

THE TENACIOUS 13TH DISTRICT

# STEP INTO THE 13TH

**PGG & OPP  
SUPPORTING  
YOUNG MEN & HOMELESS**

**AUTUMN  
EDITION  
2023**



PROTECT THE PROPERTY  
OF SERVICE MEMBERS

**WE STAND  
TOGETHER**  
BLACK ARTIST EXHIBITION

**2023**

SUPPORT FOR EARTHQUAKE  
VICTIMS IN TURKEY

GIVE BACK TO THE PEOPLE OF GHANA

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH PRESENTATION & CELEBRATION IN 2023**

PGG PROMOTE OUR CARDINAL PRINCIPLES



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# 13TH DISTRICT INTRODUCTION



“

Welcome to the Tenacious Thirteenth District of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. The District is comprised of Brothers who serve Omega around the world and whose Chapters are located outside the continental United States. The District spans the globe and maintains a presence in 16 countries, on 5 continents, across 19 time zones.

There are 21 Chapters across this District and we maintain an international presence in Bermuda, Canada, China, Dominican Republic, Germany, Ghana, Hawaii, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Panama, The Bahamas, The Netherlands, St. Croix VI, St. Thomas VI, St. Maarten, the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom. Brothers across the world who are not affiliated with a local Chapter or District are encouraged to join the 13th District and reaffirm their commitment to Omega.

# MESSAGE FROM THE 13TH DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE



Greetings,

First, I bring greetings from the Supreme Basileus of the Universe without whom none of this would be possible. I am incredibly fortunate and honored to be reelected as your Eleventh 13th District Representative for 2023-2024. My commitment to service and the will of the Brothers in the 13th International District is something I will always continue to hold near and dear to my heart. I am eager for another journey and without question, I know the 13th District will continue to thrive. I assure you that nothing will pass without giving my all to serve Omega and the Brothers of the 13th International District. We truly make the fraternity international.

The 13th International District recently celebrated 30 years of existence in this Fraternity. We hosted our 30th Annual District meeting and the 2023 Dr. Moses C. Norman Sr. International Leadership Conference in Nassau, Bahamas in July 2023. The District has not hosted an event of this magnitude since 1997. As we embark on this incredible opportunity to continue building new and more vital bridges, chart divergent and progressive paths, and live the noble vision of our Founders with commitment, I ask you to join me. Join me in this phenomenal journey as together... and collectively... work to enhance this great District.

The 13th International District will continue to expand as our Founders would be pleased to see how we progressed over the years across the globe. Countries will continue to seek to have Omega in their presence and the 13th International District will answer. The 13th International District has implemented a new strategic plan to incorporate chapter sustainability, metrics, and dealing with today's challenges such as the COVID-19 pandemic and other crises that may arise.

The 13th International District will continue to support humanitarian projects around the world. We do not know the future, but we will anticipate and be ready to support. Our website has captured all the magnificent work that is being performed across the world. To continue doing this incredible work globally, we invite you to consider donating to one of our many worthwhile social action projects. To this end, we would be incredibly grateful if you would take a moment to visit our donation page. Any amount will do tremendous good toward uplifting communities around the world.

Thank you for taking a moment to see the impact the Men of the 13th International District are making in our continuing dedication and enthusiasm. May God bless you and your families, the 13th International District, and the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated. Thank you again for allowing me the opportunity to serve in this capacity. Together We Achieve More!

Fraternally grateful,

Tracy D. George



# DISTRICT OFFICERS 13TH DISTRICT



**Brother Tracy D. George** Eleventh 13th District Representative

**Brother Darryle Albert** First Vice District Representative

**Brother Lehman Bliss** Second Vice District Representative

**Brother Freddie Thompson IV** District Keeper of Records & Seal

**Brother Bryce Pringle** Asst. District Keeper of Records & Seal

**Brother Eugene J. Porter** District Keeper of Finance

**Brother Ron Walker** Asst. District Keeper of Finance

**Brother Jarrett V. Burks Esq.** District Counselor

**Brother Carl Bampoe EdD** District Director of Public Relations

**Brother Marquis R. Jones D.Min** District Chaplain

**Brother Dwayne Patton** District Marshal

**Brother Haynes McCoy** District Parliamentarian

**Brother James B. Snipes III** Deputy District Rep - Africa/Europe/Middle East

**Brother Robert Morgan** Deputy District Rep – Americas

**Brother Desmond Smith** Deputy District Rep - Asia/Pacific

**Brother Byron Biscoe MD** Deputy District Rep – Caribbean

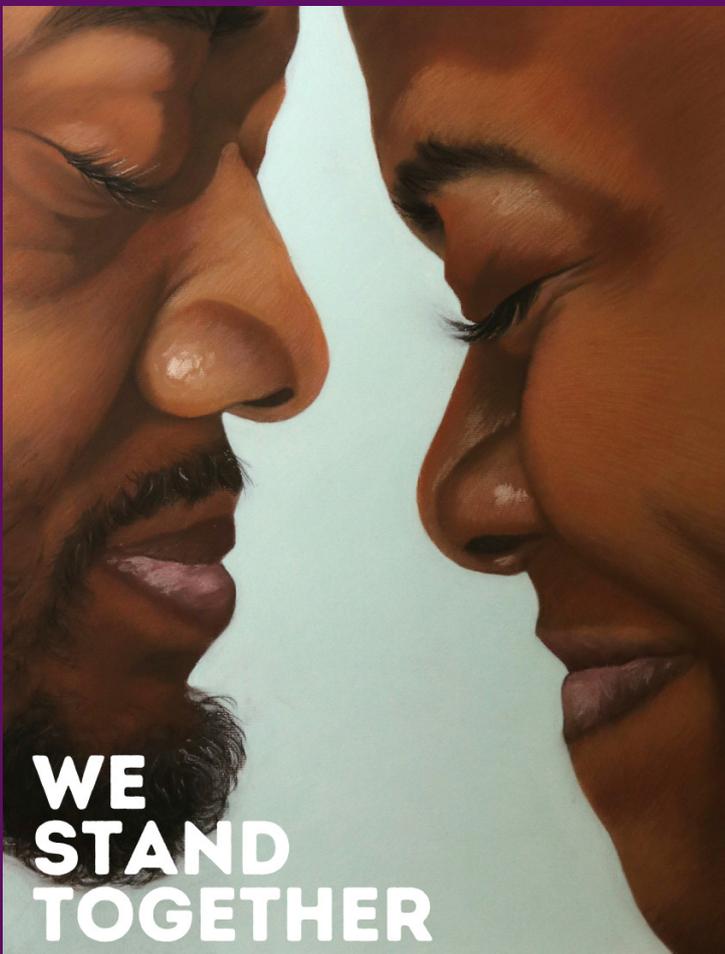
**Brother Trevor V. Hodge EdD** Immediate Past District Representative



