



OMEGA NETWORK *FOR ACTION*
2025

www.omeganetworkforaction.org



OMEGA NETWORK *FOR ACTION*

A 501(c)(4) created to help African Americans and others
in underserved communities

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ONFA IS DESIGNED TO PLAY A CRITICAL ROLE IN POLITICS

With the U.S. political landscape as a backdrop, ONFA will identify issues critical to the Black Community. Our bedrock purpose is to increase **advocacy, education, economics**, and the **power** of African Americans in the political process. To lodge a successful impact, ONFA will identify and prepare African Americans to run for office, thereby building a deep pool of individuals who will effectively advance the status of African Americans in U.S. politics. This includes using set criteria for assessing African American's candidates' eligibility for endorsement. This wide-ranging network of screened and qualified African American candidates will work in concert with ONFA for identifying fiscal resources to support political candidates' campaigns.

At its core, ONFA will enhance and expand Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's political presence, providing the appropriate firewall to protect OPPF's (c)(7) tax exempt status.





ONFA WILL ENHANCE & EXPAND OMEGA'S POLITICAL PRESENCE

- ▶ Separate & distinct, yet supportive of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity
- ▶ Identify and prepare African Americans and others to run for office
- ▶ ONFA provides the appropriate firewall to protect the Fraternity's 501(c)(7) tax exempt status
- ▶ Identify critical issues that impact African Americans and underserved communities;
- ▶ Increase advocacy for, education of, economics for African American and underserves communities in the political process.



OMEGA NETWORK FOR ACTION



Advocate and Educate on Policy Priorities



Train aspiring political leaders via the James E. Clyburn Leadership Institute.



Encourage ONFA network to donate fiscal and/or human resources to advance African American and other ONFA-endorsed candidates



Lobby for/against legislation; Support/Oppose ballot measures



A photograph of Brother James E. Clyburn, an African American man with glasses, wearing a grey suit, a purple shirt, and a patterned tie. He is speaking at a purple podium with a microphone. The background is dark purple with faint, repeating text including "ALC 19", "THE OMEGA", and "DEMANDS".

Brother James E. Clyburn
Congressman
D – South Carolina 6th District

**“We must not sit idly by
and let things happen”**



BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

OMEGA NETWORK FOR ACTION



1

A 501(c)(4)

Assess potential African American candidates' eligibility for endorsement according to noted criteria

2

Empower our network to identify fiscal resources to advance African American political candidates

Sourcing Dollars

3

Constructing a Pipeline

Build a network of screened and qualified candidates ready, willing, and able – who will advance the status of African Americans in politics

ONFA EXECUTIVE BOARD & STAFF



Dr. David Marion
President & Chair
ONFA E-Board



Sedrick Spencer
Vice President
ONFA E-Board



Kenneth Rodgers
Secretary
ONFA E-Board



Johnnie Smith
Treasurer
ONFA E-Board



Will Jemison, PhD
Executive Director
ONFA Staff



Paul Hodson
Asst. Executive Director
ONFA Staff



Ray L. Shoemaker
Executive Deputy Director
ONFA Staff



ONFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Catrena Norris Carter
Co-Founder, Salute Selma
Women of Will \/\ Women United Now



Derrick Johnson
President and CEO
NAACP



Kendrick B. Meek
Senior Advisor
King & Spalding LLP



Dillon Iwu
Vice President
American Investment Council



Calvin Smyre
State Representative, Former
State of Georgia



Beverly Smith
Past President, Delta Sigma
Theta Sorority; Founding President,
Delta4Women In Action



Teddy Taylor
United States Ambassador
to Papua New Guinea (RET)





**2020 - 2025
IN REVIEW**



2025

● 2025 Endorsements:

- ▶ Abigail Spanberger for governor state of Virginia;
- ▶ Gahzala Hashimi for lieutenant governor of Virginia;
- ▶ Jay Jones for attorney general of Virginia;
- ▶ Mikie Sherrill democratic gubernatorial nominee in New Jersey;
- ▶ John Bowman for Missouri State Senate District 14;
- ▶ John Orsoft for Georgia Senate;
- ▶ Isadore Hall for Los Angeles City;
- ▶ Upton Fisher for Florida's U.S. House District 62;
- ▶ Jasmine Crockett – Texas, for US House of Representative;
- ▶ Jerry Demings - Mayor of Orange County, Florida;
- ▶ Jesse Jackson Jr. – Illinois 2nd Congressional District;
- ▶ Kevin Ford for Maryland State Senate District 24;

