DAYTON BRANCH NAACP #3181

The Dayton Branch Chronicle

NAACP Dayton Branch

INFORM | EDUCATE | EMPOWER

Founded in 1915, the Dayton Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is the oldest and largest Civil and Human Rights organization in the Dayton Region. Our members, volunteers, office staff, organizers, committee chairs, X and Facebook friends continue to fight for social justice for ***ALL*** Americans. We hope you will be enlightened as you view our latest edition of The Dayton Branch Chronicle.

The Dayton Branch NAACP ***vision*** is to fulfill the Dream of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by capitalizing on the ***2nd "A"*** of the NAACP, which stands for ***ADVANCEMENT***. We encourage you to join us and participate fully in this work for a better, stronger, engaged community.

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President's Cabinet

Dr. Derrick L. Foward
President
Freedom Fund

Scott E. Barwick
Prison Branch

Graham Curry
Young Adult

Jo A. Lovelace Hill
Finance

Cedric L. McGhee
ACT-SO

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Communications, Press, Publicity & Technolgy

Elijah Rashaed
Art Curator

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Membership and Life Member

Mattie P. White
Vice President
Community Coordination

Rev. Dr. David I. Fox
Criminal Justice

David K. Greer, Sr.
Labor & Industry

Atty. Gary J. Leppla
Legal Redress

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Economic Development

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2nd Vice President
Political Action

Rev. Renard D. Allen, Jr.
Religious Affairs

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Women in NAACP (WIN)

Atty. Gary J. Leppla
Environmental & Climate Justice

David L. Montgomery
GOTV

Terrence Williams, SMSgt USAF (Ret)
Armed Services and Veterans Affairs

Willie A. Terrell, Jr.
3rd Vice President
Scholarship

Dr. Morris L. Brown
Health

Ayokunle O. Ogunduyile
International Affairs

Gerry E. Griffith, Sr.
Education

Traci Martin
Housing

Youth & College Leadership

Lloyd M. Martin
President, Littlejohn Junior Youth Council

Pamela D. Sloan
Advisor, Littlejohn Junior Youth Council

Christina D. Jones
President, Dayton Youth Council

Valerie R. Hayes
Advisor, Dayton Youth Council

Jazmine Broxton
President, Move Foward Thurgood Marshall

Tiwona L. Foward
Advisor, Move Foward Thurgood Marshall

Naveah Head
President, Central State University CC

Dr. Brittany P. Brake
Advisor, Central State University CC

Administrative Leadership

Colin L. Kimuli
Secretary

Dinah M. Williams
Assistant Secretary

Financial Leadership

Jo A. Lovelace Hill
Treasurer

Harvey C. Bolden
Assistant Treasurer

Executive Committee

Rev. Herman E. Branham
Chaplain

Chris R. Cortner

Lu Dale

Eric L. Ellington, Sr.
Sergeant-at-Arms

Office Volunteers

Dr. Morris L. Brown

Chris R. Cortner

Rev. Dr. David I. Fox

Johnnie Howell

Arnetta G. Gary

David K. Greer, Sr.

Rev. Renee Sheppard

President Emeritus

Jessie O. Gooding

The Dayton Branch Chronical

Message From The President

Dr. Derrick L. Foward, President
"Our Success is Influenced by Your Actions!"
"Zero Dollars, Zero Cents!"

Fellow Citizens,

The Dayton Branch NAACP officially launched its Voter Engagement Plan leading up to the 2026 General Election with a strong commitment to inform, educate, and empower voters throughout the community. The initiative is designed to increase civic participation by providing voters with accurate election information, voter registration opportunities, educational resources, and community outreach efforts that encourage active involvement in the democratic process. Through strategic partnerships, grassroots organizing, public forums, and voter awareness campaigns, the Dayton Branch NAACP will work diligently to ensure that every eligible voter is informed about the issues, educated on the voting process, and empowered to make their voice heard at the ballot box.

Community members are also encouraged to join the Dayton Branch NAACP and become actively engaged in advancing this important work through participation on the Political Action Committee or the Get Out The Vote (GOTV) Committee. These committees play a vital role in promoting voter awareness, increasing voter turnout, mobilizing community outreach efforts, and helping strengthen civic engagement throughout the Dayton Region. The Dayton Branch NAACP remains committed to protecting voting rights, expanding voter participation, and building a stronger and more informed electorate for the 2026 General Election and beyond.