From left to right: Aaron Springs III-Lambda Tau; Dr. Ronvey Price-Chi Mu Nu; Dr. Peggy Blood-Distinguished Professor,(Savannah State University [https://art.state.gov/personnel/peggy\\_blood/](https://art.state.gov/personnel/peggy_blood/)) ; William D. Frazier, Lambda Tau ; Cody Harden

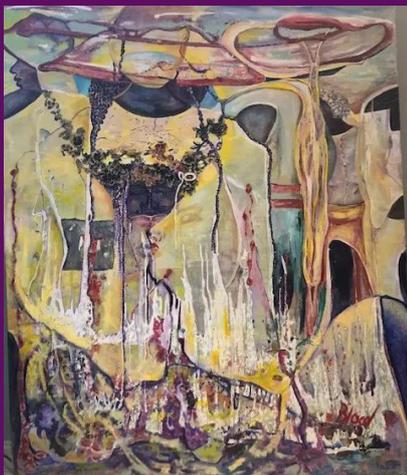
## WE STAND TOGETHER

In Shanghai, China, Omega Psi Phi, Inc. members participated in “We Stand Together” showcasing artwork of artists from American’s Historically Black Colleges and Universities.



On 22 September 2023, the brothers of Omega Psi Phi, Inc who currently live in china, participated with The National Alliance of Artists from Historically Black College University (NAAHBCU), in a premium of an exhibition “We Stand Together,” celebrating the traditions of contributions’ of artists affiliated with Historically Black College and Universities (HBCUs) in the United States.

For more than 186 years, HBCU have been central to Black Americans intellectual thought, culture, and art.



PEGGY BLOOD

**Miss Doris**

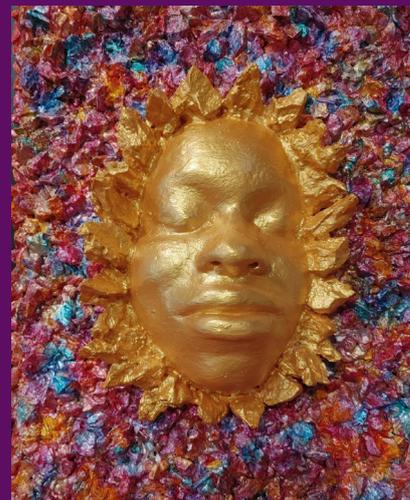
Oil and mix media paints on canvas



CLEVE WEBBER

**Bodyscape**

Watercolor



WILLIE HOOKER

**The Royal Queen of Africa**

Plaster and acrylic paint



Dr. Peggy Blood- Distinguished Professor, Savannah State University, joined us as the expert curator in promoting friendship, understanding, and co-operation between the people of Shanghai and the citizens of the United States and showcasing the artistic excellence and legacy of individuals associated with HBCUs.

The efforts began with Brother William D. Frazier, Lambda Tau, who was the visionary, coordinator, project manager and with U.S. Consulate General Shanghai organized this historic groundbreaking exhibition to China.

Bro Aaron Springs III traveled from Nanjing to Shanghai, Ronnvey Price traveled from Shenzhen to Shanghai, and Cody Harden traveled from Xiamen to Shanghai in support of our brother William D. Frazier's seeing it through and continuing to be the outstanding bridgebuilder that he is within China's international community: Do thy duty that is best !

Bro. Dr. Ronnvey Price, Chi Mu Nu, and Bro. Cody Harden, Lambda Tau — 13th District, China Chapter







## SUPPORT FOR EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS IN TURKEY

The Brothers Of Phi Gamma Gamma Chapter Support the Victims of the Earthquake in Turkiye

On 11 March 2023, the Brothers of Phi Gamma Gamma Chapter in Kaiserslautern, Germany, rallied the local community to support the devastating earthquake victims in Turkiye on 6 February 2023. Over ten thousand people died in the earthquake, and hundreds of thousands lacked shelter, food, and clothing.

The Turkish Army, part of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) contingent at Ramstein Air Force Base in Ramstein, Germany, put out a community call for assistance with winter clothing, blankets, hygiene items, and other disaster items.

The Brothers of PGG collected over 500 pounds of winter clothing and other requested items. Brigadier General Omer Gulmezoglu of the Turkish Army greeted the Brothers with great appreciation for their response to the call for assistance. General Gulmezoglu requested the Brothers and members of the Turkish Army link arms together for a photo showing solidarity in supporting the country of Turkiye and its affected citizens.



## GIVE BACK TO THE PEOPLE OF GHANA

Ghana continues to be the preferred traveled destination for Africa, visitors and those of the Diaspora.



As members of OPP and their families travel to the mother land. They have hosted and have been greeted by the brothers of TX. These brothers are pillars in the country and successful businessmen in many professions.

The Basileus of TX Kwab Asamoah and also the CEO of Kustom Looks is one of the leading fashion designers in the country not only providing Greek dashikis for Omega men but for the rest of the D9 as well, and is also an Omega licensed vendor. Brother Dr. Bryan Cox, CEO of the Spinal Clinic Ltd is the leading chiropractic Doctor in Africa with 2 clinic locations in the metro Accra area. These two businesses cater to the diaspora and the D9.

OPP Brothers cannot only visit Ghana but they have opportunity to give back to the people of Ghana through community services.

Brother Jonathan Akuamoah is the CEO of TEAM SR Ghana, a local nonprofit that spearheaded and facilitate the borehole projects for OPP that has raised over 400,000 dollar to provide access to safe drinking water for nearly 100 communities serving over 150,000 Ghanaians, Men of Omega are building schools, computer labs, clinics, and other donations through his nonprofit organization.

Brother Jimmy Thorne of the Thorne foundation is also giving brothers opportunity to give back to society through the building of toilet facilities, feeding programs and adopting schools to provide scholarships.

Brother Diallo Sumbry is the premier Travel agency to Ghana West Africa, with his partnerships with Africa Ancestral .Com, his company the Adinkra group has brought thousands of people and groups such as the over 100 people delegation of NAACP and many more. With over 350 SGR sorority women arriving in Ghana December, 2023 through his travel agency, he is leading in the travel tourism space.

The brothers of TX are ready to host and provide the need of Omega men, Diasporans, and those traveling to Ghana. With varied connections through the government, entertainment, sports and business, they continue to spread the influence of Omega not only in Ghana but on the continent as a whole.



