



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**JOINT INITIATIVE TO GALVANIZE A COMMUNITY
TOWARDS POLITICAL ACTION AND ADVOCACY**

Political Forums: Free and open to the public

FORT LAUDERDALE (July 13, 2010) The Urban League of Broward County has formed a joint initiative called Broward Votes™ to host a series of political forums at the **African American Research Library & Cultural Center, 2650 Sistrunk Blvd., Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33311.**

Tuesday, July 20, 2010 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. – Debate & Voter Registration Drive
Debates: County Commission (District 9)

Tuesday, July 27, 2010 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. – Judicial Candidate Forum
Debates: County Court Judges and 17th Circuit Court Judges

Broward Votes™ is comprised of seven organizations – the Urban League of Broward County and its Young Professionals Network, 100 Black Men of Greater Ft. Lauderdale, Jamaican Diaspora of Southern United States, National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) South Florida chapter, the T.J. Reddick Bar Association, and the Caribbean Bar Association.

“The Urban League is committed to providing the political awareness tools necessary for effective collective action,” said Dr. Germaine Smith-Baugh, president and CEO of the Urban League of Broward County. “Broward Votes ensures that our residents are well informed and prepared to take steps toward making their voices heard and their needs the priority of those who choose to serve them.”

Broward Votes™ is focusing on electoral seats that encompass the central Broward region so that elected officials don’t overlook the needs and concerns of residents who are most at risk, in need and disenfranchised.

For more information concerning Broward Votes™ or the upcoming political forums, please contact Andrea Owes, Director of Special Projects for the Urban League of Broward County at aowes@ulbcfl.org or (954) 625-2548.

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Broward Vote Partnerships:



BROWARD VOTES is a non-partisan joint initiative created to empower residents towards political advocacy and awareness.



Urban League of Broward County founded in 1975 as an affiliate of the [National Urban League](#), is a community based organization dedicated to assisting African Americans and other disenfranchised groups in the achievement of social and economic equality. The fundamental objective of the Urban League of Broward County is to enable those who are moving toward the mainstream to achieve economic self-reliance and to enjoy their rights as equal citizens under the law. For more information contact (954) 584.0777.

Urban League of Broward County Young Professionals Network exists to cultivate a new generation of young professionals to take an active role in serving and empowering Broward County's urban communities.

The Jamaican Diaspora Southern United States' mission is to unite and galvanize all Jamaicans and Jamaican organizations, their talents, resources, and potential throughout the Southern United States for the benefit of their local communities and the future development and support of Jamaica. For more information, please contact Marlon A. Hill, Esq. at info@marlonhill.com, Jamaican Diaspora Southern United States Advisory Board Member.

Caribbean Bar Association is a voluntary bar organization whose proactive mission includes promoting and fostering the professional development of Caribbean-American lawyers and other professionals, increasing educational and career opportunities for Caribbean-American students and providing social and legal services to educate and empower Caribbean-American and larger south and central Florida communities. For more information, please contact Sherylle Gordon, CBA president at sgordon@ghj.com or visit <http://www.caribbeanbar.org/index.asp>.

National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) mission is to ensure equity in the administration of justice in the provision of public service to all communities, and to serve as the conscience of law enforcement by being committed to justice by action. To learn more about NOBLE, please visit <http://www.noblesfl.org>.

The 100 Black Men of Greater Fort Lauderdale Inc. is a non-profit civic and community based organization that serves as a catalyst for the disadvantaged and under represented segments of the community. Its mission is to improve the quality of life for African/Caribbean Americans through the enhancement of educational and economic opportunities within the community. The 100 Black Men of Greater Fort Lauderdale, Inc. is committed to serving the community based upon the following principles: Respect for Family, Justice, and Integrity. For more information, please visit their website at www.100blackmengfl.org or contact dwright@simplyit-inc.com.

T.J. Reddick Bar Association is dedicated to promoting the professional excellence of Black lawyers in Broward County, increasing the enrollment of minority students in college and law school, and promoting the general welfare of all citizens in Broward County. The Association not only provides legal-advice clinics and collaborates with the NAACP Ft. Lauderdale Branch legal redress clinic, its members also mentor children who have cases pending in the dependency and delinquency court systems and minority law students attending local law schools. For more information, please visit their website at <http://www.tjreddickbar.org> or contact Felicia Jordan, Corresponding Secretary at jordanlawpa@gmail.com.



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