Community leadership and civic participation continued to be a priority throughout the month. Organized and led the inaugural Jessie O. Gooding 100th Birthday Celebration Committee Meeting, bringing together team members to begin planning a meaningful and memorable celebration honoring the extraordinary life, legacy, and contributions of Jessie O. Gooding. Additionally, I was appointed Co-Chair of the Advisory Committee for the Dayton Citizens Assembly, a community initiative designed to engage a representative body of citizens in learning, deliberating, and making recommendations on important public issues.

Throughout the month, I proudly supported educational achievement and youth empowerment initiatives. Attended the graduation ceremony of Lady Tiwona L. Foward and celebrated her accomplishment of receiving a second master's degree in Literacy from Wright State University. Attended the Jefferson Township High School Graduation, where Chairman Gerry E. Griffith, Sr. delivered impactful keynote remarks to the graduating seniors. Additionally, I served as one of the guest speakers for the Trotwood Madison Middle School Check In Check Out (CICO) Program, encouraging and inspiring students through mentorship and engagement.

Collaborative partnerships and community outreach efforts remained strong through participation in the Dayton Branch NAACP and National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) Dayton Section Town Hall. Attendance was also extended to the Greater Dayton Chapter–Blacks in Government Community Service Award and Scholarship Fundraising Event, where Sergeant-at-Arms Eric L. Ellington was recognized with the Community Service Award. In addition, participated in the President's Club of Dayton Outstanding Volunteer Recognition Luncheon honoring Treasurer Jo A. Lovelace Hill and Dr. Morris Brown for receiving Outstanding Volunteer Awards.

Your community servant,

Dr. Derrick L. Foward

"Move Forward With Foward"

The Dayton Branch
Chronical

Membership & Life Membership

The Dayton Branch NAACP membership is flat MTD vs previous year.

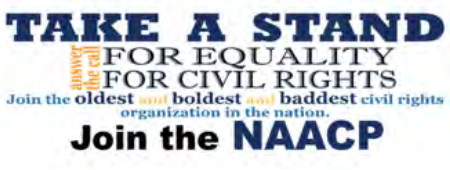
Dayton Unit NAACP Membership Form

Marsha Russ
Silver Life Member

Subscribing Silver Life Member

Larry E. Glover	Ethel Harris	Ronald E. Robertson

Dinah M. Williams
Chair, Membership and Life Membership Committee



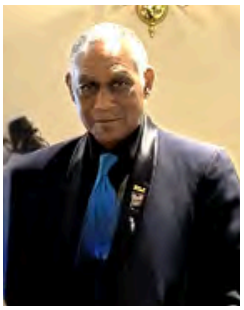
The Dayton Branch
Chronicle

Civil Rights Complaints

Dr. Morris L. Brown
Investigator

Gary J. Leppla, Esq.
Advisor

Dr. Derrick L. Foward
President
Investigator


Rev. Dr. David I. Fox
Investigator

David K. Greer, Sr.
Investigator

The Labor and Industry Committee and the Criminal Justice Committee worked together to investigate 40 complaints of discrimination, up 135.29% vs previous year MTD.

The top 5 types of complaints were as follows:

- Employment - 42.50%
- Police Misconduct - 12.50%
- Public Business - 15.00%
- Housing - 12.50%
- Health - 5.00%

What is Police Misconduct and How to Address It?

Police misconduct involves unethical, illegal actions, or violations of citizens' constitutional rights by law enforcement officers. Common examples include excessive force, false arrest, racial profiling, sexual misconduct, and evidence fabrication.

Reporting and Legal Recourse:

If you or someone you know has been a victim of police misconduct, there are several channels for filing a complaint or seeking justice:

- **Internal Affairs (IA): Every police department has an IA division that investigates complaints against its own officers.**
- **Civilian Oversight Boards: Many cities have independent boards or commissions designed to review complaints and hold departments accountable.**
- **U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ): The DOJ Civil Rights Division investigates law enforcement agencies for patterns or practices of unconstitutional conduct, as well as individual instances of excessive force and sexual misconduct. You can report civil rights violations through the DOJ Civil Rights Division.**
- **Civil Lawsuits: Victims can sue individual officers for civil rights violations under 42 U.S.C. Section 1983. Holding the city or municipality liable often requires proving that the misconduct resulted from an official policy or unconstitutional pattern.**