# COMMEMORATE DR. CHARLES R. DREW

Phi Gamma Gamma donates blood as tribute to Dr. Charles Richard Drew and support to the Armed Forces across Europe, Africa, and Middle East.



In honor of the great Dr. Charles Richard Drew, the Brothers of Phi Gamma Gamma donated blood during the Armed Services Blood Program (ASBP) Europe Blood Drive on February 1, 2022, at Rhine Ordnance Barracks, Germany.

The ASBP Blood Drive supports real-world operations, live-fire training exercises throughout Europe, Africa, and the Middle East, and patients in military medical facilities overseas. The members of Phi Gamma Gamma attended the blood drive enthusiastically and in full force. They range from retired and active duty military to civilians supporting the military.

At the blood drive, Vice Basileus Randy Jeter stated, “Collectively, Phi Gamma Gamma understands and appreciates the sacrifices of our Service Members to ensure our freedom. We believe it is our duty to help support this blood drive and pay respect to the legacy of Dr. Charles R. Drew.” Dr. Charles R. Drew was no stranger to Europe and the military. During World War II, he used his ingenuity to develop and apply his “Blood Banks” concept as the full-time medical director of the Blood for Britain project. In February 1941, the first American Red Cross Blood Bank appointed him director, overseeing the storage and supply of blood for use by the U.S. Army and Navy.



Dr. Charles R. Drew would continue to break barriers and shatter stereotypes in the field of medicine, science, and black achievement. Thus, we commemorate the trailblazer and pioneer Dr. Charles R. Drew.



# PGG PROMOTE OUR CARDINAL PRINCIPLES

Graduating from the Air Force Academy, Brigadier General Jones was commissioned in the Air Force in 1995.



Brother Ra Shad Patrick, Phi Gamma Gamma, makes history On 15 February 2023, Technical Sergeant Ra'Shad Patrick, Phi Gamma Gamma, accompanied Brigadier General Otis C. Jones to celebrate Black History Month by participating in a C130 flight operated by an all-black crew.

Brigadier General Jones is currently servicing as the Ramstein Air Base 86th Airlift Wing Commander.

The flight, being the first of its kind, highlights diversity, equality, and inclusion within the ranks of the Air Force. Brother Patrick was born in St. Elizabeth, Jamaica, and enlisted in the Air Force in March 2010.

Brother Patrick has been in the Air Force for 13 years and is the Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge (NCOIC) of Religious Affairs for the 693 Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Group on Ramstein Air Base.

The brothers of Phi Gamma Gamma continue to be committed and involved in the events that promote Omega Psi Phi's cardinal principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift.



# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## PRESENTATION

Phi Gamma Gamma participates in Black History Month presentation, Baumholder Germany



On 27 February 2023, the Brothers of Phi Gamma Gamma Chapter in Kaiserslautern, Germany, participated in a Black History presentation in Baumholder, Germany. The presentation included a talent show highlighting famous black artists, musicians and entertainers from the past and present.

The black history presentation also included several Greek Fraternities and Sororities that briefed the history of their Fraternities. Brother Polk and Brother Mills briefed the history of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated.

They discussed the ten internationally mandated programs enacted at the National, District, and Local levels. The brothers of Phi Gamma Gamma also spoke about how vital scholarship and education are to the fraternity.

Active-duty men and women were encouraged to attend college while on active duty and obtain their degrees. The brothers of Phi Gamma Gamma also provided information on tuition assistance, federal aid, and other funding that can be used to get a degree while serving in the military.



On 28 February 2023, the Brothers of Phi Gamma Gamma Chapter in Kaiserslautern, Germany, participated in a Black History Month celebration in Ramstein AB, Germany.

The Ramstein middle school celebrated black history month with a presentation that included the school choir singing songs that paid tribute to Black Americans throughout history.

The Black history presentation also included a Black historical trivia contest and games that provided education and timelines associated with Black history. The culminating event that concluded the ceremony was a pot-luck-style meal tailored to the theme of black history provided to all that participated.

The Brothers of Phi Gamma Gamma set up a table to provide information about the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated and its history.

The Brothers of Phi Gamma Gamma displayed, via a PowerPoint presentation, pictures and information about the Fraternity founders and photographs of the community service that the brothers of Phi Gamma Gamma had done.

The brothers discussed the ten internationally mandated programs enacted at the National, District, and Local levels and talked about the importance of the history behind Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated. The brothers of Phi Gamma Gamma also used this event to fellowship amongst brethren.

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## CELEBRATION

Phi Gamma Gamma participates in Black History Month presentation, Ramstein Air Base Germany





## PROTECT THE PROPERTY OF SERVICE MEMBERS

“Theta Rho Revitalizes the Heritage of the Tuskegee Airmen in Italy” - by Bruce B. Jones, Brothers of the Theta Rho Chapter currently stationed at Aviano Air Base in Italy are uplifting the heritage of the Tuskegee Airmen who served as military aviators and support personnel in Italy during World War II.

The Tuskegee Airmen persevered through segregation, stereotypes and prejudice to become one of the most highly respected fighter groups of World War II with four hundred and fifty of the Tuskegee Army Air Field pilots serving in the 332nd Fighter Group’s 99th, 100th, 301st, and 302nd fighter squadrons in Italy.

Brothers Bruce B. Jones, Emanuel Martin and Franklin Walton are leading the only “overseas” organization dedicated to memorializing the Tuskegee contributions to American and Italian history while also educating and inspiring the next generation of leaders through diversity, inclusiveness and scholarship.

The effort began when Brother Jones and others at Aviano Air Base remembered the reference to Italy in George Lucas’s “Red Tails” movie. Upon finding the location, they decided to “walk the grounds” of where these heroes were assigned.

This led to the discovery of Ramitelli and the historic airfield where the Airmen flew their P-51 “Red Tails” aircraft which logged one of the best fighter escort mission records in WWII.

After the war, many of the airfields used by the Allies were celebrated with ceremonies by dignitaries and descendants of the pilots who flew from these locations. At that time, no one represented the Tuskegee Airmen and Ramitelli became one of the forgotten airfields of WWII. The airfield is now farmland and vineyards but remnants of the “Red Tails” 332nd Operations Headquarters building are still visible today.



## PROTECT THE PROPERTY OF SERVICE MEMBERS

With industry and ingenuity, Brother Jones built support for recognizing the airfield and the Tuskegee aviators through the US Embassy in Rome and Naples bringing Italy-wide attention to the importance of these historic landmarks.

Aviano Brothers coordinated multiple visits to the sites and Campomarino and San Martino in Pensilis, the two towns the Tuskegee Airmen spent their time when they were not flying combatmissions.