2024

● 2024 Endorsements:

- ▶ Clayton Harris III (Chicago, Illinois) – County State Attorney General Representative;
- ▶ Judge Lora Cubbage (North Carolina) – North Carolina Supreme Court;
- ▶ Dr. James Averhart (Alabama) – 2nd Congressional District;
- ▶ Herbert Guillory (Louisiana) – City Council in Monroe;
- ▶ Travis Chambers (Georgia) – City Council in Columbus;
- ▶ Shaun Harrison (Georgia);
- ▶ Tyler Perkins – Mississippi) – Congress;
- ▶ John Love (Texas);
- ▶ Kamala Harris – President;
- ▶ Craig Owens – Sherrif of Cobb County;
- ▶ Benjie Wimberly – 7-term assemblyman – New Jersey;
- ▶ Davy Smith – Portsmouth City council in Virginia;
- ▶ Laura Simmonds – State Representative District 146 (Texas);
- ▶ John Ervin – Modesto United School District Board of Directors



2023

- **2023 Endorsements:**
 - ▶ Jennifer McClellan, Fourth District, Virginia WINNER

2022

- **2022 Endorsements:**
 - ▶ Stacy Abrams – Governor, Georgia;
 - ▶ Mandela Barnes – Senator, Wisconsin;
 - ▶ Cheri Beasley – Senator, North Carolina;
 - ▶ Will Boyd – Senator, Alabama;
 - ▶ Hon. Ketanji Brown Jackson – U.S. Supreme Court APPOINTED;
 - ▶ Deidre DeJear – Governor, Iowa; Val Demings – Senator for Florida;
 - ▶ Mark Kelly – Senator, Arizona WINNER;
 - ▶ Reverend Raphael Warnock – Senator, Georgia WINNER

2021

- **2021 Endorsements:**
 - ▶ Tim Adams – Comptroller, Maryland;
 - ▶ Rod Bobo – Mayor, (West Point) Mississippi WINNER;
 - ▶ Kenneth Wayne – City Councilman, (Tupelo) Mississippi
- **Led D9 Fraternity Initiative** to increase Black Male voter turnout in the Georgia Special Election – produced several Out-of-home (OOH) billboards throughout the state of Georgia
- **Creation of the James E. Clyburn Leadership Institute**
James E. Clyburn Leadership Institute to serve as the training arm for cultivating the next generation of African American/Black political leaders. Participants of the program will be referred to as “fellows.” JECLI will offer a 12-month cohort model that provides aspiring politicians with the ethical and practical skills to achieve their political goals.
- **Led National Virtual Town Halls**



- **2020 Endorsements:**
 - ▶ Joe Biden/Kamala Harris, U.S. Presidential election WINNER;
 - ▶ Daniel Blackman – Public Service Commissioner, Georgia;
 - ▶ Barbara Bollier – Kansas;
 - ▶ Steve Bullock – Senator, Montana;
 - ▶ Cal Cunningham – Senator, North Carolina;
 - ▶ Judge Phillip Dabney, Jr. – Judgeship, Buffalo City (New York) APPOINTED;
 - ▶ Mike Espy – Senator, Mississippi;
 - ▶ Sara Gideon – Senator, Maine;
 - ▶ Theresa Greenfield – Senator, Iowa;
 - ▶ Jaime Harrison – Senator, South Carolina;
 - ▶ John Hickenlooper – Senator, Colorado WINNER;
 - ▶ Doug Jones – Senator, Alabama;
 - ▶ Mark Kelly – Senator, Arizona WINNER;
 - ▶ Jon Ossoff – Senator, Georgia WINNER;
 - ▶ Reverend Raphael Warnock – Senator, Georgia WINNER;
 - ▶ Gary Peters – Senator, Michigan WINNER

- **Led D9 Fraternity Initiative** to increase Black Male voting in U.S. swing states (GOTV – Black Men Vote Initiative)

- **Led GOTV Virtual Townhall** with U.S. Representatives Clyburn and Thompson, and Derrick Johnson – President of NAACP, GOTV Virtual Townhall with Steve Harvey, DL Hughley and Ricky Smiley, and GOTV Virtual Townhall with the D9 Fraternity Presidents

- **Omega Network For Action, Inc. is established**





501(C)(4) VS 501(C)(7): WHAT ONFA CAN DO

- ▶ Engage in partisan politics
- ▶ Endorse candidates and direct resources to advance candidates
- ▶ Require candidates to sign pledges on priority issues
- ▶ Publicly criticize a candidate or sitting elected official's track record
- ▶ Rent (c)(4)-owned list to candidates (after properly vetted)

OMEGA NETWORK FOR ACTION: WHY A (C)(4)?