Rev. Dr. David I. Fox
Chair, Criminal Justice Committee

David K. Greer, Sr.
Chair, Labor & Industry Committee

Gary J. Leppla, Esq.
Chair, Legal Redress Committee

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Chronicle

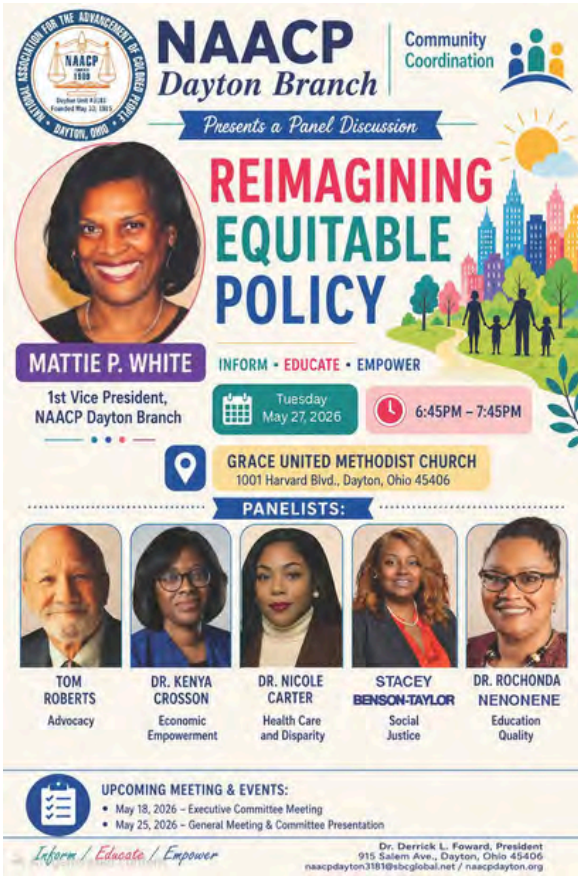
General Membership Meeting

President, Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer
Providing Updates to the General Membership

Recognizing ACT-SO Gold, Silver & Bronze Medalists
7 Gold Medalists Will Complete During National ACT-SO Competition in Chicago, IL

The Dayton Branch Chronicle

Community Coordination



Mattie P. White, 1st Vice President and Chair, Community Coordination, moderated a panel discussion titled, ***"Reimagining Equitable Policy!"*** This monthly community meeting was held at Grace United Methodist Church on May 26, 2026.

The distinguished guest panelists were ***Tom Roberts, Advocacy; Dr. Kenya Crosson, Economic Empowerment; Dr. Nicole Carter, Health Care and Disparity; Stacey D. Benson-Taylor, JD, Social Justice; and Dr. Rochonda Nenonene, Education Equity.***

More than 1,112 community members were educated and engaged through this town hall, both in person and online.

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Education

President Foward Served as a Guest Speaker for the Trotwood Madison Middle School Check In Check Out (CICO) Program.

The Dayton Branch Chronicle

Political Action / GOTV

President Foward and 1st VP White Participate in Lobby Day at the Ohio Statehouse Under the Leadership of Tom Roberts, President, Ohio Conference NAACP

The Dayton Branch Chronicle

Political Action / GOTV

Dayton Branch NAACP 2026 Voter Engagement Plan

NAACP
Dayton Branch
VOTER ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Inform. Educate. Empower.

OUR VISION

The Dayton Branch NAACP vision is to fulfill the Dream of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by capitalizing on the 2nd "A" of the NAACP, which stands for ADVANCEMENT.

OUR GOALS

INCREASE VOTER REGISTRATION
Expand voter registration in Black and underserved communities across Dayton.

BOOST VOTER TURNOUT
Increase voter participation in local, state, and national elections.

EDUCATE & INFORM
Provide nonpartisan information on the voting process, candidates, and issues.

ADVOCATE FOR EQUITY
Address barriers to voting and advocate for policies that protect voting rights.

OUR STRATEGIES

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
Conduct outreach in neighborhoods, churches, schools, and community events.

VOTER EDUCATION
Host workshops, town halls, and forums to inform voters about the issues and the voting process.

DIGITAL OUTREACH
Use social media, email, and text messaging to share timely information and reminders.