With these networks in place, festivals and plans to build commemorative parks and monuments to officially recognize Ramitelli Airfield and the Tuskegee Airmen are in the works.

Italian families are also sharing untold stories from their descendants to highlight their contributions to the history of these African American heroes.

As the Brothers of Theta Rho at Aviano help in these historical endeavors, they are also educating the general public on the Tuskegee Airmen achievements within Italy, promoting diversity and inclusion for the military and providing scholarship opportunities for families stationed outside the continental United States.

The organization was designated a 501(c) (3) non-profit status by the IRS to allow for tax-free donations, IN 87-3449091, to support scholarly aspirations.

They are also exposing young people to positive stories of people of color that will hopefully open their eyes and minds to the endless possibilities of learning despite societal perceptions based on race.

Despite adversity, restraints and limited opportunities, the Tuskegee Airmen proved conclusively that African Americans had the intelligence and aptitude to fly sophisticated combat aircraft, inspiring revolutionary reform in the Armed Forces and preserving the heritage of all those who served.







## OPP SUPPORTING YOUNG MEN

UVI Receives \$5K Gift from International Greek Organization

International fraternity Omega Psi Phi, Inc. has made a donation of \$5,000 to the University of the Virgin Islands (UVI) in support of the University's strategic initiatives.

During a check presentation ceremony held on Wednesday, Oct. 5, on the Albert A. Sheen Campus in St. Croix, Dr. Byron Biscoe, who serves as Omega Psi Phi's Deputy District Representative for the Caribbean, shared that the organization, which upholds the core principles of "Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance and Uplift," offers many opportunities for VI students to participate in Greek life, serve their communities and develop into adults of strong character and integrity.

"We are so grateful to Omega Psi Phi for making this generous contribution to UV at a time when we are deeply engaged in activities related to meeting the goals of our Greatness Through Innovation Strategic Plan," said UVI President Dr. David Hall.

"This gift strengthens our longstanding relationship with Omega Psi Phi and symbolizes our ongoing mutual commitment to transforming the lives of Virgin Islanders both within and without our academic walls through service and mentorship," he added.

The Greek organization, which is active on the Albert A. Sheen Campus - St. Croix (Eta Iota Iota chapter) and the Orville E. Kean Campus - St. Thomas (Zeta Xi chapter), directed funds to UVI as part of its annual College Endowment Fund activities, which are used to support historically Black colleges and universities (HBCU) across the United States.

This is the first time that the University of the Virgin Islands has been the recipient of a direct gift from Omega Psi Phi's international headquarters. The UVI chapters represent the fraternity's 13th International District.



## OPP SUPPORTING YOUNG MEN

UVI Receives \$5K Gift from International Greek Organization

Community service activities Omega Psi Phi has spearheaded in the U.S. Virgin Islands include supporting residences for the elderly, cleaning up parks and recreation spaces, coaching youth baseball teams and providing swimming lessons, mentorship experiences and speaking to young people in schools across the Territory.

“Omega Psi Phi has always been committed to supporting, empowering and nurturing young men, grooming them for service in and to local communities, and it is our pleasure and honor to make this donation to UVI on behalf of our members,” said Dr. Biscoe, who specializes in surgery and diseases of the eye and will serve as Associate Professor of Ophthalmology at UVI’s School of Medicine, which is in the applicant phase of its opening plans.

He has also been an active fundraiser on behalf of the University, hosting events in both St. Thomas and St. Croix to raise money to support UVI’s mission. “We are proud to treasure many of the core values and ideals the University also holds dear as an HBCU.”

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. is the first international fraternal organization founded on the campus of a historically Black college. There are a total of six chapters in the Caribbean region. For more information, contact [pr@uvi.edu](mailto:pr@uvi.edu).





## PGG SUPPORT TO THE HOMELESS



The Brothers Of Phi Gamma Gamma Chapter Support the Saint Christophorus Homeless Shelter in Kaiserslautern, Germany On 25 March 2023, the Brothers of Phi Gamma Gamma Chapter in Kaiserslautern, Germany, collected and donated over \$500 in hygiene products to the local homeless shelter, St Christophorus.

PGG has formed a consistent relationship with St Christophorus providing winter clothing in the fall and summer clothing in the spring.

PGG's clothing drives for the shelter have been so successful that the shelter's coffers of clothing are bursting at the seams, and the shelter asked the Brothers for more specific items to provide to its patrons.

Since its chartering in 2018, the Brothers of PGG have led clothing drives in the Kaiserslautern Military Community each spring and fall to provide items to needy individuals.

The chapter Basileus, Brother Andre Pippen, pushes the chapter to find those less fortunate in the local community to support, including patrons of the local victims of domestic violence shelter.

PGG'S upcoming support to the homeless shelter will focus on socks and undergarments for those in need.





## PGG ATTENDS FOOD SAFETY CERTIFICATION COURSE

Phi Gamma Gamma attends Food Safety certification course

Under the Food Standards Code, Standard 3.2.2 Food Safety Practices and General Requirements, food handlers are responsible for ensuring that they do not contaminate food and make it unsafe or unsuitable for consumption. Food handlers also have specific responsibilities related to their health and hygiene. The food handler's certification course ensures students understand how food should be stored, transported, and maintained in any environment to maintain its integrity.

The brothers of Phi Gamma Gamma attended the food handler's course at the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center to obtain the necessary certification to cook, prepare, serve, pack, display, and store food.

The course emphasized the importance of proper hygiene, sanitation, and the use of appropriate protective equipment, at all times, during the process of food management. The food handler's certification will ensure the safety of participants while conducting events that align with the mandated programs of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated.





## Lambda Xi Chapter Visits Orphanage in Thailand

Pattaya Orphanage located in Pattaya, Thailand



Lambda Xi Chapter Brothers wearing purple shirts from left to right: Bro. Rodney Brown, Bro. Tracy George – The Eleventh 13th International District Representative, Bro. Tae Yancey, Bro. Cornelius H. Woodson Jr., Bro Desmond Smith - Basileus of Lambda Xi Chapter, and Bro. Dennis Cunningham with Ms. Lucky, Second Assistant Director, International Relations at the Pattaya Orphanage / Children’s Home Foundation Pattaya.

What makes Ms. Lucky’s story truly remarkable is that she herself grew up in this very orphanage. After earning her BA in Business, Ms. Lucky chose to return and contribute to the organization that had been her home and family for so long.



