority Business Advocacy & Development

Raised in West Baltimore's Windsor Hills by a single mother, who returned to school at night to earn her law degree and then worked for the Office of the Maryland Attorney General, Christopher R. Lundy followed his mom's legal and public service footsteps. As the inaugural Director of the Mayor's Office of Small & Minority Business Advocacy & Development. Mr. Lundy brings his zealous advocacy as a litigator to his role expanding the small, minority, and women's business community. He has emphasized training; enforcement of MWB Program requirements by successfully levying historic sanctions against a prime contractor for



failing to promptly pay their MBE subcontractor; completed the first City Disparity Study since 2014 analyzing utilization of M/WBEs; and implemented a B2G Diversity Compliance Management digital process program. He was named the Maryland Washington Minority Companies Association's Most Resourceful Government Administrator for MBE Success and received the Joe Manns Black Wall Street Award and B2Gnow Got it Done Award. This graduate of Mount Saint Joseph High School, Temple University, and Widener University School of Law, relishes impacting local business owners, young people, and our city.





Yves Joseph Jr., PT, CMTPT, PES, FMS-c, CSCS Founder & Owner, Y-Motion Physical Therapy

Serving as a healer - That's what drew Yves Joseph to become a physical therapist. When he ran track back in high school and later in college, he remembers that there were not many physical therapists to nurture athletes to get back on track. Mr. Joseph is a dedicated physical therapist with nearly two decades of experience specializing in sports injuries, recovery and prevention, post-operative care as well as balance and fall prevention, particularly for seniors. He has worked in various settings, including hospitals, military bases, and private practice. Committed to serving the community, Mr. Joseph opened his own physical therapy clinic in Baltimore City to provide personalized care for patients. He is passionate about helping individuals achieve their health and

wellness goals, both through his clinical practice and community outreach efforts. Mr. Joseph received his BS at Towson University and his doctorate at Suny Downstate Medical Center. He volunteers with Doctors Without Borders OCHO and has visited Honduras and Nicaragua to provide care for those who wouldn't otherwise have access to physical therapy. He also supports athletes at Baltimore Polytechnic Institute.



**James Hamlin** Owner, The Avenue Bakery

There is a lot of love baked into the famous "Poppay's Rolls" and other breads, cakes, pies, and pastries at The Avenue Bakery. After James Hamlin retired from his role as a Community Relations Manager, he wanted to give back to the historic Pennsylvania Avenue area of Baltimore, where he grew up and decided to open a bakery there to spearhead redevelopment. His granddaughter Bria came up with his name "Poppay." Of course his famous yeast rolls were named, "Poppay's Rolls." Mr. Hamlin's unique rolls were inspired by the ones he grew up eating that his mom had made. Since the Bakery's launch in 2011, it has sold more than 85,000 rolls to customers around Maryland and to visitors from all around the country and as far away as Canada, France

and Sweden. Proof of that can be found in the latest book he has published, Voice of The People, Expressions Of Life, Love & Legacy that can be purchased on Amazon or autographed copies at The Avenue Bakery. The bakery is also a celebration of Baltimore's African American Story and features pictures and trail markers highlighting The Pennsylvania Avenue Heritage Trail, a walking trail that is part of the Star Spangled Trails.



**Dr. Denise Beach Davis** Podiatrist, Surgeon and Owner of Beachfeet Podiatry

Beachfeet Podiatry allows "no negative" statements about foot health. Dr. Denise Beach Davis started her practice in 1997, focusing on helping patients "keep the pep in their step" and providing comprehensive podiatric services in a caring, hospitable environment. Dr. Beach Davis earned her undergraduate degree from UMBC and Doctorate from PCPM. This happily married (24 years) physician continues to be proud of the success of her young adults. Kevin, a 2024 college graduate with a major in Finance and minor in Economics. Kaila, a college junior, double major in Biology and Spanish, received her Girl Scout Gold Award (highest honor, only 2% of African Americans receive), co-founded the BSU at MHS, is Chief of Staff for SGA, on the school senate

and serves as a school ambassador. Dr. Beach Davis is passionate about mentoring youth to be the best version of themselves. She is grateful to God for allowing her the ability to provide patient satisfaction, education with realistic expectations, partnered with professional knowledge and expertise. She is thankful to be part of diversifying the podiatric field. She proudly serves the Baltimore County Chapters Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and The Links, Inc.



#### Nkiambi Jean Lema Owner, N.J. Lema and Company

When Nkiambi Jean Lema moved to the United States at the age of 24 from Zaire, also known as the Democratic Republic of Congo, he did not speak English. Six months later, he learned the language and seven years later opened his own accounting firm in Baltimore. Today, Mr. Lema handles more than 1000 individual tax returns annually and provides services for more than 200 business clients. He enjoys the freedom of doing what he loves and reporting to himself. Mr. Lema hopes his three children will one day follow in his entrepreneurial footsteps. He believes the key to success is committing to a plan and sticking to it. Mr. Lema received his accounting degree from University of Baltimore. He is a member of the National Association of Black Accountants.



#### **Rod Smith, EA** CEO, A1 Taxperts, Inc.

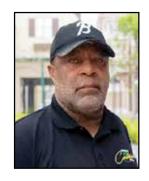
Need a blueprint for your financial future? Rod Smith, who has provided financial and tax advice to clients for nearly two decades, takes the time to look at his clients' individual needs and prepares an evaluation to support their goals. At Taxperts, Inc. offers tax preparation and representation, insurance services, mortgage and real estate services, and investment products and consultations. The business is a one-stop financial organization, merging tax planning and financial planning tools to formulate powerful financial solutions that have a strong impact on investments as well as garnering tax savings. Mr. Smith, whose passion for finance and advocacy inspired him to start his business, thrives on helping people obtain, maintain and grow real wealth. He is



involved with the National Association of Tax Professionals (NATP), National Association of Enrolled Agents (NAEA), National Society of Accountants (NSA), National Society of Tax Professionals and the Baltimore Insurance Round Table.

#### **Dana Mackey** Owner, Mackey's Crabhouse, Mackey's Caribbean Cuisine, Mackey's Investment Properties

When Baltimore native, Dana Mackey, opened his doors in 2006, he had little industry experience. He credits trial, error and perseverance for growing Mackey's Crabhouse into a fierce competitor in the crab business. His outstanding customer service and perfectly seasoned crabs turn first timers into loyal customers. Through word of mouth and social media, Mackey's Crabhouse has evolved into a household name throughout Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, DC and Virginia. Whether calling or coming in, loyal customers always want to say, "Hi," and Mr. Mackey doesn't hesitate to take a few minutes from his schedule to say hello. Along with crabs, the menu includes such temptations as fried fish platters,



sandwiches, steamed shrimp, snow crab legs, a popular seafood sub, and ribeye steak with jumbo shrimp and lump crabmeat. Mr. Mackey also owns Mackey's Caribbean Cuisine, which is a few steps away from Mackey's Crabhouse, and features authentic dishes such as oxtails, jerk chicken and jerk collard greens. He also stays busy with his investment properties. When he isn't working, which is hardly ever, he enjoys spending time with his family, especially his grandkids.





