



*TaJuan Stout
Mitchell*

MEDIA KIT



TAJUAN STOUT MITCHELL'S BIO

TaJuan Stout Mitchell has given 25 years to public service while working nine to five for social work agencies and rearing a family with her husband of 32 years. She has been elected four times to the City Board of Education and Memphis City Council and worked on the Executive Staff of four Mayors. She was the first African American woman appointed to an Executive Appointed Position in 1982.

She is retired from the American Cancer Society, where she served as the Executive Director and from the City of Memphis in 2012. She received a B.A. degree in Sociology and Education from Lane College and an M.A. in Education Administration from Trevecca Nazarene University and post graduate study in Social Work from the University of Tennessee.

Her civic activities include Board of Director for the Women's Foundation of Greater Memphis, Co-Chair of United Way's Women's United, member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., Leadership Memphis graduate and she is an active member of Christ Missionary Baptist Church, pastored by Rev. Dr. Gina M. Stewart. She has received numerous awards, from the Coalition of 100 Black Women, Friend of Education MEA Association, Henry Logan Starks Community Leadership Award 2001 from the Memphis Theological Seminary, Maybelline's Shades of Your Community Service Award, National Teamster Black Caucus Appreciation Award, Minority Business Advocate of the Year from Minority Enterprise Development Corporation.

Mrs. Mitchell strives to always be an example of scholarship and service for the children and young professionals of Memphis. Her proudest moment was the Holmes Road Elementary School's National Honor Society that was named in her honor. Mrs. Mitchell continues her commitment to youth in her advocacy and legislative roles, sponsoring the city's Early Childhood Workforce Scholars Program. This program gave college scholarships to over one hundred child care workers in our local industry. Her commitment to this effort was based upon her belief that the better trained professionals become the quality of care for children will improve. Mrs. Mitchell also conceived and developed the City's first Summer Youth Internship Program in 1983.

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Through a resolution she organized the blueprint for passage of the Living Wage Ordinance for the City of Memphis. If you have visited the Whitehaven Library, Whitehaven Visitor Information Center, Wal-Mart, six new schools built in District 3, Southland Mall redevelopment, Hickory Hill Community Complex, Whitehaven Golf Links, Main Library, or the Memphis Grizzlies, you can thank Mrs. Mitchell. She worked as a Council Member to bring each of those community enhancements to life. She sponsored the following resolutions: School Choice, School Uniform Policy, and a resolution to teach African American History. As President of the Board, she created the first student advisory council to the Board of Education and led the Board for the largest school building fund ever in our city's history.

It was TaJuan Stout Mitchell who made the motion to grant Lemoyne Owen College a grant of \$1 million, when they faced a financial crisis. Lemoyne Owen College requested a loan of \$1 million but it was TaJuan who spoke up and reminded the members that the City had given a million dollar gift to St. Jude, made major commitments to the University of Memphis and certainly, we should have the courage to grant Lemoyne Owen College a million dollars to abate a crisis that could stop the higher education of a HBCU.

Through a partnership with TVA she has raised \$10,000 for MLGW Plus One Program as Chair of the City Council. She coordinated an effort for 10,000 kids to see the movie Selma for free and received Eastern Star Award for Community Service. She is the founder of the Women's Foundation Legend's Award.

Although retired, she has been a contributing writer for Spirit Magazine, and has been a panelist for WREG TV3 Informed Sources and ABC Local This Week24. She is a blogger on public policy issues, a philanthropist, and a caregiver for her 90-year-old mother. In her lifetime, she has raised over \$225,000 for non-profits by sponsoring private movie premieres in collaboration with Malco Theaters.

When asked to describe herself, she simply says, "I am a daughter of Memphis: a mix of Proverbs 31, Sojourner Truth, Maxine Smith, with all grit and grind of Memphis."