Children in the playroom at Pattaya Orphanage



Lambda Xi Chapter Brothers wearing purple shirts from left to right: Bro. Cornelius H. Woodson Jr., Bro. Tae Yancey, Bro. Desmond Smith – Basileus of Lambda Xi Chapter, Bro. Rodney Brown, Bro. Dennis Cunningham, and Bro. Tracy George – The Eleventh 13th International District Representative.



South Korea - On the weekend of September 2, 2023, a group of dedicated Brothers from the Lambda Xi Chapter, located in the Republic of South Korea, embarked on a meaningful journey to Pattaya, Thailand. Their mission: to spread love, kindness, and support to the children of the Pattaya Orphanage/Children's Home Foundation Pattaya.

This heartwarming endeavor saw approximately 80 children benefit from the generosity of the Lambda Xi Chapter members. The brothers pooled their resources and spent 10000 Baht, the local currency in Thailand, which is roughly equivalent to \$300 in U.S. currency. With this money, they purchased an array of treats, including chips, cookies, chocolate bars, water, and juice, all of which were donated to the orphanage. Brother Chase Woodson, one of the members who participated in the visit, described the experience as truly eye-opening.

The boys and girls at the orphanage, as well as the dedicated staff, expressed their heartfelt appreciation for the Lambda Xi Chapter's support and efforts. It was a touching moment that underscored the importance of community outreach and lending a helping hand to those in need.

Basileus Desmond Smith, the leader of the Lambda Xi Chapter, spoke passionately about the chapter's commitment to uplifting youth through their "Sinsa" Fatherhood and Mentoring Program.



Lambda Xi Brothers entering the Pattaya Orphanage



Brothers of Lambda Xi Chapter receiving introduction from staff on information about orphanage

This visit to the Pattaya Orphanage was just one of the many initiatives undertaken by Lambda Xi Chapter to make a positive impact on the lives of young people.

The Lambda Xi Chapter's trip to Pattaya, Thailand, exemplifies the power of brotherhood and the difference that a small group of dedicated individuals can make in the lives of those less fortunate. Their generosity and commitment to supporting youth serve as an inspiration to us all.

By Brother Michael Robinson





Brothers Erik Stith, Rodney Massey, Freddie Nichols III, Ron Walker, Mel Colquitt, Wayland Mullins, David Dew, Isaac Gregory, Derric Burgess

## Lambda Beta Beta - Aloha United Way “Workplace Giving Campaign”

Honolulu, Hawaii (JUL 22, 2023) – Lambda Beta Beta Chapter, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., The Brothers of Lambda Beta Beta (LBB) Chapter, personified the word Service, as they participated in the 2023 Aloha United Way (AUM) “Workplace Giving Campaign”.

The brothers of LBB assisted with packing tens of thousands of paper materials, flyers, posters, and donation forms. LBB is known for its “Aloha Spirit” here on the Island, and we have a long-standing relationship with the A UW.

When the call went out for volunteers, the brothers knew the answer was YES! This assistance allows the A UW to grow its membership, as well as impact hundreds of local Oahu businesses, organizations and government entities who will be participating in this year’s Aloha United Way Workplace Giving Campaign. Last year, over eight million dollars were raised through this campaign, with 100% of those contributions pushed directly to over three hundred local non-profit organizations.

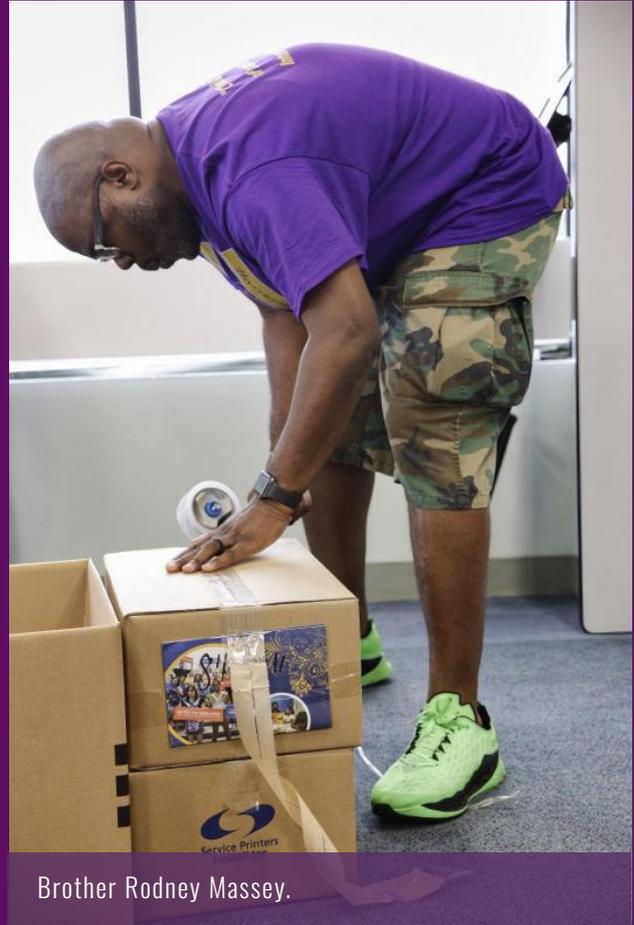


Brothers Rodney Massey, Derric Burgess, Ron Walker and Univ of Hawaii students.

Serving Hawaii for over a decade, the Aloha United Way mission is to amplify the impact of services and programs that make our community stronger, more resilient, and equitable. Aloha United Way is an advocate, connector, partner, and resource for our local community. One such program that the A UW supports here on the island is the ALICE initiative, which stands for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed that was started more than three years ago and focuses on lifting existing ALICE households, above the Federal Poverty Line, but are still struggling to gain financial and social stability.



Brother Isaac Gregory and UPS worker.



Brother Rodney Massey.

Working with 1,400+ companies and 300+ nonprofit partner agencies, working across sectors to initiate and sustain positive change. In our daily work we reach every sector of the community and create bridges for cooperation and communication that would not exist otherwise.

AUW provides critical data and analysis for policymakers, nonprofit organizations, and the greater community to respond to the public's need quickly and more efficiently.

By understanding our community's greatest needs and opportunities, we can respond collectively and with greater impact. AUW's annual grant programs make resources available to social service agencies with precision and our systems provide much-needed support in fundraising, marketing, and volunteerism.

The Brothers of Lambda Beta Beta continuously strive to be in tune with the local Ohana through social action and community service. The Men of Lambda Beta Beta Chapter will always find a way to SERVE!



Brother Erik Stith and Aloha United Way volunteers.