**Carlos Moorer** Owner, Cameo Consultant Company, LLC

An active detective with a local police agency, Carlos Mooer launched his security protection company in 2018 as a way to give more people an opportunity to work in law enforcement. Cameo Consultant Company employs around 80 armed and unarmed security guards, off-duty officers and retired officers in Baltimore and Washington DC. Along with providing regular patrol and guards for long-term clients, Cameo offers executive protection, funeral detail, and special event security. Mr. Mooer is a state certified Wear and Carry instructor as well as a CPR instructor through the Red Cross. He previously served as a Baltimore City Police Officer and took courses in criminal justice at Baltimore City Community College. He is a volunteer with Save our Young (SOY) Baltimore, a non-profit bridging the

gap between youth and police officers. His company donates to make holiday gift giving possible for local families in need. When not serving the community and his clients, Mr. Mooer can be found with family and friends, coaching football and watching football and basketball.



**James Warren Bartee** Owner, IMS Auto Clinic

James Warren Bartee fixes everything from performance cars to antiques at IMS Auto Clinic in Baltimore City. IMS stands for Intense Motorsports, which is one of his passions. Along with body and other repair work, Mr. Bartee offers consultations for customers who have gone to a dealership and don't understand what was communicated to them. He believes in keeping communication simple and makes sure his clients understand exactly what is happening with their cars. Mr. Bartee says his hobby is his work and his three kids are his life. He is a Mason, part of Rise Baltimore and a member of The Urban League Young Professionals group.



**Mallory and Lee Davis** Owners, Image 360 Baltimore Downtown

In historic Pigtown, Image 360 Baltimore Downtown, formerly Signs By Tomorrow, continues building on its reputation as a trusted source for signs and graphics locally and nationwide. The family-owned franchise offers design, wide-format printing and laser-engraving services to accommodate commercial and decorative needs of businesses, organizations and individuals. Since Mallory and Lee Davis bought the operation more than a decade ago, their business model has remained, "Treat everyone - clients, staff and vendors - better than we like to be treated" by providing excellent service, auality and value. Design and writing professionals collaborate with clients to maximize the visual impact of wall graphics, vehicle graphics, way-finding solutions, event and trade show displays, retail signage and decorative work.

Mr. Davis' background is in marketing and business, and he holds a B.S. and an M.B.A. from the University of Richmond. Ms. Davis' background is in writing, editing and print production and she has a B.A. from Westhampton College. Married nearly 51 years and business partners for 11+, the couple offers profound gratitude for their blessings, including that they're still going strong with the most talented and dedicated staff in the industry.



**Vernise Burs Burs & Garrett Physical Therapy** 

"We tell people God does the spiritual healing while we do the physical." Vernise Burs opened her physical therapy practice in 1989. The practice was located along the Charles Street corridor and recently relocated to the Gwynn Oak area. Ms. Burs is a graduate of Howard University; she has certifications in Fall Prevention and Women's Health. Her goal is to help restore patients back to their optimal independent functional activity level. Ms. Burs treats clients following their post-surgical repairs, those with sports and work-related injuries as well as those with aging related issues. Additionally, the practice treats clients with incontinence issues, balance and coordination impairments. For more information, visit bursandgarrett.com.



#### William Wright-EL Owner, Pro Energy Electric, LLC

While growing up, William Wright-EL would accompany his dad on electrical jobs and learned the tricks of the trade from his dad's 46 plus years of experience. At the time, it felt like a chore. Years later, he realized the gift he had been given: "a trade that could never be downsized." Pro Energy Electric, with a tagline of "Professional, Reliable, Outstanding Service that Lights the World," provides residential and commercial work, specializing in wiring and installation, rewiring, whole house, smoke detectors, tenant fit outs, panel and amp, service upgrades and outdoor lighting. The company is licensed, bonded and insured. Mr. Wright-EL's vision is to learn what the customer wants and then to give his expert opinion. Sometimes there is a match and other times he needs to



educate the customer on why it's not a good fit. Mr. Wright-EL credits his wife for supporting him through every stage of his career development and for pointing out his strengths when the view for him felt dim. "Sometimes when we think we are the most strong, we are the weakest."

#### Kim Parker The Law Offices of Kim Parker. P.A.

In these uncertain times of economic and political unrest, the everyday citizen needs to have the backing of a strong legal representative at their hands. The Law Offices of Kim Parker, P.A. has been the attorney of the people. Giving many a voice when no one else would listen. Ms. Parker's law firm is centrally located and is a pillar of hope in the community. Today, The Law Offices of Kim Parker primarily focuses on personal injury, bankruptcy, and business matters. However, Ms. Parker's commitment to helping the public extends far beyond her profession. It's her compassion for people and her determination to transform lives that sets her law practice apart.



#### **Monica Hariri** Founder, The Hariri Group

Monica Hariri remembers cringing back when she was a government contracting officer and saw people losing out on contracting jobs because a box wasn't checked or a document was missing. Ms. Hariri, founder of The Hariri group, is a former contracting officer with 21-plus years of state and federal experience. She now helps her clients avoid those kinds of pitfalls. Ms. Hariri currently guides firms in doing business with the government correctly, supporting her clients on document preparation, proposals, quote creation along with minority business, non-profit and other certifications. She draws from her experience reading thousands of solicitations in such fields as pest control, snow removal, healthcare, real estate and bridge construction. Ms.



Hariri gives back to the community by offering complimentary contract training classes and going into women's shelters to do career coaching on interview skills, etiquette and resume writing. She received her BA in business administration, her Master's certification in public relations, and her Master's certification in acquisition and supply change management from the University of Maryland system.

#### **Ellen Perry** Executive Vice President, Watkins Security Agency

Ellen Perry's beloved father's legacy lives on through the security company she helped him start in 1981. Ms.Perry's administrative skills help her perform and oversee the company's accounting and HR functions, along with the company's daily challenges that go along with managing a business. Watkins Security Agency has provided over 700 security guards to Federal, State and Local government facilities and businesses, such as property management, airports, public utilities, Fortune 500 companies, public schools, colleges and universities, hospitals, prisoner transportation, court security, construction sites, and NFL and MLB stadiums in the Maryland, DC and Virginia areas. Lt. Colonel James Watkins would be proud to see the company he launched



has continued to grow and serve our communities. Ms. Perry, a Baltimore native, who resides in Owings Mills, returned to Morgan State University and obtained her B.A. in Business Administration.





