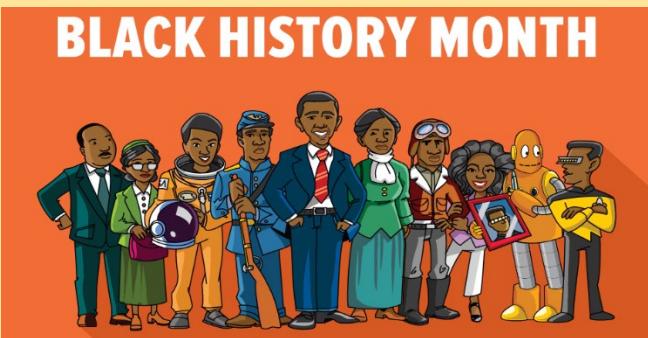


CELEBRATING OUR HISTORY



Welcome to the Black History Month edition of the Illinois Judicial Council Newsletter.



This is our way of paying tribute to our ancestors, as well as our contemporaries, for their contributions to society, as we educate those who are benefiting from the fruits of their labor. While we celebrate the achievements of the countless Black men and women who blazed the trail before us, we know the struggle continues. In the words of our ancestors, we must keep our eyes on the prize but our hands on the plow.

In 1982, a small group gathered to discuss the challenges facing Black judges at the time. That meeting would lead to the founding of the Illinois Judicial Council. In this newsletter, we seek not only to honor them but to also lift-up all who have followed in their footsteps.

We are also pleased to present to you a virtual tour of the IJC Black History Month exhibit that is normally displayed as a physical exhibition in the Daley Center. It is truly a slice of history and pride that should be seen by a wider audience. We hope to continue editing and expanding the virtual exhibit and make it available to schools. If you have additional materials that you think should be included, please submit it for our consideration.

As we continue to toil under the restrictions caused by this pandemic, we hope that you are safe, healthy and that all is well with you and yours.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thaddeus H. Bibb".

President, Illinois Judicial Council