



i too Can
DREAM

VIRTUAL



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FRIDAY
MAY 13, 2022

**GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER HIGH
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING SCIENCE**

1600 West Norris Street
Philadelphia, PA 19121

STEERING OUR YOUTH TOWARDS THEIR FUTURE

i too Can **DREAM** PROGRAM

MODERATOR DR. WILLARD G. MAXWELL JR.

Welcome *Ms. Ebony N. Thomas, Esq.*

Meet the Panelist/Q&A *Dr. Willard G. Maxwell Jr.*

Scholarship Award Presentation .. *Mrs. Racine Randolph, LTC, USA*

Break Out Sessions/Q&A with Panelists *Panelist*

Closing Remarks..... *Ms. Ebony N. Thomas, Esq.*



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EBONY N. THOMAS, ESQ.

FOUNDER & CEO OF THE URBAN DREAM INITIATIVE



Ebony Nicole Thomas is a Major in the United States Army. She is currently assigned to the Judge Advocate General's School in Charlottesville, Virginia, where she is obtaining her L.L.M. in military law with a focus in government contracts, with a follow-on assignment to the Pentagon. Prior to her current position, she served as a Military Justice Advisor and Special Assistant to the United States Attorney for Aberdeen Proving Ground Military Reservation in Maryland. Ms. Thomas also formerly served as a Army Prosecutor, a Legal Assistance and Operational Law Attorney and an Administrative Law Attorney in the 82nd Airborne Division, Office of Staff Judge Advocate, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Ms. Thomas is a native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Her grandmother and mother, both of whom were teachers, taught her at an early age the importance of education. Ms. Thomas received her primary and secondary education through both public and private schools. After high school, she went on to attend the United States Military Academy Preparatory School, which at that time was located in Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. After successfully completing the preparatory school, she was accepted into the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York. In 2010, she graduated from the United States Military Academy with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Engineering Management with a focus in Civil Engineering. Ms. Thomas commissioned as a Second Lieutenant to the Adjutant General's Corps. In 2011, Ms. Thomas deployed to Iraq for 11 months in support of Operation New Dawn. In 2013, she applied and was accepted into the Army's Funded Legal Education program. In 2017, Ms. Thomas earned her Juris Doctor from the Marshall-Wythe Law School at the College of William and Mary located in Williamsburg, Virginia. That same year, she received her license to practice law in Pennsylvania. In 2022, Ms. Thomas was admitted to practice law before the United States Supreme Court.

Ms. Thomas' mission in life is to serve not only her country, but also her community – and the Urban Dream Initiative was born.



DR. WILLARD G. MAXWELL, JR.

SENIOR PASTOR NEW BEECH GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH



When it comes to servant leadership, Dr. Willard Maxwell, Jr. has a simple philosophy: "when you stop struggling, you stop relating."

Pastor and Spiritual Advisor

As the Senior Pastor of New Beech Grove Baptist Church, Dr. Maxwell educates and equips those he is called to serve through Biblical yet practical preaching/teaching. His interactive approach to pastoral leadership includes creating and cultivating a culture of innovation, leadership and a commitment to spiritual and personal growth.

Community Liaison

Dr. Maxwell is a results-focused leader who trains and empowers those he leads while remaining committed to "getting in the trenches." Dr. Maxwell diligently partners with and works alongside those whose mission is to serve, protect and strengthen the local community. In addition to pastoring, Dr. Maxwell serves as the President of the Newport News Branch of the NAACP; is a volunteer Police Chaplain for the City of Newport News; serves on the board of the Newport News Planning Commission; serves on the board of the Newport News Police Foundation; serves on the board of review for the Newport News Real Estate Assessor's Office; is an adjunct professor at the William Harvey Leadership Academy at Hampton University; and is a Silver Lifetime member of the NAACP. Dr. Maxwell supports and collaborates with a host of other local and regional community and civic organizations to serve and enhance the community.

Dr. Maxwell's Education and Credentials

Dr. Maxwell is a native of Atlanta, Georgia where he served as an educator, administrator and principal in the Atlanta Public School system. Dr. Maxwell holds a Master of Divinity degree from Morehouse School of Religion, a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Argosy University, a Bachelor of Science in Exceptional Education from Georgia Southern University and a Pastor Counseling Certification from Emory University.

Dr. Maxwell On Entertainment and Economic Empowerment

Dr. Maxwell is an entrepreneur with an extensive background in real estate. He holds an active broker's license and leverages his business skills to conduct workshops for churches and communities on topics such as real estate investing, financial management and community and economic development.