**Jay Angle** Chef and Owner, Salsa Grill

Guests at the Salsa Grill get treated to flavors from around the globe. What started out as a Peruvian restaurant now serves up traditional Maryland fare along with dishes from the likes of India, France and Korea. Chef Jay Angle, who completed his apprenticeship at the renowned Greenbrier Hotel, and his business partner shake up the menu at their Westside restaurant about three or four times a year. They use seasonal ingredients as often as possible. Specials change weekly. The Salsa Grill opened in 1993 and attracts mostly regulars and friends who become regulars. Mr. Angle and his team stand behind their menu. If a guest doesn't like a dish for any reason, it can be replaced without question or refunded. Mr. Angle is a

graduate of the Baltimore Culinary School and enjoys giving back to the community.



**Terrence Brown** Owner, TL Brown Contractor, LLC

After watching his uncle and cousins find success in the plumbing industry, Terrence Brown became intrigued. His company, TL Brown Contractor, specializes in fulfilling all plumbing needs - from service to installs - for commercial and residential clients across Maryland. The company is MDOT certified with MBE/DBE status. Mr. Brown graduated from Forest Park High School, went on to study at Bowie State, and received his plumbing and gas fitter licenses from Local 486 Plumbing and Training School. He takes pride in mentoring young boys as a football coach of the Hamilton Tigers.



Calvin McCargo, Jr., NCARB, NOMA, AIA Principal, Design Hand Architects, Inc.

Calvin McCargo, Jr. is principal at DesignHAND Architects. He has a Master's of Architecture degree from Morgan State University and over 20 years of experience in the architectural field. Mr. McCargo has a love and passion for architecture and people. His personal goal is to help create an accessible practice that can become a household name, known for excellent and inspiring architecture that is focused on community empowerment.



Charles William Groce, Ph.D. Owner, C. William Groce Associates

"What is going well?" That's the first question Dr. Charles William Groce asks the clients he works with as a certified life and health coach. This coach and motivational speaker made the career change to coaching in order to "retire into more things I like to do." His prior professional background includes working in HR, serving as an adjunct professor in psychology, as a school principal and in the Job Corps in NJ, leading guided group interactions with inmates. Today, Dr. Groce helps people from diverse cultures who are facing life and wellness challenges around being diagnosed with a disease, their careers, relationships and financial hardships. He specializes in habit change and helps people look at behaviors that are not effective for them and how to

systematically modify them. Dr. Groce is especially proud of a 5-year project that he and a partner did in Connecticut to significantly reduce the rate of prison recidivism. He received his BA from Emporia State in Kansas, his Master's with an emphasis on counseling and psychology and his Ph.D. from the University of Hartford.



#### Carianne "Cari" Adams Finch, PE, BCEE

Owner, Principal Environmental Engineer, Adams Environmental Engineering Group, LLC (AEEG)

Named by Baltimore Magazine as one of the "Women Who Move Maryland 2021," Cari Finch oversees engineering and project management for AEEG. Ms. Finch, who founded the company in 2018, serves industrial, commercial, government and residential clients. She has three decades of experience working in the environmental engineering, consulting and contracting services industry. The firm provides Phase I/ Il and hazardous-material surveys, as well as property-condition assessments and environmental testing, monitoring, and remediation. The firm also offers STI SP001 AST inspections, third-party UST inspections, waste management, spill response and prevention (SPCC), environmental permitting, underground/aboveground



storage tank services (removal, installation, and repair), storm-water permitting, and health and safety compliance. Ms. Finch volunteers as the Chief of the Maryland Ad Hoc Committee on Oil. She is a graduate of Penn State University.

#### **Bryan Burnette** Founder, Oleline Group, LLC

With decades of experience in construction management, Bryan Burnette guides his clients in taking new construction and capital renovation projects from inception through completion, including due diligence to determine project feasibility, planning and zoning entitlements, design management, construction management through occupancy, and post-occupancy services. He began his undergraduate studies at North Carolina State University. When the out-of-state tuition became too much, he transferred to and matriculated from Morgan State University with a B.S in Civil Engineering, after becoming friends with and a mentee to the then Dean of Civil Engineering. A Baltimore City resident, Mr. Burnette takes pride in paying it forward and giving back to the



community via volunteerism and participation on local boards. The company's name is a nod to Maryland being known as the "Old Line State," which traces back to the American Revolution and considers Baltimore's vital role in the victory for independence.

#### **Joshua Taylor** Owner, Changing Lanes, LLC

Changing Lanes. It's part of Joshua Taylor's own Covid story and the name of his company. This career program monitoring auditor for the Maryland Department of Labor had already been working part-time off hours as a driving instructor when he decided to make a life-changing shift. He started Changing Lanes, a Dundalk based driving school, in the fall of 2022 and continues to also work for the state. He credits God for putting the entrepreneurial spirit in him. Changing Lanes offers an MVA-certified, 36-hour driver's education course and the opportunity for students to use company vehicles for their driving tests at select MVA locations. Mr. Taylor describes his approach with his clients as being hands-on, flexible and supportive. He graduated from Morgan State in 2015 and is an active member of lota Phi Theta fraternity.



#### Joseph Boyd, MPA CEO, ARMOUR, Inc.

Joseph Boyd founded ARMOUR to help community based organizations, healthcare centers and non-profits safeguard and strengthen their finances, processes, and leadership, in order to offer greater value and protection to the public. "If you are providing a gap filling service, benefiting people, I will come in and help you become more efficient," describes Mr. Boyd, who chose biblical roots for his consulting company's name. Mr. Boyd brings his experience as a business analyst for a bank to his role. When he first worked with non-profits, he found that lacking fiscal capabilities took away from the outcomes that could be possible. This Air Force Veteran received his BA from Sojourner Douglass College and his graduate degree from University of Baltimore. He serves as the Board Chair for Life, Health and Wellness



Comprehensive Services in Baltimore City, which provides behavioral health care for people living with HIV and AIDS, started a childcare facility and works to reduce generational trauma. Mr. Boyd is a member of Phi Beta Sigma and serves on the National Pan Athletic Committee.





**Dahlia Huggins** Managing Director, Pinnacle Wireless Solutions

Dahlia Huggins is a business owner with the sole aim of helping clients keep more of their hard-earned money in their pockets. This is achievable through Pinnacle Wireless Services, which offers GSM Unlocked cell phones and accessories and is also an Authorized Phone Dealer, which makes phone service possible for clients facing credit approval challenges. The plans are tailored to those in the low and middle-income brackets, who may not qualify for conventional plans. Phones purchased can be used on other networks (if clients make shifts to their plans) and used overseas. Ms. Huggins is also a notary public for Baltimore County, vacation planner as well as a tax preparer consultant for individual, business, LLC, corporate and partnerships. She

benevolently gives back to the community by inviting clients to round their bills up to the next dollar and donating the change to Church Lane Elementary School in Randallstown. Ms. Huggins makes regular donations to firefighters, police and other local associations. "We give back in any way we can," says this mom of two and a "Glam"ma.