Bro Freddie Nichols III, LBB Social Media Chair,  
(254) 462-2148, Trenichols10@gmail.com

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LBB showcasing Talent Hunt winners for 2023

## LBB conducted the chapter Talent Hunt program

Honolulu, Hawaii (Saturday, October 14, 2023) – Lambda Beta Beta Chapter (LBB) of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated presented Talent Hunt Awards to three recipients: First place - Emma Barnes received \$750; Second place - Anjuli Kim received \$350; Third place - Zion Kim received \$350.

Starting on 24 August to 15 September 2023, LBB conducted the chapter Talent Hunt program. The chapter marketed and solicited for student talent across Oahu to support the mandated program.

All high-school age students on-island were eligible for submission. The Talent Hunt committee met to review all applications on September 18, 2023. The committee viewed students with artistic, musical, poetry, and dance talents. Every applicant demonstrated exceptional talent and were very appreciative for the opportunity to display their skills. The parents of the students were also supportive of the opportunity provided for their children to receive an award and showcase their gifts.

LBB Chapter will continue to support the Oahu community and serve Omega with her mandated programs.

Source: Lambda Beta Beta Chapter, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Contact: Bro. Barrcary J. Lane, VB LBB

Lambda Beta Beta Chapter

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<http://lbbques.com>





## Theta Rho Chapter Supports the Spring Sports Program at Hohenfels High School, Germany

Theta Rho Chapter, Thirteenth International District of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. – Stuttgart, Germany – On February 11, 2023, Brother Darryle Albert, Thirteenth District First Vice District Representative (HHS Assistant Girls' Basketball Coach), and Brother Antoine Reed, Thirteenth District Social Action Committee Chairman in support of the chapters Fatherhood and Mentoring and Social Action initiative made a financial donation presentation to the Hohenfels High School girls' basketball team spring sports program.

The chapter donation of \$600 was in direct support of providing funding to assist the girls' basketball team with their trip to play in the Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA) spring sports EUROS Championship Tournament held in Kaiserslautern, Germany.

The objective is to provide continual support of our young people to encourage, uplift and support their social, and emotional wellness through their participation in sporting activities which provide a sense of a return to normalcy after theirs and the world experience of a most recent global pandemic.



The brothers of Theta Rho knew it was imperative that the chapter's focus be of a direct connection to ensuring that student athletes achieve their goals as they adapted to a return to live sporting events and activities. The brothers of Theta Rho recognized that sports is a unifying language for students, the DODEA overseas school system, military connected members, their families, community stakeholders and our German host nation. Most importantly as men of Omega and as fathers, the brothers of Theta Rho recognized the need to reenergize a collective responsibility to engage and encourage All young people by reassuring them that nothing is beyond their reach in life if they believe in themselves and utilize all available support systems at their disposal.



Bro. Freddie Thompson IV, pictured with his newborn son, Freddie Thompson V

## Embracing Fatherhood Through Milestones

August marked two significant milestones in the life of Brother Freddie Thompson, IV a member of Lambda Mu Mu. As a devoted father the events of his daughter's college move-in day and his newborn son's first shots have left indelible imprints on his heart, reaffirming the profound impact of his presence in the lives of his children.

For Brother Thompson, the 3rd week of August is always a bittersweet but proud time as he bids farewell to his daughter on her college move-in day. As he helped her settle into her next chapter of college, he knows the importance of being the constant pillar of support she can rely on. Seeing his daughter recognize his presence and mentorship always fills him with a sense of pride and accomplishment.

This moment reaffirmed his belief that a father's guidance and unwavering presence shape their children's journey toward independence. Just three days prior, Brother Thompson was there for his newborn son's first medical shots.

This event, though his son might not remember, showcased the significance of being a source of comfort in times of unease. As his son received his shots and began to cry, it was Brother Thompson's reassuring face and voice that calmed the young one's distress. This experience underlined the essence of being a father - a source of comfort, protection, and solace for his children.

The milestones of August have fortified his belief that while being a father is a given, being a true 'Dad' is earned through a lifetime of love, understanding, and shared moments.

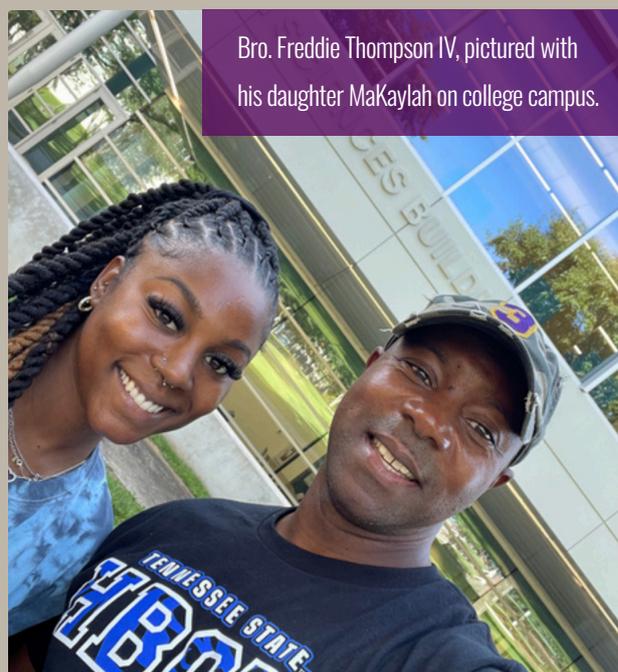
Written by: Marc Proctor

Brother Freddie Thompson, IV

3-Apr-2018- Lambda Xi.

13th District KRS

Lambda Mu Mu - Canada Ques



Bro. Freddie Thompson IV, pictured with his daughter MaKaylah on college campus.

# Brother Samuel Tita:

## Embracing the Journey of Fatherhood with Open Arms



On June 7th, 2023, a momentous event unfolded in the life of Brother Samuel Tita - the birth of his first, newborn son.

This transformative experience brought forth a whirlwind of emotions, shaping Brother Samuel's perspective on fatherhood in ways he had never imagined.

"It was an unreal feeling," Brother Samuel reflects, his voice filled with a mixture of awe and wonder. As he held his son for the first time, there was a cascade of emotions within him.

Excitement mingled with apprehension, and the weight of newfound responsibility settled on his shoulders.

This was a brand-new journey, uncharted territory that beckoned him to step into the role of a father with all the love and care he could muster.

While Brother Samuel had already garnered experience as a Godfather to many, this experience was distinct. He found himself standing on the threshold of a unique connection - a paternal bond that would be etched into his heart forever.

One particular moment stood out amidst the emotional flurry: the morning after bringing his son home from the hospital.

In his own words, Brother Samuel recounts the memory: "I woke up and went about my morning, and completely forgot that I now have someone else that I need to tend to."

