



NEWS

American Association for Affirmative Action Announces Access, Equity and Diversity Summit and Annual Meeting 2011

Atlantic City, New Jersey
June 28 - 30, 2011

*U. S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Chair Jacqueline Berrien * U.S. Department of Labor OFCCP Director Patricia A. Shiu * TV and Radio Host Armstrong Williams * Atlantic City Mayor Lorenzo Langford * Mississippi Freedom 50th Manager Flonzie Brown Wright * DiversityInc Founder Luke Visconti * Dr. Paul Winkler, Commission on Holocaust Education and other National, State and Local officials will participate*

“EEO and Diversity: A Strong and Prosperous Nation Secured Through a Fair and Inclusive Workplace”

For Immediate Release:
June 8, 2011

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Washington, DC, June 2, 2011- The American Association for Affirmative Action (AAAA), an organization of equal opportunity, diversity and affirmative action professionals, announced its Access, Equity and Diversity Summit and Annual Meeting themed “EEO and Diversity: A Strong and Prosperous Nation Secured Through a Fair and Inclusive Workplace.” The Summit is being held at the Atlantic City Convention Center, One Convention Blvd, Atlantic City, N.J. 08401, on June 28 - 30, 2011. The Summit theme is derived from the vision statement of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). This year’s summit will be co-hosted by the New Jersey Affirmative Action Officers’ Council.

Featured speakers include **Atlantic City Mayor Lorenzo Langford**; **Jacqueline Berrien**, Chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC); **Patricia A. Shiu**, Director of the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, U.S. Department of Labor; and **Flonzie Brown Wright**, Manager of the Mississippi Freedom 50th. **Ernest Hicks** of Xerox Corp. will introduce Chair Berrien and **Luke Visconti**, founder and publisher of DiversityInc, will preside at the AAAA Awards Luncheon on June 30th.

The Summit will also feature a **Diversity Showcase Seminar** on June 29th and panelists will include: **Armstrong Williams**, TV and Radio show host; **Steve O. Michael**, Arcadia University and the National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education (NADOHE); **Robin Parker**, Beyond Diversity Resource Center; **Anjali Thakur-Mittal**, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights; **Veronica Villalobos**, Director of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, U.S. Office of Personnel Management; and from France (via Skype), Professor **Marie-Christine Pauwels-Borel**,

University of Paris Ouest, Nanterre la Défense. Ms. **Jeannine LaRue** will moderate the panel. Panelists will explore the relationship between affirmative action and diversity.

The Summit will also explore the issue of “**Equity in Education**” at the elementary/secondary level. This plenary session will feature **Stephanie James Wilson**, Amistad Commission (NJ); **Dr. Gilda Rorro Baldassari**, NJ Italian and Italian American Heritage Commission; **Dr. Paul Winkler**, Commission on Holocaust Education; and **Dr. Paula C. Rodriguez Rust**, Spectrum Diversity. **Hope R. Blackburn, Esq.** will moderate the panel.

The Summit will offer **two pre-conference workshops**, one on Faculty Recruitment and Retention, and a Boot Camp for EEO practitioners titled “All You Need to Know as an EEO/AA/Diversity Professional.” In addition, there will be **twelve workshops**. Workshop topics include: “Workplace Bullying: Practical and Legal Issues,” EEOC’s Systemic Program and Equal Pay Efforts,” “Supporting Disability in the Workforce: Not Just a Strategic Advantage, a Business Imperative,” and “Designing Harassment E-Learning in Higher Education: Challenges and Opportunities.” Another workshop will present the results of a survey on “Academic Institutions as Federal Contractors: Exploring Challenges in Compliance.”

“We are excited about the training and educational sessions available,” said AAAA President Gregory T. Chambers. The conferees will also discuss strategies to promote affirmative action and diversity in the face of economic headwinds and legal challenges to end it. “This conference is filled with opportunities to galvanize and design a proactive plan to advance an agenda of more inclusion and opportunity,” said President Chambers.

The AAAA Summit is open to the press. For more information, go to www.affirmativeaction.org. To register for the Summit, go to: <http://www.affirmativeaction.org/conference.html>

Founded in 1974, the American Association for Affirmative Action (AAAA) is a national not-for-profit association of professionals working in the areas of affirmative action, equal opportunity, and diversity. AAAA assists its members to be more successful and productive in their careers. It also promotes understanding and advocacy of affirmative action to enhance access and equality in employment, economic and educational opportunities.

The New Jersey Affirmative Action Officers’ Council (NJAAOC) is a member-driven organization composed of equal employment opportunity and affirmative action (EEO/AA), diversity, and human resources professionals. The NJAAOC was created through the efforts of EEO/AA practitioners in state government and officials from the New Jersey Civil Service Commission, Division of EEO/AA in 1983.

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