**Nicole Earle** CEO. Dominion Real Estate and President. Dominion Community Development Corporation

Nicole Earle brings nearly three decades in real estate development and community development finance to her community revitalization work. Ms. Earle combined her skills and desire to positively impact community change and formed Dominion Real Estate, LLC, which provides high-quality housing, community services, and amenities through aesthetically pleasing, sustainable projects that promote smart, safe, energy-efficient living, and creates a strong sense of place and community. Dominion Community Development Corporation is a non-profit created to develop healthy, sustainable, loveable communities where youth and families thrive. She has a history of executive leadership in banking and housing authority. Ms. Earle is an expert in community

development finance, project management, and development tax credits. She received her MS in Management and Public Policy -Financial Management and Economic Development from Carnegie Mellon University and completed the Wharton Executive Education Entrepreneurship Acceleration Program. She is the Board Treasurer for the Family League of Baltimore, serves on the MTROA board, on the Advisory Board for Green Street Academy and is a former board member for Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolina. Her mission is to revitalize communities, add capacity and consult with churches and non-profits to help them to be community change agents.



Chauna M. Watson Founder, Sprouting Scholars • Educator

Chauna M. Watson is an inspiring educator, dedicated community activist, and passionate advocate for families and children, committed to uplifting the communities of Baltimore. With a deep belief in the power of collaboration among children, families, schools, and communities, Ms. Watson strives to sow the seeds of change that will transform educational outcomes. As a visionary leader, Ms. Watson founded Sprouting Scholars, a small business with the mission of "Sprouting Scholars, One Seed at a Time." Her vision focuses on creating nurturing environments where children, families, and communities can thrive and reach their full potential. She likens this nurturing process to cultivating plants—optimizing the conditions for growth through

dedicated care and support, reflecting her unwavering commitment to the children and families she serves. As a servant leader, Ms. Watson established Sprouting Scholars as a ministry aimed at uplifting children and families in inner-city neighborhoods. She holds a B.S. in Education and Psychology and a Master's in Arts of Teaching. A reflective practitioner in education and behavioral health, Ms. Watson also serves as a community liaison, small business advocate, financial literacy promoter, grant writer, business contract developer, education/business consultant, coach, and change agent.



#### Jesse Murphy, AIA, NCARB President, Mimar JM Murphy, LLC

Jesse Murphy, a Maryland state certified architect, is president of Mimar JM Murphy, LLC (MJMM), a Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Business with the Federal Government, specializing in architecture, planning, engineering and construction management. Currently certified with the City of Baltimore and Maryland DOT, the firm employs a highly experienced staff and takes on all projects with unparalleled professionalism, offering a full range of multi-disciplined services exceeding quality and affordability standards. Mr. Murphy started his design-build company in 1995; he has since changed the company name and took on a partner, Kal Bhatti, AIA. The company's capabilities include construction of commercial and residential buildings up to three



stories, concrete floor slabs, concrete foundations, concrete curb, gutter and sidewalks, interior finishes, site development work, including site utilities installations, architectural and engineering services. Mr. Murphy is a member of the American Institute of Architects and the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards. This Vietnam veteran and proud grandfather of five has a B.A. in architecture, a Master's in architecture and planning from Howard University and a B.S. in architectural engineering from Tennessee State University.

#### **Vonnette Harris**

Founder and President, Karios Development, LLC

Vonnette Harris has a long-standing commitment to providing sustainable, high-quality housing solutions for low to moderate-income families. Karios Development, LLC, a certified 100% minority owned Maryland based real estate development and consulting firm, focuses on expanding opportunities of community economic development and investment in underserved neighborhoods in the Baltimore-Washington region. Ms. Harris is a credentialed real estate professional with over 21 years experience in the construction, development, and finance of multi-family, mixed-income housing. She is well versed in the development process including site selection and acquisition, project feasibility and market demand, community engagement and entitlements,



project financing and management, construction management, lease up, continued occupancy and compliance. Ms. Harris has completed over \$230 million dollars of mixed-financed transactions, including the substantial renovation and new construction of a large scattered site development, multiple mid-rise developments for seniors and families, and the adaptive reuse of several historic structures into multifamily housing. Ms. Harris has the combination of passion, experience, drive, vision, and integrity to ensure her initiatives succeed. Kairos Development grew from her desire to assist historically disadvantaged and underinvested communities of color, recognizing quality housing should be a fundamental right, not a privilege.

#### **Donald Thompson** Owner, Blueprint Construction Services, LLC

"Believe in yourself. People are going to doubt you, but you have to have a passion for what you do and confidence in yourself to push through. Be prepared for ups and downs. Things don't always go the way you want or intend. You have to have thick skin," advises Donald Thompson to up and coming entrepreneurs. The philosophy is the backbone of his Parkville based general contracting company. Blueprint Construction Services offers residential kitchen and bathroom remodeling as well as commercial projects. Mr. Thompson enjoys watching the dramatic change that occurs from the beginning to the end of his projects and then seeing his customers' reactions. He cites attention to detail, problem solving, experience and customer



service as what sets his 17-year-old business apart from the pack. He gives back to the community by helping out with senior citizens, who are facing challenging times, and is a graduate of Morgan State University.





**Jessie Lyons Crawford** Attorney at Law, Law Office of Jessie Lyons Crawford, LLC

Jessie Lyons Crawford is a seasoned trial attorney and practices in the areas of personal injury, estate administration, criminal law, and family law. This former Assistant Attorney General of Maryland is a seasoned litigator with trial experience in Federal Court, State Court and Administrative Courts. Her office is located in the historic Charles Village of Baltimore City, Maryland where the clients enjoy free parking. Call 410-662-1230 for a free consultation. "We listen and we care."



Joshua Manns Owner, Legacy Awards & Recognition

Joshua Manns was only 3-years-old when the business he now owns first launched. He took over Joe Manns awards from his late father, Joe Manns, who started the awards company from his aunt and uncle's basement in 1986 before moving to a storefront in Woodlawn. Joshua Manns changed the name of his family business to Legacy Awards & Recognition. Joe Manns sadly passed away in 2022 after spending many years working with his son. The company specializes in Personal & Corporate Awards such as plaques, acrylics, trophies and recognition needs. They also provide printing and embroidery services and carry greek and masonic paraphernalia. Mr. Manns takes pride in being of service to his community and carrying his father's Legacy.



**Monica Brunson** Motivational Speaker, Founder & CEO, Brunson Healthcare Consultants Group (BHCG)

Monica Brunson and her staff at Brunson Healthcare Consultants Group (BHCG) specialize in locating affordable, 24-hour assisted living. With three plus decades in senior care and nearly 20 years running her Five Star Google rated company, Ms. Brunson's mission is to guide families through the healthcare maze, encourage those who need it and empower small, family style providers to continue to offer better care. Ms. Brunson is a content expert, motivational speaker and has helped manage a family owned business, Berries by Quicha. This Baltimore native graduated from The Bryn Mawr School and serves in the alumnae program, received her BA from McDaniel College, and is a Samuel Ready scholar. Ms. Brunson is a contributing author

in the Unapologetically Brave anthology and in the soon to be published, Unapologetically Strong. Her writing project, My Sisters' Prayers to Our Father, is a collaboration with women of faith. She sits on the Advisory Board at The Help Outreach Center in Catonsville and is a leader in Positioned With a Purpose, an international faith based organization for entrepreneurs. A licensed Minister, Ms. Brunson is a partner of the Anointed House of Prayer Ministries.