This simple yet profound moment encapsulated the joyous, life-altering shift that fatherhood ushers in. Suddenly, every routine, every responsibility, was infused with new purpose and meaning.



Bro. Samuel Tita, pictured with his newborn son, Samuel Tita III

Looking ahead, Brother Samuel believes that this milestone will serve as a compass guiding him through the uncharted waters of fatherhood. “I always knew it required work,” he shares candidly. Yet, there’s an undeniable transformation that occurs when theoretical understanding transforms into lived experience.

The responsibilities of fatherhood have prompted him to evolve into a more responsible, cautious, and efficient version of himself.

Time management has taken on a new significance, and each decision now carries the weight of his son’s future.

Through it all, one sentiment rings out clearly: “I love being his father!” Brother Samuel’s words echo with authenticity and warmth.

His journey into fatherhood has been marked by both the challenges and the unparalleled rewards.

He is stepping into this role with a spirit of open-hearted embrace, ready to learn, to grow, and to cherish each moment.

The birth of his son on that June day not only introduced a new life into the world, but it also birthed a new chapter in Brother Samuel Tita’s life.

With a heart full of love and a determination to provide the best for his son, he is navigating this journey with courage and grace.

As he cradles his newborn in his arms, Brother Samuel is stepping into the vast and beautiful landscape of fatherhood, ready to make memories, share lessons, and create a lasting legacy of love.

Written by: Marc Proctor



Brother Samuel ‘QUEmmunity’ Tita

4 / Tail-dog. Spr-23.

Lambda Mu Mu - Canada Ques





## PGG donates supplies to women's shelters

Phi Gamma Gamma donates much-needed supplies during Bi-annual Kaiserslautern Women's Shelter drive.

The Phi Gamma Gamma Chapter's Bi-Annual Kaiserslautern Women's Shelter Drive was created in 2021 during the COVID-19 pandemic to donate supplies to women and children in need who are current residents.

Women and children who reside at the shelter have been removed from unfortunate circumstances and provided a safe environment.

The donations collected include food, clothes and other items to give mothers and children much-needed supplies until they can obtain more viable living accommodations.

The brothers of Phi Gamma Gama are committed to continuing the Women's shelter drive and increasing the level of donations each year.





## PGG fraternity and SGR sorority to establish ties

Phi Gamma Gamma and Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority participated in the Ramstein Freedom Festival to raise money for scholarships in Kaiserslautern, Germany.

In May of 2023, the brothers of Phi Gamma Gamma partnered with the sisters of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Incorporated to raise money for scholarships at the annual Freedom Festival held in Ramstein, Germany. Together, the fraternity brothers and sorority sisters prepared and served gourmet beef, steak and vegetarian nachos to raise money for local high school students in the community to receive college scholarships.

This event is a tenant of the twelve mandated programs of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated that forged a bond with the sisters of Sigma Gamma Rho that will set a precedence for future partnerships.

Phi Gamma Gamma continues to partner with the community and other Greek letter organizations to maximize the support provided by the chapter.





*Joint Chapter Retreat*

# Phi Gamma Gamma and Theta Rho host joint chapter retreat in Stuttgart, Germany

In Sept of 2023, the brothers of Phi Gamma Gamma Chapter in Kaiserslautern, Germany, and the brothers of Theta Rho Chapter in Stuttgart, Germany, joined together to host the first-ever joint chapter retreat in Stuttgart, Germany.

The two chapters of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated came together to break bread, present information, discuss the business of Omega and fellowship.

The retreat committee organized the presentation of critical classes reiterating the values of the Fraternity.

Brothers also participated in heartfelt roundtable group discussions that focused on the four Cardinal principles of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.

The retreat's theme was Bridge Builder; Omega men aim to build bridges amongst brothers and our communities.

The joint chapter retreat set a platform for partnering in future endeavors. Brothers also gained a renewed friendship among the different chapters.





# *Waiting to Inhale*

By: Ricardo L. Smith

Amid so many tragedies, a common thread is found,  
A cry that echoes “Waiting to Inhale” boldly resound.  
For each life lost, there was a desperate struggle,  
A longing for breath, a plea in a world so troubled.

Like Emmett Till, he was waiting to inhale in the whistle’s wind,  
A youthful wink triggering hate’s forbidden sin.  
His gasps for life, a symbol of times so harsh,  
Eternal breath silenced under a cotton gin’s arch.

Yet, in this modern era, a grim twist does unveil,  
Hoods traded for badges, a frighteningly familiar tale.  
An attempt to prevent the very act to inhale,  
A monstrous change in the means to assail.

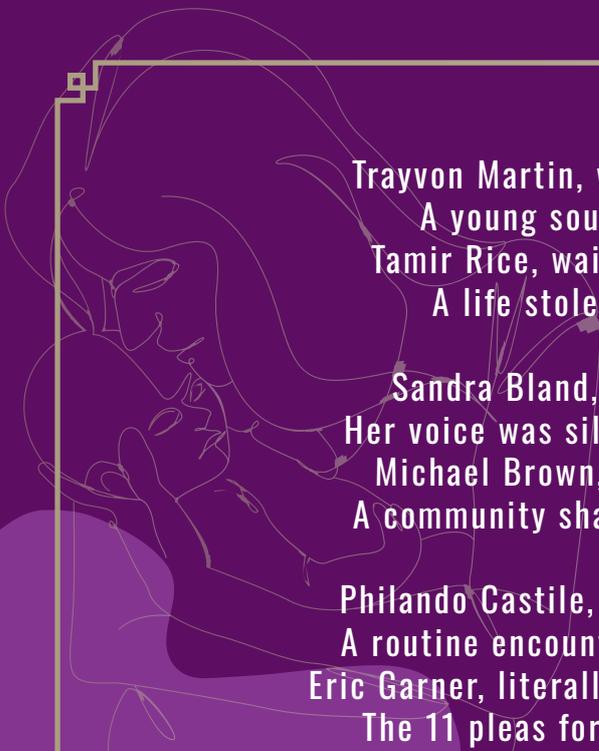
Alike Freddie Gray, waiting to inhale in a van’s confining space,  
His life abruptly ended in a fatal police chase.  
Rough rides echoing the cruelties of a forgotten past,  
A plea for breath silenced, a tale that’s broadcast.

Atatiana Jefferson, waiting to inhale in the peace of her home,  
A life snuffed out, an eerie, haunting tone.  
A promising future disrupted, with an untimely end,  
An act of violence that no prayer could mend.

Oscar Grant left waiting to inhale on a subway floor,  
His life was lost in that early morning’s core.  
A father, a son, yet another life cut short,  
His story is a tragic part of another ongoing report.