COLLABORATION
Partner with trusted organizations to maximize reach and impact.

GET OUT THE VOTE (GOTV)
Implement a coordinated GOTV effort including reminders, rides to the polls, and polling site support.

KEY INITIATIVES

1. **VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVES**
   - Year-round registration at events, schools, and high-traffic locations.
2. **YOUTH ENGAGEMENT**
   - Empower young voters through partnerships with schools, colleges, and youth organizations.
3. **VOTER EDUCATION SERIES**
   - Nonpartisan sessions on how voting works, what's on the ballot, and why it matters.
4. **ELECTION REMINDERS**
   - Send reminders for registration deadlines, early voting, and election day.
5. **ELECTION DAY MOBILIZATION**
   - Provide rides to the polls, polling site support, and hotline assistance for voters.

PARTNERSHIPS

We will collaborate with local and regional partners, including:

- Churches and Faith-Based Organizations
- Educational Institutions
- Community-Based Organizations
- Civic and Advocacy Groups
- Local Media Outlets

MEASURING SUCCESS

We will track and evaluate our progress through:

- Number of voters registered
- Voter turnout rates in target communities
- Number of events and participants engaged
- Digital engagement metrics
- Partner collaborations and reach

YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE.
MAKE IT HEARD.
Get informed. Get registered. Get involved.
TOGETHER, WE CAN BUILD A BETTER DAYTON.

915 Salem Ave.
Dayton, OH 45406
www.naacpdayton.org
naacpdayton3181@sbcglobal.net
937-222-2172

"There's no such thing as a vote that doesn't matter."
– *Barack Obama*

Tom Roberts
Chair, Political Action

Dr. Derrick L. Foward
President

David L. Montgomery
Chair, GOTV

Supporting Partner Organizations

Dayton Branch NAACP and National Council of Negro Women Dayton Section Host Town Hall Titled, “History of Voting Rights...What's at Stake”

NAACP® Dayton Branch

NCNW Dayton Section

President Foward Serves His Signature “Move Forward With Foward” Wings During The Dayton Chapter of the Links, Incorported Cookin Men Event

President Foward Serves His Signature “Move Forward With Foward” Wings During The Dayton Chapter of the Links, Incorported Cookin Men Event

President Foward & Chairman Fox Attend Swearing-In Ceremony of Eric A. Henderson as Dayton Police Chief Following 27 years of Distinguished Service to the Dayton Community

Lady Tiwona L. Foward

Earns Second Master's Degree in Literacy from Wright State University

Lady Tiwona L. Foward

Earns Second Master's Degree in Literacy from Wright State University

Awards & Honors

Eric L. Ellington, Sr.

Sergeant-at-Arms

Recipient of the Greater Dayton Chapter - Blacks in Government Community Service Award

Eric L. Ellington, Sr.

Sergeant-at-Arms

Recipient of the Greater Dayton Chapter - Blacks in Government Community Service Award

Jo A. Lovelace Hill

Treasurer

Recipient of the President's Club of Dayton Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award

Recipient: Jo Ann Lovelace Hill

Reason for Nomination: Jo A. Lovelace Hill, a chartered member of the National Association of University Women, Inc., Southern Ohio Branch, has dedicated both her career and retirement to the growth and civic health of Dayton. A proud alumna of Wilberforce University (HBCU), she retired in 2009 as Deputy Director of the Montgomery County Department of Job and Family Services. Since 2025, Jo has served as Treasurer of the Dayton Branch NAACP, helping to secure a surplus of $19,676.18. She is also a Diamond Life Member of the NAACP. Jo is an active member of the University of Dayton's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (UDOLLI) Executive Board and will transition to Vice President in June 2026. Her leadership roles also include serving as the past Vice President of Voter Services for the League of Women Voters and past Secretary of the Wilberforce University Dayton Alumni Association. For over 50 years, Jo has been an engaged member of Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist Church, where she serves as Director of Payroll and Personnel and Executive Assistant to the Pastor.

Dr. Morris L. Brown

Chair, Health Committee

Recipient of the President's Club of Dayton Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award

DAYTON UNIT #3181 NAACP Dayton Branch

Recipient: Dr. Morris Brown

Reason for Nomination: Dr. Morris Brown, a retired physician, community activist, entrepreneur, and nonprofit founder, was born in 1948 in Anniston, Alabama, as the fourth of eight children. Raised in a hardworking family, his mother transitioned from sharecropping to becoming a nurse's aide, while his father was a laborer and Baptist preacher.

