



The State of Black New Jersey 2026 Economic Summit
“Best Practices, Opportunity & Equity”
Thursday, April 16, 2026 (8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.)
Princeton Marriott at Forrestal, Princeton, NJ

PROGRAM

<u>Registration/ General Session/Networking – Breakfast</u>	8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
<u>Welcome & Sponsorship Recognition</u> Dr. John E. Harmon, Sr., IOM, Founder, President & CEO, African American Chamber of Commerce of NJ (AACCNJ)	10:00 a.m. – 10:05 a.m.
<u>Panel 1 - Black Businesses - Success Models & The Value Proposition</u> Moderator: Dr. John E. Harmon, Sr., IOM William Bowie, President & CEO, Empower Construction Della Clark, President of The Enterprise Center & Partner, Innovate Capital Growth Fund LP Monique Nelson, Executive Chair, UWG, Inc. Brian K. Oglesby, President & CEO, The Eastern Minority Supplier Development Council (EMSDC)	10:05 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
<u>Panel 2 - Procurement Opportunities & Corporate Partnerships</u> Moderator: Dr. John E. Harmon, Sr., IOM Mark McDonough, President, American Water Doug McKoid, President, Jersey Central Power & Light Jermaine Pharmses, Director, Business Development & Engagement, NJ Economic Devel. Authority (NJEDA) Bianca Reyes, Supplier Diversity Manager, PSEG	10:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
<u>Lunch</u>	11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
<u>Keynote Speaker</u> Rev. Al Sharpton, Founder, National Action Network (NAN), American Civil Rights and Social Justice Activist, Political Analyst	12:35 p.m. – 12:55 p.m.
<u>Panel 3 – Best Practices in Public Contracting</u> Moderator: Denise Anderson, Ph.D. MPH, CEO, Denise Anderson & Associates Michael Garner, MBA, CCA, Chief Business Diversity Officer, City-Wide Mayor’s Office of M/WBEs Carra Wallace, Founder & President, Optimized Diversity Solutions, Senior Advisor to Rev. Al Sharpton, NAN Keith Wright, PH.D., Spiritual Leader & Author & Former Director, PANYNJ	1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
<u>Closing Remarks</u> Dr. John E. Harmon, Sr., IOM	2:05 p.m. – 2:10 p.m.
<u>Networking</u>	2:10 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.