Veronica Logan, MSW, LCSW-C Founder and Clinical Director. Free Baltimore

Veronica Logan founded Free Baltimore with a mission to dismantle the stigma surrounding mental health services in marginalized communities and to provide equitable access to behavioral health care. Free Baltimore offers a range of traditional and holistic outpatient mental and behavioral health services. As a seasoned clinical social worker and therapist, Ms. Logan has firsthand experience with the transformative power of mental health. The name "Free Baltimore" reflects her commitment to helping individuals achieve liberation from the obstacles hindering their progress. Ms. Logan holds an undergraduate degree in Business Administration from Morgan State University, a Master of Social Work from the University of Maryland, and

has studied Cannabis Science at the Maryland University of Integrated Health.



**Larry Moore** Owner, Home Base Remodeling

Futures are not always the ones that seem to be written on the wall -- or painted, in Larry Moore's case. The path that led him to launch Home Base Remodeling was not one he expected. Years ago, while working as a manager at Burger King, Mr. Moore ran into one of his employees and her mother at Home Depot in the paint section. Next thing Mr. Moore knew, his employee's mom asked him if he painted and if he would do her living and dining room. That led to referral after referral. Mr. Moore, a Baltimore native, kept up the side work while putting himself through school to earn his computer science degree at Coppin State University followed by advanced certifications. He went on to work at Procter & Gamble for 15 years and a 2012 lay off turned out to be a blessing



in disguise. It inspired Mr. Moore to turn his part-time contracting business into his full-time passion. He says no job is too small. Flooring is his favorite. He does everything except for heat and air conditioning.

#### Michael Callaham Owner and Operator, CJ Consulting, Inc.

CJ Consulting, Inc. is a small, versatile company specializing in hauling and waste collection, freighting, janitorial, and environmental consultation services. Established in 2010, the company has steadily built a reputation for excellence in the industry, personalized services, and cost-effective solutions to its clients. With more than two decades of experience in equipment maintenance, procurement, and contract bidding, Michael Callaham demonstrates a keen ability to optimize operational efficiency and secure government contracts. He is passionate about advancing sustainable waste collection solutions and driving organizational growth through innovative practices. Mr. Callaham received his Bachelor of Business Administration, Procurement and Public



Contracting from the University of the District of Columbia. The business has a Small, Minority & Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Certification and a Small Business Enterprise Certification.

#### Samantha Sullivan Owner, ACS Property Services

Three driving forces propelled Samantha Sullivan into the construction industry. Growing up without a father figure in her life, Ms. Sullivan taught herself as a child by trial and error how to fix things. After gaining experience at a large company, she realized that she didn't want to be a number. When she went out on her own, she felt driven to change the story of single and elderly women getting taken advantage of and being charged more for repairs that they didn't understand. ACS Property Services, a general contracting firm, does commercial and residential projects, including painting, demolition and concrete work. Ms. Sullivan credits her husband, who works in the concrete industry, for being her biggest supporter.



#### Michael Jackson Director and Founder, A Little Faith Accounting & Tax Services, LLC

You never know what moment in life will spark your career. As a high school junior, while touring local colleges, Michael Jackson remembers visiting Baltimore City Community College and looking at a list of career options and associated salaries. Mr. Jackson, who was always good with numbers and aced his high school accounting class, knew he found his career. When Mr. Jackson started his private practice in 2015, he named it after his daughter, Faith. He says the firm's name has a double meaning, as he and his wife felt faith was something they needed, especially when starting a new venture. Mr. Jackson specializes in tailored, personalized tax planning and preparation, payroll, compilation, financial advising and reviews for small businesses and individuals. Mr.



Jackson received his BS from Coppin State University and continues to add to his list of certifications, in order to bring enhanced value to his clients. He also invests his time in others by volunteering and mentoring Baltimore City children.





Dr. Marvin J. Perry CEO and Founder of Professional Consultant Group (PCG) and Associates, Inc.

PCG and Associates offers consulting and management services for businesses, municipalities, educational institutions, non-profits, corporations, and individuals in the private and public sectors. Dr. Perry has a Bachelor's degree in Business Management, a Master's in City and Regional Planning and a Doctorate in the Community College Leadership Development Program from Morgan State University. He has several educational training certifications and brings over 31 years experience in educational and business solutions. Dr. Perry's consulting company assists clients in developing and executing goals for growth for their businesses, cities and municipalities through proven solutions. The company conducts training in negotiations; conflict resolution

and mediation; leadership; diversity, inclusion and equity; educational leadership coaching and mentoring. Dr. Perry is a motivational speaker, marketing consultant, national branding officer and a Leadership, Wealth Builder, Anger/Stress Management facilitator. PCG and Associates Inc works with community leaders and public officials in transforming communities, universities and non-profits.



**Dr. Crystal Denise Williams** Owner, Crystal's Bridal and Tuxedo

Don't tell Dr. Crystal Denise Williams that there is no such thing as a miracle. She takes pride in making them happen every week. Whether brides and grooms come to her Bel Air Road in Baltimore store with a dream wedding look in mind or no idea of what they want to wear, Dr Williams will lead them to a standout style to match their budgets. Dr. Williams, who launched her business 23 years ago, offers gowns and tuxedos for purchase along with tuxedo rentals. She started out on the tuxedo side of the industry and realized that adding bridal lines would go hand in hand. The store offers custom tailoring services and top-of-the-line designers. Dr. Williams loves when her couples return to her to share their wedding day photos, and she's been known to

get invited to her clients' weddings. Dr. Williams gives back to the community by serving as Vice President of The Priceless Gown Project, which donates prom dresses to less fortunate high school students.



Shirlee "Sparkle" Diggs-Moyer Owner, Sparkle Occasions by Shirlee

Shirlee "Sparkle" Diggs-Moyer's nickname and business goal are the same. She goes to great lengths to make her clients' weddings and all special events Sparkle. Ms. Diggs-Moyer, who has more than a decade of customer service and event management experience, works closely with couples to plan their big day and produces anniversaries, parties of all kinds, banquets and post-funeral receptions. Whether she is creating an event on a shoestring budget or pulling out all of the stops, she approaches each event with the same energy and enthusiasm, working closely with her clients to select the right photographers, videographers, music, catering, venue and more. Sparkle Occasions by Shirlee is certified by the U.S. Small Business

Administration and serves clients in Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, and the DC area. Ms. Diggs-Moyer is a graduate of the Community College of Baltimore's business management program, earned her certification in event and wedding planning from Stratford Career Institute, completed her certificate in Small Business Management at Penn Foster Career School and is a licensed notary. Along with floral and decor, she now also offers table linens and chair covers for events.