Dr. Brown specialized in diabetic care, healthcare disparities, violence prevention, and mass incarceration. He is skilled in evaluating care standards and advocating for health justice. He served as Honorary Chair for the 63rd Annual Freedom Fund Banquet, introducing Myrlie Evers-Williams, and is Chair of the Dayton Branch NAACP Health Committee. He also investigated over 785 complaints of discrimination as a member of the Labor and Industry Committee.

A graduate of Cobb Avenue High School and Knoxville College, Dr. Brown earned his medical degree from Meharry Medical College. He served as Director of Aerospace Medicine in the U.S. Air Force and helped revitalize Central State University's Community Health Center. Dr. Brown is an advocate for civil rights and is a life member of the SCLC, Urban League, and NAACP.

NEW DETAILS

Panel interview of chief focused on 'fitness for the job'

Transcript also reveals what areas Henderson wants to focus on in new role.

Sydney Dawes
Staff Writer

The panel used to vet Dayton Police Department Chief Eric Henderson asked the then-prospective chief dozens of questions about technology, officer training, policing tactics and more during an hours-long April interview process.

The Dayton Daily News received the panel interview transcript using Ohio public records law. The 158-page transcript includes the interview with Henderson, as well as the discussion among panelists after his interview ended.

Henderson was sworn into office this month, bringing with him 27 years of police experience.

A group of community members at Dayton city commission meetings in recent weeks have pushed back against the hiring process used to put him in power. City administration has said a diverse group of local voices were used to weigh Henderson as a hiring choice.

Who was on the panel?

Dayton City Manager Shelley Dickstein has said her office selected community leaders from multiple sectors and industries to serve on a panel that interviewed Henderson April 16.

Chief continued on **A6**

Police Chief Eric Henderson was sworn in Thursday, May 7, at Dayton City Hall. He is the first chief in over 30 years to rise through the ranks of Dayton Police Department.
LYNNE BILLING / STAFF

FROM PAGE ONE

Chief

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The city manager's office has the authority to hire a police chief, per Dayton's city charter.

The panelists included nonprofit, education and business leaders like Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce President Chris Kershner, University of Dayton Associate Vice President of Public Safety and Chief Safety Officer Savalas Kidd, CareSource Associate Vice President for Community Relations and the CareSource Foundation Ellen Miller, Dayton Victory Project Founder and CEO Monnie Bush and Omega CDC and Hope Center CEO Vanessa Ward.

Also serving as panelists were several community members and advocates: East Dayton resident Mary Sue Gmeiner, Old North Dayton neighborhood resident Matt Teper, Anthony Whitmore, as well as both David Fox and Derrick Foward, of the Dayton NAACP, and Donald Domineck of the Dayton Black Panther Party.

Facilitating the conversation was Patrick Oliver, Cedarville University's criminal justice program director and the former Fairborn police chief.

What questions guided the conversation?

The panel discussion included several questions that were related to the job of police chief. Panelists were permitted to ask relevant follow up, clarifying questions to these core topics.

Questions included the following:

- Why are you interested in the chief of police job and how have you prepared for it?
- Describe your vision for the Dayton Police Department for the next 3-5 years. What do you want to do, why, and what outcomes do you want to achieve?
- What's your crime control strategy? What's your plan to prevent, reduce and solve crime in the city of Dayton?
- Based on your policing philosophy, what role does the community have in how policing is done in Dayton?

Then-Deputy Chief Eric Henderson told a panel he would focus on three major priorities as Dayton police chief: "Building trust and making sure that we have transparency in our organization, internally and externally; violent crime reduction; and then also making sure that our officers are prepared to serve the community." CONTRIBUTED

- Two bargaining units, the Fraternal Order of Police, the supervisors, the officers – what role do they play in how you run the police department as chief?
- What do you see as the two greatest challenges facing the Dayton Police Department in the next three years?
- How would you work with the electronic and print media as a police chief?
- Are there any cultural or ethnic issues in the community that need special attention by the police department?
- What issue or concern do you think officers have that's the biggest concern to them?

After this round of questioning, panelists were permitted to ask questions they thought were critical to know for his candidacy as chief. This included questions related to community relations, surveillance technology, downtown security and policing policy, among several other topics.