As a respected saxophonist and standup Christian comedian, Dr. Maxwell makes time to enjoy the arts. When time permits, Dr. Maxwell shares these gifts publicly.

PANELIST

EREK L. BARRON

U.S. ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND



Erek L. Barron is the 49th United States Attorney for the District of Maryland.

As the United States Attorney, Mr. Barron is the chief federal law enforcement officer for the District of Maryland, serving over six million residents. Mr. Barron oversees the investigation and litigation of all criminal and civil cases brought on behalf of the United States in the District of Maryland. He supervises an office of approximately 98 Assistant U.S. Attorneys and 73 support personnel, in two Divisions located in Baltimore and Greenbelt, who handle a high volume of cases

including national security threats, domestic and international terrorism, narcotics trafficking, organized crime, gang violence, public corruption, cybercrime, financial and healthcare fraud and civil rights violations.

Before taking office as the United States Attorney, Mr. Barron was a partner in a law firm in Maryland, with a focus on complex business and criminal litigation. Mr. Barron was also a member of the Maryland General Assembly, serving in the House of Delegates. As a State Delegate, Mr. Barron served as a member of the Maryland Justice Reinvestment Coordinating Council and co-authored bipartisan legislation designed to enhance public safety, reduce corrections spending, and reinvest savings in evidence-based strategies to decrease crime and recidivism. Mr. Barron was also responsible for numerous legislative measures addressing criminal justice reform and behavioral health.

Mr. Barron began his career as an Assistant State's Attorney for Prince George's County and then Baltimore City, primarily prosecuting violent crime. He continued his public service as a Trial Attorney in the United States Department of Justice's Criminal Division, where he handled regional and national gang and organized crime investigations and prosecutions. He then served as Counsel and Policy Advisor to then-Senator Joseph R. Biden, Jr. on the United States Senate Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Crime and Drugs, where he focused on law enforcement, crime policy and oversight of the United States Department of Justice.

Mr. Barron previously served as President-Elect of the Maryland State Bar Association and President of the J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Maryland, College Park where he was also a member of the football team. Mr. Barron received his Juris Doctor degree from George Washington University Law School. Mr. Barron also earned a Master of Laws degree, focused on International and National Security Law, from Georgetown University Law Center.

Nominated by President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. on July 26, 2021 and unanimously confirmed by the United States Senate in September 2021, Mr. Barron was sworn in as United States Attorney on October 7, 2021

COURTNEY BILLINGTON

PRESIDENT, JANSSEN NEUROSCIENCE



Courtney Billington is President, Janssen Neuroscience and a member of the Janssen Americas Leadership Team. In this role, Courtney leads the Neuroscience business in providing innovative treatments and services for patients living with serious mental illness and neurological disorders. His team partners with Research & Development and other strategic functions to advance the Janssen portfolio of treatments, with a focus on schizophrenia, multiple sclerosis and forms of challenging-to-treat depression.

Previously, Courtney was Vice President, Janssen Supply Chain where he was responsible for the global manufacturing and supply management of all Janssen biopharmaceutical brands. Over the course of Courtney's 30-year career with Johnson & Johnson, he has held globally diverse, strategic leadership roles in the Pharmaceutical and Medical Device sectors.

Courtney began his career as a Quartermaster Officer in the United States Army, and retired honorably after serving with the 18th Airborne Corps at Fort Campbell, KY, and in Operation Desert Storm.

Courtney is an active member of numerous organizations designed to support the leadership development and advancement of people. Courtney earned a Bachelor's of Science degree in General Engineering Management from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

PANELIST

MR. HERMAN E. BULLS

VICE CHAIRMAN AMERICAS, JLL



Herman E. Bulls is Vice Chairman, Americas, JLL, as well as an International Director and the founder and former Chairman & CEO of the firm's highly acclaimed Public Institutions business unit. This group specializes in delivering comprehensive real estate solutions to federal, state and local governments, nonprofit organizations and higher education institutions. As Vice Chairman, Mr. Bulls currently works with the firm's largest clients to devise and implement integrated real estate strategies to lower occupancy costs and

increase productivity. During over 33 years at JLL, Mr. Bulls has worked in the areas of

development, investment management, asset management, facilities operations and business development/retention. He provides thought leadership and strategic guidance within the firm and to senior level client executives on issues related to real estate, the environment, corporate governance and social trends. Mr. Bulls has served as an expert witness on real estate matters in court and testified before Congressional committees on real estate issues.