**Dr. Donald Guy Parker** Dental Office of Dr. Donald Parker, D.D.S.

Dr. Donald Guy Parker attributes his success in dentistry to God, his family and his friends. He makes it a point to make sure his patients leave his office armed with the answers they need. He says if he can't solve a situation himself, he will refer the patient to a dentist who can. He has made that extra effort for more than 41 years. Dr. Parker offers this straightforward advice for anyone getting ready to start a business: "If you want it, there are no excuses." As for Dr. Parker, his eyes are on the next phase of his career, that of retiring in good health. He received his undergraduate degree at Morgan State and his degree in dentistry from Howard University.



#### **Gladys Wade Bragg** Owner, Specialty Marketing and Printing

Gladys Wade Bragg launched Specialty Marketing and Printing after discovering she could provide businesses and organizations with a tool they were missing - promotional items. She has spent over 31 years bringing her clients' visions to life. Mrs. Bragg's Baltimore one-stop-shop provides promotional products, awards, plaques, embroidery and silk-screened products, and printing services. She is a member of the Liberty Road Business Association, Maryland Minority Contractors Association and is MBE/WBE certified through the State of Maryland and City of Baltimore. She also has MBE/WBE status through the Capital Region Minority Supplier Diversification. Mrs. Bragg is a Golden Life Member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Baltimore County



Alumnae Chapter and past president of Baltimore County Delta Foundation, Inc. She is a life member and past national treasurer of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., Baltimore Chapter, and member of the Baltimore Chapter and past national president of National Smart Set. She completed her undergraduate studies at North Carolina Central University in mathematics and earned her MBA in marketing with an option in information systems from the University of Pennsylvania, The Wharton Graduate Division. She and her husband, M. Guy Braga, DDS have two children and three grandsons.

Armarni Addison Co-Owner, AGA Contractors

Armarni Addison has known his business partner since his birth. He and his mom, Shaniqua Addison, teamed up to start AGA Contractors, a Roll off dumpster, dump truck and demolition company, in 2019. Mr. Addison calls his mom "the backbone of the business." She focuses on behind the scenes parts of the company, and Mr. Addison takes the lead on the hands-on side. They serve home building and renovation companies as well as homeowners with rehab projects. They provide a variety of Roll off dumpsters from residential to commercial sizes. They credit word of mouth for the growth of their client base. Mr. Addison got his career start in truck driving and worked for his father's company before deciding to partner with Ms. Addison to start



AGA Contractors. Mr. Addison's story is one of finding success from a challenge. He studied at Shepherd University and played football there. He left school after an injury and turned his focus to working with his family. AGA Contractors gives back by participating in charity events that clean up Baltimore City Streets.





Frank Hocker Owner and CEO. Hocker Dental Lab Inc.

Frank Hocker believes a good smile makes a happy person. He is in the business of helping dentists deliver just that. His West Baltimore, full-service dental laboratory provides crowns, bridges, partials, dentures, casts, repairs and more to clients in Maryland and beyond. Mr. Hocker served as a Maryland State Trooper for 25 years while running his dental lab part-time. In 2000, he decided to pursue his dental business full-time. Mr. Hocker, a veteran, goes out of his way to give back and has helped a few people in his neighborhood with rent, food and prescriptions. He attended Catonsville Community College and also received on the job training with numerous local dentists.



**Delshawnda King** Owner, King's Trucking, LLC

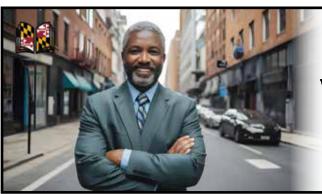
Delshawnda King turned a "no" into her own "yes." After being told that she had maxed out opportunities to receive raises at the trucking company where she worked, she started her own dump truck company. King's Trucking works with contractors to provide both excavation services and hauling in new materials for road projects. Her goal is to be the leading female minority owner-operator hauling trucking company in the DMV area. This soon-to-be serial entrepreneur is working toward her Associate's Degree in Mortuary Science at Community College of Baltimore County with the plan of also becoming a mortuary transporter. Her son will then take over the driving for King's Trucking, and Ms. King will continue to handle the paperwork and logistics.



**Fred Williams** Certified Public Accountant, MY OFFICE TAX & BUSINESS SERVICE

New clients at MY OFFICE TAX & BUSINESS SERVICE are treated to a free hour of consultation and ongoing clients receive a free professional consultation. Fred Williams, a retired Army Lieutenant Colonel, offers personal and business tax return preparation, accounting, payroll, compilation, incorporation, business plan review/consultation and document preparation for Minority Business status and tax exempt status as a 501(c) (3) non-profit entity. He also provides additional services to meet his clients' needs. He was inspired to follow an entrepreneurial path after seeing some of his college professors, who also had military backgrounds, running their own businesses. Mr. Williams is a member of the Maryland Society of Accountants & Tax Professionals,

National Society of Tax Professionals, the American Legion, National Association for the Self-Employed, National Notary Association, National Association for Black Veterans and is a member of St. Stephen AME Church of Essex. Mr. Williams received his BA in business administration from Armstrong State College and his MBA from Savannah State University.



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#### WHAT IS THE MINORITY BUSINESS DIRECTORY?

The Minority Business Directory is a privately-owned business entity, not supported by any government grants or assistance. The Directory is a controlled circulation of classified listings and advertisements of community owned businesses and professionals, offering a wide range of goods and services. The Directory also includes a number of advertisements from local majority businesses and government agencies. Extensive public service listings provide social, civic, educational and medical information. The combined result is a valuable consumer shopping quide, distributed free to the community. Free distribution of the Directory is made possible by the sale of advertising space within the Directory.

#### **HOW TO ACQUIRE AND USE THE MINORITY BUSINESS DIRECTORY**

To acquire the MINORITY BUSINESS DIRECTORY, refer to the list of distribution points in the back of the Directory. Stop by the most convenient location and request a copy of the MBD. Copies of the Directory are also available within the businesses on this list. For further information on how to receive the Directory, please call the Minority Business Directory, Inc. at (443) 224-2343.

**COMMUNITY BUSINESS CONSUMERS** - When seeking goods and services, community consumers are urged to look first within the Directory. If the goods and services are not offered by participating MBD businesses, then pursue other conventional means of locating the business you seek.

Remember, when you patronize community-based businesses, you are contributing to the economic foundation of the community which benefits all members in the community. Community consumers are also urged to patronize the majority corporations advertising in the MBD. These corporations are concerned for and committed to improving the minority community.

**COMMUNITY BUSINESS OWNERS** - The major corporations and government agency advertisers in MBD have expressed their desire to do business with community vendors and suppliers. Community business owners should contact these advertisers to make them aware of your firm's capabilities for supplying goods and services.

MBD received requests on a regular basis for the names of community vendors and suppliers for various goods and services. Community business owners whose businesses are not listed in the Directory should write to the MBD office to make us aware of your existence and expertise so that we can refer your business to those purchasers seeking your goods and services.