Oliver told this news outlet that the questions he drafted were designed to evaluate Henderson's knowledge, skills, abilities, training and more.

"So the questions were designed to draw those things out, looking at his fitness for the job," Oliver said. "Does he fit the organization? Does he fit the community? Does he fit the political environment, and does he have a good understanding of the key issues in managing a police department?"

How did Henderson respond?

Henderson named three major priorities he'd take on as chief: "Building trust and making sure that we have transparency in our organization, internally and externally; violent crime reduction; and then also making sure that our officers are prepared to serve the community."

"I want to make sure that as chief, that I'm being visible, at community events, at neighborhood events, one-on one conversations with community members when they're having challenges in their community. I want to make sure that I'm engaging with our officers at roll calls, out on the street and also union leadership during that time," he told the panel.

He also said he'd focus not just on violent crime reduction, but really the prevention of community violence through what he called a stratified police model.

"It's good to see the cruiser driving through the neighborhood, but a lot of research has shown that just driving through all the time doesn't necessarily impact crime. It's going after the repeat offenders, addressing, connecting any repeat victims to services, working with them to try to see if there's a way to get them out of the situation they're in," he said.

Panelists also asked Henderson how he would approach informing the community about his department's work.

"I think we have to be open and honest. We have to share the facts of what occurred in each instance. I think something that we can improve upon is making sure after some of those incidents are closed – is that we're posting that information out on our website, if we're legally able to do so," he said.

In terms of technology the police force can implement, Henderson said police agencies need to do their "due diligence" – "holding vendors responsible, making sure that we understand what data they're retaining, how long they're storing it, making sure that we have good policies in place and that we're sharing it with individuals that we're allowed to share it to and making sure that there's good inspections and audits of that information."

He told panelists that he's not in favor of using AI in some capacities.

"I can tell you there's police departments that have deployed artificial intelligence to write crime reports," he said. "And to me, I think that's kind of alarming right now, because when you go to testify in court, you have to testify to the true and accurate statement of what's in your report."

Officer training and wellness are also top of mind for Henderson, he said.

"That's making sure our officers have mandatory mental health check-ins because there's things they see and hear about on a daily basis that most people in the country don't know about. At times, they go from an infant death, to 'someone stole a bike,'" he said. "And at times, that can be a challenge because you kind of have to compartmentalize those different incidents. So that's why I want to make sure that there's a focus on that so that they're prepared to serve, both mentally and physically."

Henderson also updated panelists on the opening of the downtown police substation.

"Additional officers were added to downtown," he said. "We understand that 60-70% of our income tax is based in business that are located in our core of our community."

What did panelists think?

City officials have said Henderson was the only candidate under consideration, and his hiring to the chief role was in the works for several years.

No other leaders within the Dayton Police Department reportedly voiced interest in the position, and city leaders have also said Henderson's hiring was years in the making.

"He came in at the police officer rank and went from the bottom to the top. He's worked in operations, he's worked in administration. He's worked in specialized areas. He once again, has the educational background, he has the training, has experience, he's been mentored," Oliver said. "He's born and raised in Dayton, and so he really is the complete package. He is prepared for the job."

In an April 23 press conference, leaders of the Dayton NAACP and others who were on the panel to interview the chief said they had "zero reservations" about his hiring.

Panelist Kershner told this news outlet he brought to the conversation questions related to security in downtown Dayton and how Henderson will work with the business community.

"All the people in that room came to the table with a unique perspective and questions relative to their area of interest, Kershner told this news outlet.

And no panelist voiced disapproval of Henderson as a candidate.

"This was not a new face to us. This was a face and a person that we had a relationship with already, which gave us a greater sense of comfort," Kershner told Dayton Daily News.

Gmeiner said during the post-interview panel discussion that she felt the community would feel better about the selection process if it included a wider search, according to the transcript.

After watching town halls that took place in Greensboro, N.C., following the hiring of former Dayton Police Chief Kamran Afzal, she felt a larger search would give the city more time to dissect crime data and make other factors.

"I think that a larger search would be valuable. I think the community, just in terms of accountability and transparency, would feel better if we had a larger search," Gmeiner told other panelists.

"If you had to lean one way or another, would you say you're more in favor that they strongly consider him, not sure, (or) don't think they should strongly consider him?" asked Oliver.