Activity	501(c)(3)	501(c)(7)	501(c)(4)
Lobbying for/against legislation	Limited		Unlimited
Support/oppose ballot measures	Limited	✓	Unlimited
Conduct public education and training sessions about participation in the political process	✓	✓	✓
Educate candidates on issues within purview of the organization	✓	✓	✓
Sponsor a debate between candidates, where all viable candidates are invited and given equal opportunity to speak on a broad range of issues	✓	✓	✓
Distribute voter guides to the public that set out the candidates' views on a broad range of issues	✓	✓	✓
Distribute voter guides to the public that compare candidates on issues of importance to the organization	x	x	✓
Conduct nonpartisan get-out-the-vote activities, voter registration, and education drives	✓	✓	✓
Conduct voter registration and GOTV activities based on party affiliation or how people will vote	x	x	✓
Conduct nonpartisan voter protection activities	✓	✓	✓
Establish a 501(c)(4)	✓	✓	✓
Endorse candidates and publicize its endorsements	x	x	✓



SOCIAL ACTION ENGAGEMENT AND ENHANCEMENT: (C)(7) VS (C)(4)

SOCIAL ACTION WILL CONTINUE TO FUNCTION AS THE PRIMARY SOURCE FOR ADVOCACY WITHIN THE FRATERNITY (C)(7)

NONE OF THE FRATERNITY'S CURRENT WORK OR ACTIVITIES BEING CONDUCTED BY THE SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE (C)(7) AT NATIONAL, DISTRICT, OR CHAPTER LEVEL WILL CHANGE AS A RESULT OF CREATING ONFA, A 501(C)(4)

ENHANCEMENT FROM SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE (C)(7) TO THE 501(C)(4) OCCURS AT A VERY DEFINED LINE OF POLITICAL ACTIVITIES WHERE THE FRATERNITY (C)(7) IS CURRENTLY PROHIBITED, E.G., LOBBYING ENDORSEMENTS, FUNDRAISING



CRITERIA FOR GENERAL ELECTION CANDIDATES

- ▶ Have clear alignment with ONFA mission, principles
- ▶ Have resource capacity (dollar, staff) to win
- ▶ Maintain a proven track record
- ▶ Have demonstrated civil rights engagement
- ▶ Hold stellar reputation in the community





EED
ION
RITY

VOTE
= VOICE

ENDORSEMENT POLICY

ONFA WILL ENDORSE CANDIDATES
IN A PRIMARY ELECTION UNDER THE
FOLLOWING CIRCUMSTANCES:

1. Primary election serves as the general election
2. A candidate's election will cause extreme harm to the African American community, ONFA principles & values (e.g., White Supremacist agenda)





ENGAGEMENT



ENGAGEMENT WITH ONFA

1

Show Your Support For ONFA

Make a \$ financial contribution

- Volunteer: become a committee member or chair an ONFA committee
- Candidates/Campaign Engagement
- Events
- Clyburn Leadership Institute
- Legislative Tracking
- Marketing/Communications
- Social Media
- Supporter Services, i.e., members, supporters