Mr. Bulls co-founded and served as President and CEO of Bulls Capital Partners, a multi-family financing company which partnered with Fannie Mae, SunTrust and Goldman Sachs. Additionally, he founded Bulls Advisory Group, LCC, a management and real estate advisory firm. These entrepreneurial experiences provide him great insight on organization culture, new product development, talent management, as well as mergers and acquisition synergies. Prior to joining JLL, Mr. Bulls completed almost 12 years of active-duty service with the United States Army. His last active-duty assignments were working in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Financial Management at the Pentagon and as an Assistant Professor of Economics and Finance at the United States Military Academy at West Point. He has completed the Army's Airborne, Ranger and Command and General Staff College courses and served overseas in the Republic of Korea. He retired as a Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves in 2008 and received the Legion of Merit award for his leadership and strategic thinking skills.

Mr. Bulls serves on several public, private and not for profit boards including Comfort Systems, USA (NYSE: FIX), Host Hotels (NASDAQ: HST), American Campus Communities (NYSE: ACC) and Fluence Energy (NASDAQ: FLNC), where he serves as Chairman of the Board. Private boards include USAA, where he serves as Vice Chairman of the Board, Collegis Education, an educational technology company and the Real Estate Advisory Committee for New York State Teachers' Retirement System, one of the largest pension funds in the nation. Former corporate board experience includes Tyco International (NYSE), Exelis (NYSE), Computer Science Corporation (NYSE) and Rasmussen College. Current not-for-profit board experience includes the national American Red Cross Board of Governors, the West Point Association of Graduates and the Military Bowl, an NCAA sanctioned football bowl game.

Mr. Bulls received a BS degree in engineering from the United States Military Academy at West Point, where he played intercollegiate football, and an MBA in finance from Harvard Business School, where he was section president. Two of his sons, Herman, Jr. and Jonathan are graduates of the United States Military Academy.

MAJOR GENERAL (RETIRED) RONALD L. JOHNSON

*PROFESSOR, H. MILTON STEWART SCHOOL OF INDUSTRIAL AND
SYSTEMS ENGINEERING AT GEORGIA TECH*



Positions / Employment/Community Involvement

- Former Member, Defense Advisory Committee on Women In The Service
- Former Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army, GEORGIA
- Faculty Leadership Fellow
- Faculty Diversity and Inclusion Fellow
- Trustee, West Point Association of Graduates
- Georgia Tech Advisory Board
- Faculty Senator, Chair, Student Honor Committee
- Former Trustee, Georgia Tech Alumni Association
- Trustee Emeritus, Georgia Tech Foundation
- Trustee, U.S. Army War College Foundation
- Senior Vice President, Referee Operations, National Basketball Association
- Former National Trustee, Boys and Girls Club of America
- Executive Advisory Council, Mission Readiness/Council For A Strong America
- Independent Director, EMCOR, Inc

Prior Military Service or Affiliation

- Retired from the U.S. Army after 32 years
- Deputy Commanding General and Deputy Chief of Engineers, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Commanding General/Director U.S. Army IMA

Highest Education (Military/Civilian)

- Georgia Institute of Technology - Master of Science in Operations Research and Systems Analysis – Industrial and Systems Engineering
- School of Advanced Military Studies, Master of Science, Strategic Planning and Theater Operations
- U.S. Army War College Fellow, Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies
- U.S. Military Academy, Bachelor of Science, Mechanical Engineering and Mathematics

Achievements/Awards/Recognition

- 2021 Savoy Magazine Most Influential Black Corporate Directors
- 2021 CORE Magazine 100 Most Influential Blacks Today
- 2019 Georgia Tech Joseph Mayo Pettit Distinguished Service Award
- 2019 Black Engineer of the Year College Educator of the Year
- 2017 Georgia Tech Black Alumni Organization Trailblazer Award
- Distinguished Service Medal (with two Oak Leaf Clusters); Bronze Star; Legion of Merit (with four Oak Leaf Clusters); Combat Action Badge; Parachutist Badge; Air Assault Badge

PANELIST

A. MICHAEL PRATT

SHAREHOLDER AT GREENBERG TRAURIG, LLP



Michael Pratt is a highly accomplished litigator and leader in Philadelphia's legal and civic communities. He concentrates his practice on complex commercial and product liability disputes, having tried cases in state and federal courts, representing financial institutions, pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers, product manufacturers and governmental institutions, among others.