Nevertheless, George Floyd, too waited to inhale.  
His voice was stifled, and his cries met with a veil.  
His last moments were marked by gasps for air.  
His life was smothered, a burden too heavy to bear.

Breonna Taylor lay waiting to inhale within her own home.  
A life extinguished, the injustice firmly sewn.  
Ahmaud Arbery, was waiting to inhale while on his run.  
Caught in a web of prejudice, a life tragically undone.



Trayvon Martin, was waiting to inhale as darkness fell.  
A young soul robbed of life, a tragic farewell.  
Tamir Rice, waiting to inhale amidst childhood play.  
A life stolen too soon, innocence led astray.

Sandra Bland, waiting to inhale behind cold bars.  
Her voice was silenced, and justice was left with scars.  
Michael Brown, waiting to inhale as shots rang out.  
A community shattered, filled with anguish and doubt.

Philando Castile, waiting to inhale during a traffic stop.  
A routine encounter turned deadly, a life cut at the top.  
Eric Garner, literally waiting to inhale on a New York street.  
The 11 pleas for breath met with oppression's deceit.

In each paragraph, the essence intertwines,  
The common struggle, the yearning for breath defined.  
Waiting to inhale is a symbol of the injustice faced.  
The fight for equality and justice is forever embraced.

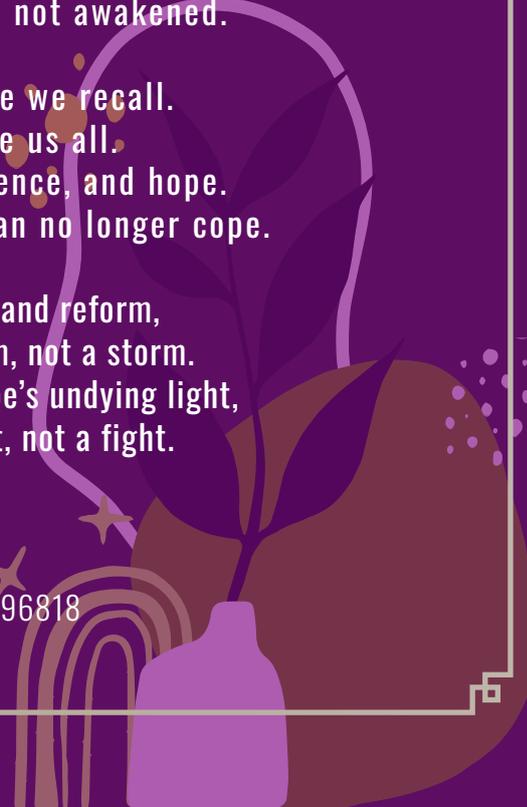
While in each verse, their stories combine,  
A tragic wait to inhale, such a heartbreaking sign.  
An echo of inequality of rights undermined,  
Of breath stolen by prejudice, a societal design.

Again, in each verse, the pattern emerges,  
Waiting to inhale a haunting requiem that purges.  
Their voices silenced, their final breath taken,  
Hitherto their names live on, in a world not awakened.

So let us remember, with every name we recall.  
That waiting to inhale shall unite us all.  
May their stories inspire change, resilience, and hope.  
As we strive for a world where injustice can no longer cope.

Let their stories stir change, courage, and reform,  
In a world where breath is a natural norm, not a storm.  
Perchance their stories guide us toward hope's undying light,  
For a world where breath is a birthright, not a fight.

JULY 26, 2023  
RM IMPERUS, LLC  
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# 13TH DISTRICT BRO. DR. RONNVEY C. PRICE



## DISTRICT PUBLIC RELATION COMMITTEE CHAIR

Greetings, Brothers of the Tenacious Thirteenth District,

I hope this message finds you well. As we all prepare for our 84th Conclave With A Purpose on June 26 – July 2, 2024; registration for Tampa, Florida, I am thrilled to present the latest edition of “Step into the 13.” Your support and anticipation have been instrumental in bringing this publication to life, and I sincerely thank each of you. In fact, please forward this email to all the members in your chapter—please reply to this email with your TAG (Name, Chapter, City/School, year) –This is for each brother (this should only take 1 – 2 minutes. Furthermore, your hard work and dedication is going unnoticed, and its what propels us forward. As we continue to strengthen our brand and strive for excellence, remember the importance of capturing every single moment(s) with our brothers on social media. Brothers, please encourage each other and our chapters to provide a short write-up of all chapter activities/events and personal highlights as Omega men and send it to me as the district public relation committee chair. In turn, those articles will be shared with Brother Carl Bampoe, PhD, District Public Relations Officer. These items will be sent to IHQ for Oracle publication. I want to serve the Brotherhood as the 13th District Public Relations Committee Chairman. Together, let’s keep leading the way in branding and excellence.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment.

Fraternally,

Bro. Dr. Ronnvey C. Price  
Fall 2Q06 – Pi Beta/Chi Beta Beta  
Chi Mu Nu Charter member China Chapter

“Keep the main thing, the main thing.”  
-Jim Bibbs ('51, Phi Chapter)

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# 13TH DISTRICT BRO. DR. CARL BAMPOE



## MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

Greetings to the brothers of the Tenacious 13th District, I hope this message finds you well. This is Brother Carl Bampoe DDP for the 13th District. I have been charged with showcasing all the great work that the 13th District is doing, through our Quarterly Publication of (Step Into The 13th). With that being said, I would like to introduce and welcome Brother Ronvey Price, who will be working closely with me to accomplish this project.

Our first task is to improve the quality of our newsletter and share stories/articles that embody all the great work happening in the 13th district. We will use current articles to create this publication. I am asking for thought-provoking, uplift-oriented commentary on current events and other matters important to the Brotherhood.

Chapters are encouraged to submit well-written opinion pieces, essays, feature stories, poetry and literature written by the Brotherhood. Brothers of the 13th District are also encouraged to submit poetry and other written artistic forms of expression (e.g., short stories, comic strips, dramatic and satirical prose) and the like, to the DDP of the 13th District Bro. Carl Bampoe at [asare1@hotmail.com](mailto:asare1@hotmail.com). Please submit all articles in Microsoft Word format, 12pt font, Times New Roman font with pictures in high resolution JPGs - Photos- Action shots (high resolution photo). Photos should not be embedded in the story. Thanks again, Brothers of the 13th District for all you hard work.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment.

Fraternally,

Bro. Dr. Carl Bampoe

## STEP INTO THE 13TH

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF  
THE TENACIOUS 13TH DISTRICT

Send articles to [asare1@hotmail.com](mailto:asare1@hotmail.com)

