

2nd Annual Mother Emanuel Nine Day Remembrance at Allen University

Do you remember their names?

Senator Clementa Pinckney, Sharonda Coleman-Singleton, Cynthia Hurd, DePayne Middleton Doctor, Tywanza Sanders, Myra Thompson, Ethel Lee Lance, Daniel L. Simmons, and Susie Jackson were surrounding themselves with love and light in their place of worship, when they were gunned down by an ignorant, racist, hate-filled white supremacist. They were praying in their church.

The Mother Emanuel AME Church shooting on June 17, 2015 is a hate crime that will be forever etched in the minds of many South Carolinians and people around the world. Those nine men and women were shot while they were attending Bible study. This horrific hate crime encouraged many, not only in this state but throughout this country, to reconsider their views on racial discrimination. This horrendous murder brought the South Carolina Legislature to vote to take the Confederate flag off the State House grounds. This hate crime brought thousands to Charleston to link arms across the Ravenel Bridge to show a united community after the shooting. It also moved the South Carolina Legislature to adopt a resolution declaring June 17 as Mother Emanuel Nine Day.

On June 1st, the SC Human Affairs Commission (SCHAC) held its annual Emanuel Nine tribute on the campus of Allen University in the Chappelle Auditorium. Three of the victims were graduates of Allen University and two went on to further their education at the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. SCHAC was honored that both institutions of higher learning agreed to collaborate with this commemoration.

Our hope is that you will not only remember their names, but you will remember that criminal act and work together in the future so a similar incident does not happen in your community.



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Technical Services Hosts Luncheon & Awards Banquet

The EEO Forum is an event that recognizes EEO Officers from the 90 State agencies that are required to report to the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission. Each year on February 1st, SCHAC is mandated to submit the status of state government agencies as it relates to Equal Employment Opportunity.

In October of each year, SCHAC sends out information requesting each agency's actual workforce on September 30th along with the applicant data. The information that is captured allows us to see if the agency has achieved their level of goal attainment. The Forum allows EEO Officers to gain knowledge from the Speaker, SCHAC Staff and learn more information on Best Practices as it pertains to Affirmative Action and Equal Employment. The Top 10 agencies who achieve the highest level of their goal attainment are recognized at the EEO Forum.

Winner of the Recognition of Achievement Award was Mary Dunlap Snead, former Director of Technical Services and Training at SCHAC for more than thirty years.



1st Annual SCHACRA Conference

The inaugural South Carolina Community Relations and Development Annual Conference in May was hosted by the College of Charleston's Institute of Community Development in partnership with the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission and Denny's Corporation.

The Institute of Community Development was formed at the College of Charleston in the months following the Emanuel 9 tragedy along with a Coalition for Community Enhancement comprised of the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission (SCHAC) and Corporate sponsors such as Denny's and Boeing.



Pictured above: SCHAC's Cmsr. Raymond Buxton, II



Pictured above l-r: SCHAC's Deputy Cmsr. Dan Koon, Cmsr. Raymond Buxton, II and Sandra Ligon, Sr. Comm. Relations Consultant.

The mission of the Institute is to establish new systems-oriented processes for issues management in support of community relations and development in the State of South Carolina, referred to as the Quality of Community Life Initiative.

Staff Attorney Presents at Forum



Pictured: SCHAC Staff Attorney, Alex Pate and members of the Greenville County Human Relations Commission.

Alex Pate presented to an Affordable Housing Forum hosted by the Greenville County Human Relations Commission. He presented an overview of SCHAC, a session on Fair Housing, and a session focusing on Disability Accommodations under the FHA.

SOUTH CAROLINA HUMAN AFFAIRS COMMISSION



Commissioner Raymond Buxton, II

Si usted piensa que ha sido discriminado en la vivienda o en el empleo, debe ponerse en contacto con la Comisión de Asuntos Humanos. La Comisión investigará su queja y si hay una violación de la ley, la Comisión puede ayudarlo a conseguir soluciones legales a los que usted tiene derecho. Si es necesario, la Comisión puede llevar casos de discriminación a una audiencia o a la corte. No importa su estado legal, la Comisión lo ayuda.

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Mission Statement

Our mission is to eliminate and prevent unlawful discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations and promote harmony and betterment in the lives of South Carolina's residents.

Vision Statement

The South Carolina Human Affairs Commission's Vision is to be well known with a positive image and a mission that is understood and accepted by the public. SCHAC is a fully resourced, customer-friendly Agency with a diverse, well-trained and efficient team working together effectively in a safe and supportive work environment in fulfillment of the Agency's mission.

We Are Glad You're Here!



Sherrial Styles comes to SCHAC as an employment discrimination investigator. Sherrial's desire to work at SCHAC was motivated by its purpose and its awesome team. She is inspired by the efforts of SCHAC and look forward to being a part of the dedicated staff. Off duty you'll find her shopping, at outdoor concerts, and spending time with family and friends. The SCHAC family is thrilled to have Sherrial join it!



Venisha Webber is a Columbia native, and is the agency's new receptionist, who also assists the Intake Department. A mother of two beautiful kids (1 & 10 years old), Venisha is an "Army Brat" that previously worked at SC Mental Health. Besides being a devoted mother, Venisha enjoys shopping, cooking, and traveling. Venisha took this position because she wanted something that would be productive, challenging, and because it felt like "home"! Welcome Venisha!

THANK-YOU!



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