#### CORPORATE AND GOVERNMENT PURCHASERS -

Purchasing officers are urged to utilize MBD to locate businesses for supplying their firm's needs. MBD has approximately 500 community based businesses on file, all of which are not listed in this edition. In addition, MBD is continually informed of new and existing businesses in the area. For additional information on community based businesses, please call the Directory at (443) 224-2343.

STUDENTS AND JOB SEEKERS - Many advertisers in MBD request job applicants with specific skills and educational training. Students and job seekers are encouraged to review the Career Opportunities Section of the Directory when planning for careers and employment changes.

**ALL USERS**-MBD is vour resource to locate competent, professional. dedicated and hardworking members of the Baltimore community. They will be pleased to serve you. Keep your Directory accessible and call on the merchants advertised herein; and when you do, tell them you found them in the Directory. They will appreciate it, and we will all benefit from it. It's Good Business to Do Business with Minorities.



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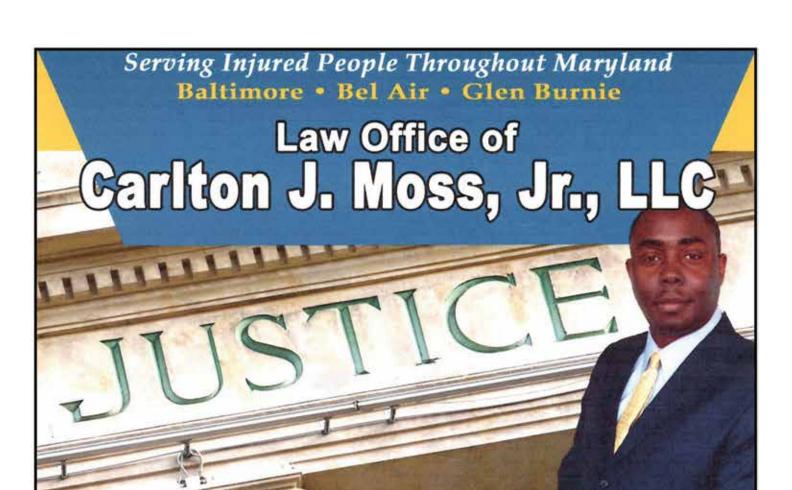
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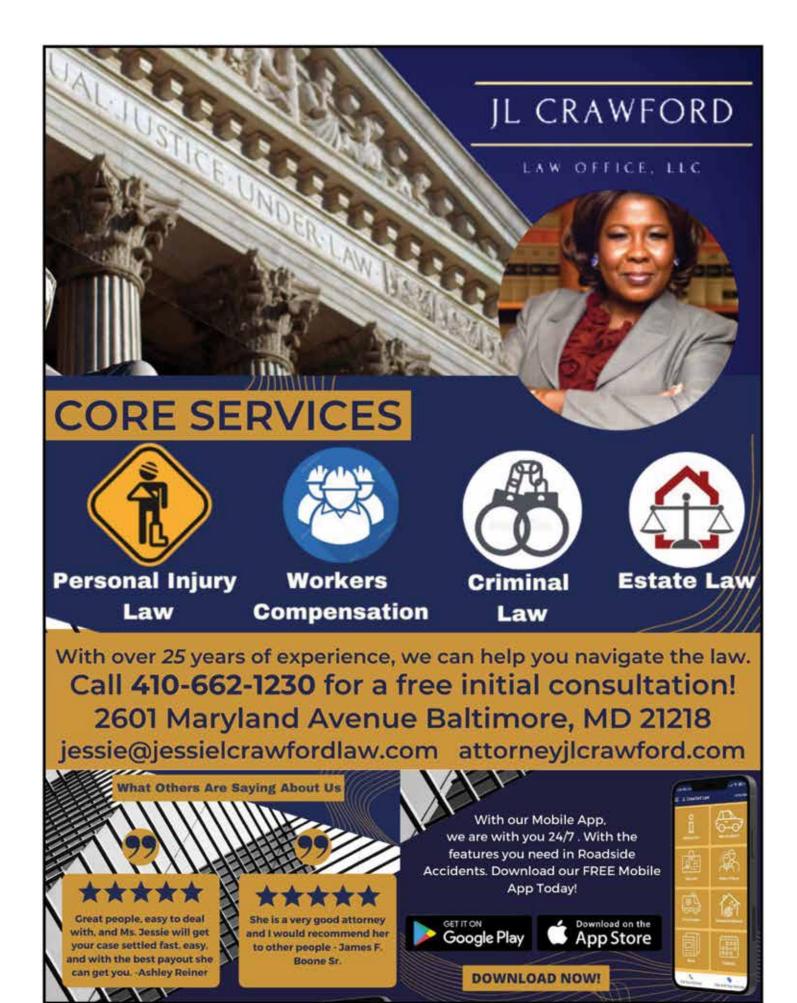
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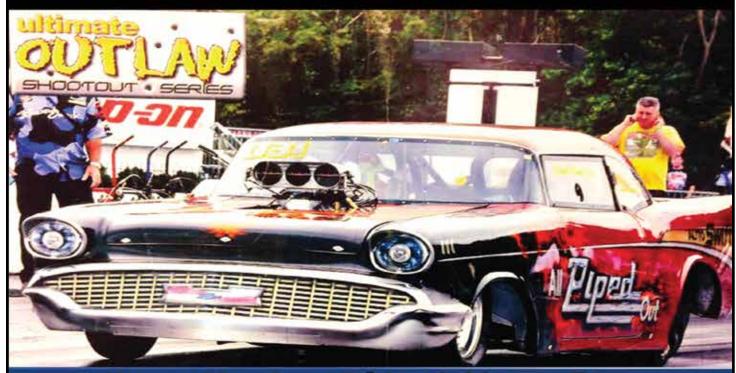




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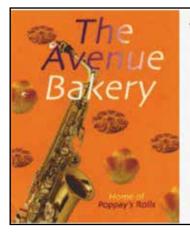
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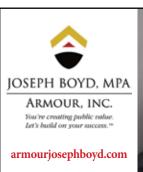
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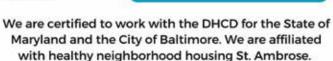