With three decades of private practice at Am Law 100 firms, Michael brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to his broad-based representations, leveraging a rich array of prior legal experiences. Those include serving as the chief litigation counsel for corporate and toxic tort matters for a Fortune 100 company and as the former chief deputy city solicitor charged with overseeing the commercial litigation division for the City of Philadelphia Law Department. Michael bridges his in-house, governmental and private practice experience to assemble and manage teams that provide a streamlined and result-oriented approach to the provision of legal services.

In his bar association and civic lives, Michael has helped lead a variety of organizations in a range of activities. He served as the 81st Chancellor of the 15,000 member Philadelphia Bar Association. He accepted a gubernatorial appointment to serve as a commissioner on the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission, including serving as vice chairman for four of his six years on the commission. Other previous leadership posts include serving as president of the Barristers' Association of Philadelphia, Inc., a local affiliate of the National Bar Association, chair of the board of trustees of Community Legal Services, Inc., chair of the American Bar Association's Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service. He is a longtime member of the Washington and Jefferson College Board of Trustees, where he currently serves as secretary of the Board. He continues to speak before professional and community groups and has contributed to advancing scholarship within the legal community and Philadelphia public life through numerous articles and book chapters authored or co-authored.

Michael is rated AV Preeminent® 5.0 out of 5.0, and his legal accomplishments have been recognized by a number of organizations and publications, including Lawdragon 500 Leading Lawyers in America, Best Lawyers in America, Profiles in Diversity Journal "Black Leaders Worth Watching," The Legal Intelligencer's "Power Players," Acritas Stars™ Independently Rated Lawyers, "Star Lawyers," and Super Lawyers magazine. Michael is a graduate of Harvard Law School and a former judicial law clerk for the Honorable Nathaniel R. Jones of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

TIFFANY MARTIN-DENG

CHIEF OF STAFF RESPONSIBLE AI AT GOOGLE



Tiffany Deng graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point and served as a commissioned officer in the Military Intelligence Corps. She served the majority of her time in the military at Ft. Polk LA, leading teams and serving as an executive officer.

Following her time in the Army, Tiffany transitioned into a career in consulting. While in Washington, D.C., she consulted for the Department of Defense, the Department of State, and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Looking for additional challenges, Tiffany transitioned into the world of tech, moving to Silicon Valley, and joining Meta (fka Facebook). While at Meta, Tiffany served as a program manager focused on Privacy for apps like Messenger, while also working on early efforts related to algorithmic bias.

Tiffany currently works at Google AI, where she serves as Chief of Staff for the Research Center for Responsible AI and Human Centered Technology. She also leads a team of program managers focused on building tools to ensure Google's products are equitable for all.

Tiffany holds a B.S. in Systems Engineering and Geo-politics from the United States Military Academy at West Point, an MPP from George Mason University, and an MS in National Security and Resource Strategy from the Eisenhower School.

This program would not have been possible without the support of the following individuals and organizations:

Dr. Darryl Johnson, Ed.D., Principal of George Washington Carver HSES

Ms. Elizabeth Curry, Assistant Principal of George Washington Carver HSES

Ms. Janel Moore-Almond, History Teacher & BSU Leader at George Washington Carver HSES

Dr. Willard G. Maxwell Jr., Senior Pastor of New Beech Grove Baptist Church

Urban Dream Initiative Academic Team led by Mrs. Racine Randolph, LTC, USA

(Mrs. Nicole Raymond Moore, Ms. Samara Corbin, Mr. Gaylord Green,

Mr. Shola Adepegba, Mr. David Retland, and Ms. Kendall Kemelek)

Lieutenant General (Retired) Keith Walker & Mrs. Valerie Walker

Major General (Retired) John D. Altenburg, Jr. & Mrs. Diane Altenburg

Mr. Stephen Morris & Mrs. Djana Morris

Mr. Frankie Francis & Mrs. Abigail Williams

Mrs. Krystal Merchan

Mr. Tolu Onasanya & Dr. Natosha S. Onasanya, MD, MPH

P. Michael Cunningham

Mr. Roson Simmons and R KICKS



*Special thanks to this year's
I too Can Dream panelists:*

Mr. Ereik Barron

Mr. Courtney Billington

Major General (Retired) Ronald L. Johnson

Mr. Herman E. Bulls

A. Michael Pratt

Mrs. Tiffany Martin-Deng





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