"I think he should be a candidate. He was an excellent candidate," she said during the panel interview. "He should be a candidate. One of however many."

Gmeiner told this news outlet that she wasn't sure when she attended the April 16 panel discussion if the panel would be asked to review other candidates. She said she felt the city could have communicated its intent with a succession plan more effectively to the broader community.

"But I think he'll be a good chief in many ways," she said.

LOCAL FOCUS

Dayton Branch NAACP Town Hall

The Dayton Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will host a town hall titled, "Reimagining Equitable Policy," 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 26, at Grace United Methodist Church, 1001 Harvard Blvd., Dayton. The distinguished panelists will be Tom Roberts, Advocacy; Dr. Kenya Crosson, Economic Empowerment; Dr. Nicole Carter, Health Care and Disparity; Stacey D. Benson-Taylor, JD, Social Justice; and Dr. Rochonda Nenonene, Education Equity. The moderator will be Mattie P. White, 1st Vice President and Chair of the Dayton Branch NAACP Community Coordination Committee.

For more information, go

DAYTON

Working on the Avenue of Flags

States Air Force, Retired, former commander of the 88th Air Base Wing at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and a respected leader in education and workforce development.

The featured speaker will be Lt. Col. Charlynda J. Scales, United States Air Force Reserve, a veteran leader, entrepreneur, author, and civic advocate whose work spans military acquisition, food entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and community development. Lt. Col. Scales has served in the United States Air Force Reserve for more than two decades, led major defense acquisition programs, founded the nationally recognized brand Mutt's Sauce, and established OH Taste Foundation, a Dayton-based nonprofit food-entrepreneur incubator that supported more than 150

AS SEEN ON 2 NEWS

Thoughts and prayers asked for local mayor after medical emergency; NAACP sends well wishes

by: Channing King, LeAnne Marie McPherson
Posted: May 22, 2026 / 02:34 PM EDT
Updated: May 24, 2026 / 10:15 AM EDT

The President of the Dayon Branch of the NAACP, Dr. Derrick L. Foward, shared a statement wishing the mayor a speedy recovery.

"On behalf of the Dayton Branch NAACP, I want to extend our heartfelt wishes for your speedy recovery and continued strength during this time. Your dedication, leadership, and commitment to serving the Trotwood community and throughout the Dayton Region have made a lasting impact on so many lives," wrote Dr. Foward. "Wishing you comfort, peace and a full recovery."

Dayton city commission approves Zion Church site rezoning

Sydney Dawes - Staff Writer May 22, 2026 Updated May 22, 2026

The old Zion Baptist Church and Dayton Cultural & RTA Transit Center property is at West Third Street and Edwin C. Moses Boulevard in West Dayton. CORNELIUS FROLIK / STAFF

LATEST REGIONAL NEWS

Dayton city commissioners approved the rezoning of the 4-acre Zion Baptist Church property, paving the way for developers to add up to 120 apartment units to the site.

Commissioners voiced approval of the housing project, with Chris Shaw asking questions related to on-site daycare options and Matt Joseph inquiring about pulling back the levee butting up against the property to allow for more river access.

The Zion Church was built in 1908 and is the oldest Black Baptist church in the city, as well as the founding location of Dayton's chapter of the NAACP.

A recommendation for the rezoning was approved by Dayton's City Plan Board in April. Plans for the development will need to go before the Plan Board and the commission before their final approval.

The Dayton Branch Chronicle

Upcoming Events

June 13, 2026
Ohio Conference NAACP Executive Committee Meeting & Quarterly Training

June 15, 2026
Executive Committee Meeting

June 22, 2026
General Membership Meeting & Health Committee Presentation

President Foward & Lady Tiwona

Happy Father's Day to all of the amazing fathers, grandfathers, godfathers, mentors, and father figures who lead with love, strength, wisdom, and sacrifice. This month we celebrate your dedication, guidance, and the countless ways you make a difference in the lives of your families and communities. May your day be filled with joy, appreciation, peace, and abundant love. Thank you for all that you do. Enjoy your special day!

Fully Committed!

Inform | Educate | Empower
Dr. Derrick L. Foward, President
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Stay Informed!
Get Educated!
Be Empowered!

NAACPDAYTON.ORG

Mycah A. Pollard, Chair, Communications, Press, Publicity & Technology