2

Tell ONFA You're Running

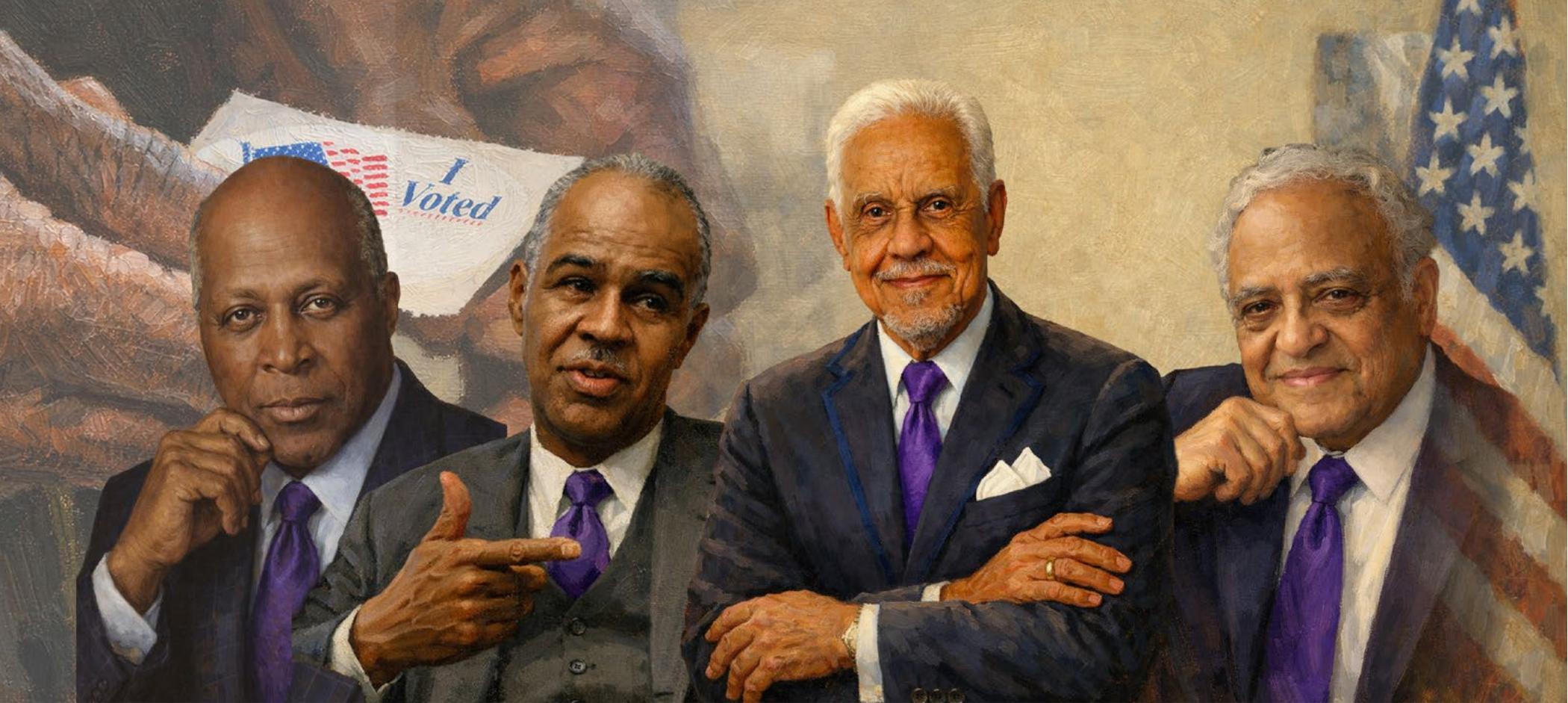
- OPPF Chapter leaders should send a list of Members who are running for political office





HOW TO SUPPORT ONFA FINANCIALLY





\$25 **THREE UNDERGRADUATES**
Donor name listed on website, printable e-certificate recognizing donor level, and periodic ONFA email updates

\$50 **PURPLE & GOLD CONTRIBUTOR**
Prior level benefits + e-certificate recognizing Contributor donor level

\$100 **VERNON JORDAN ASSOCIATE**
Prior level benefits + e-certificate recognizing Associate donor level

\$250 **DOUGLAS WILDER FRIEND**
Prior level benefits + e-certificate recognizing Friend donor level

\$500 **ROY WILKINS BENEFACTOR**
Prior level benefits + e-certificate recognizing Benefactor donor level

\$1,000 **BENJAMIN HOOKS DONOR**
Prior level benefits + e-certificate recognizing Hooks Donor level, and lapel pin



DONATE



\$2,500

JESSE JACKSON DONOR CIRCLE

- ▶ Donor name listed on the website, periodic ONFA email updates
- ▶ Frameable Jesse Jackson Donor Circle donor level e-certificate
- ▶ Pronounced acknowledgement by ONFA Board, across ONFA digital properties
- ▶ Omega Network For Action lapel pin
- ▶ Branded polo shirt



\$5,000

FOUNDERS' DONOR CIRCLE

- ▶ Donor name listed on the website, periodic ONFA email updates
- ▶ Frameable Founders' Circle donor level e-certificate
- ▶ Pronounced acknowledgement by ONFA Board, across ONFA digital properties
- ▶ Omega Network For Action lapel pin
- ▶ Branded polo shirt
- ▶ Reception & Roundtable event at the 2024 OPPF National Event



FOLLOW AND ENGAGE WITH **OMEGA NETWORK** *FOR ACTION*



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email: friends@omeganetworkforaction.org