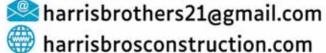
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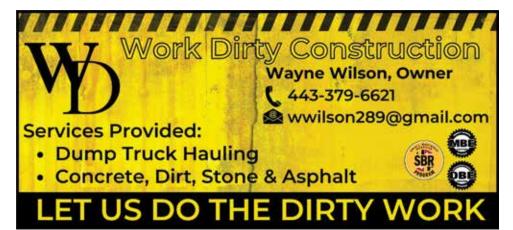
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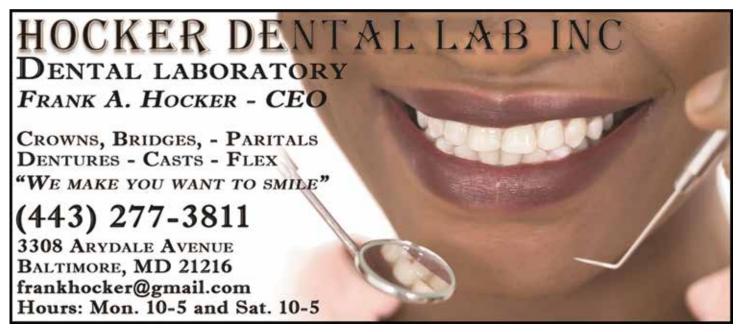
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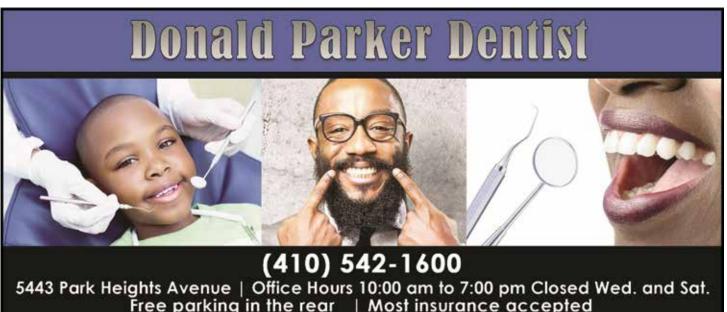
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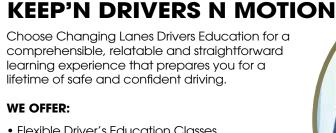
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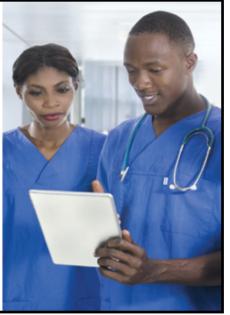


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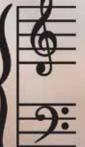
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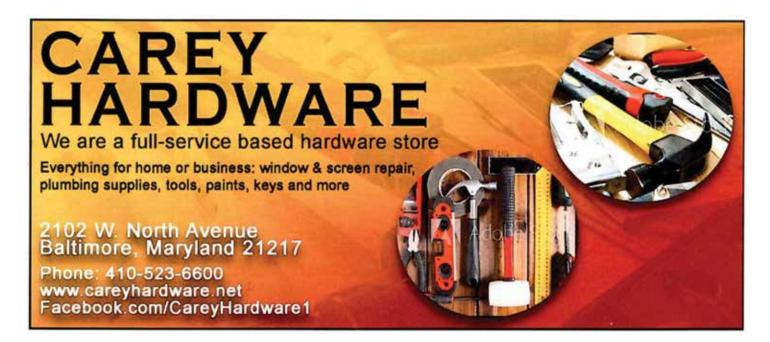
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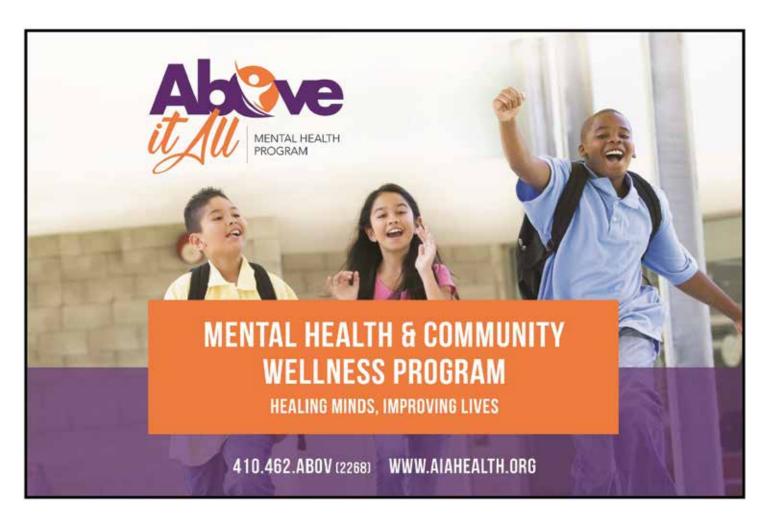
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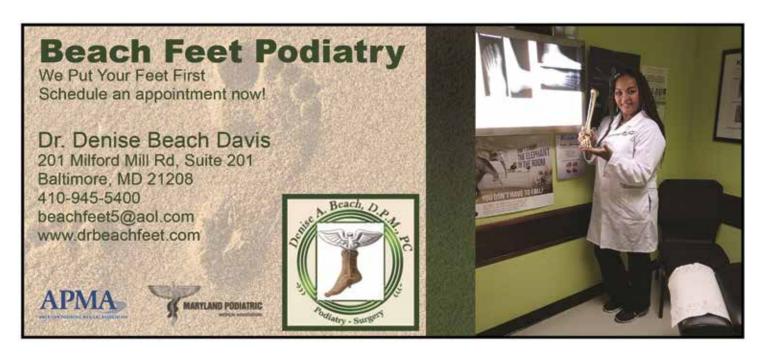
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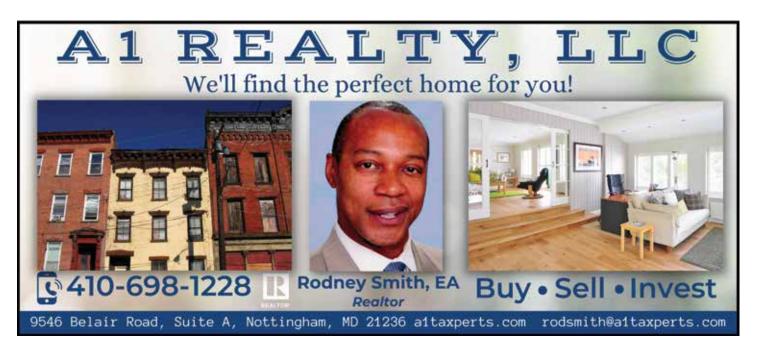
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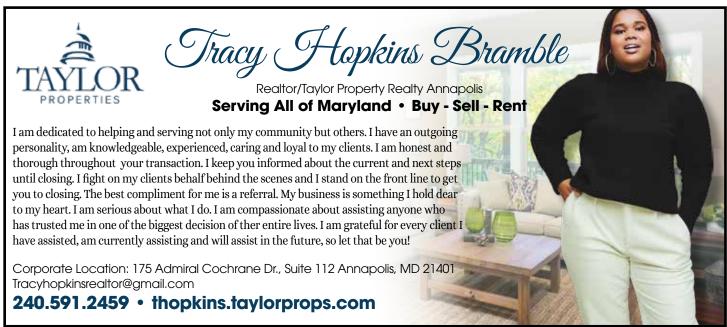
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**John Bugg** 

State Farm Insurance 6711 Belair Road

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My Office Tax & Business Services

6659 Belair Rd.

N. Jean Lema Accountant & Tax Consultant

225 E. 25th Street

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