

**NOMINATION FORM  
2012 ANNUAL NCWBA PUBLIC SERVICE AND  
OUTSTANDING MEMBER PROGRAM AWARDS**

**Name of your organization's project:**

Judicial and Public Office Academy

**Please indicate whether your submission is for the Public Service Award or  
Outstanding Member Program Award:**

Outstanding Member Program

**Name of sponsoring women's bar association:**

Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys

**Name of Sponsoring Organization's contact person:**

JaDawnya C. Butler, President

**E-mail address:** jadawnyabutler@hotmail.com

**Telephone No:**

**Number of members:** 430

**Name of contact person for purposes of award notification:**

Kellyn O. McGee

**E-mail address:** komcgee@gmail.com

**Telephone No.** 678-427-7115

**PLEASE MAKE SURE TO NOTIFY THE NCWBA OF ANY CHANGE IN YOUR CONTACT  
INFORMATION AFTER SUBMISSION OF YOUR AWARD APPLICATION TO ENSURE  
YOU RECEIVE TIMELY NOTIFICATION REGARDING WHETHER YOU HAVE BEEN  
SELECTED TO RECEIVE AN AWARD.**

The nomination materials may be e-mailed to be received no later than Friday,  
January 27, 2012: *Awards Chair Nicolette Zachary, E-mail: [awards@ncwba.org](mailto:awards@ncwba.org)*

Founded in 1981 GABWA is celebrating her 31<sup>st</sup> year of nurturing, supporting, and galvanizing Black women attorneys and advocating for women and children. What began as a small group of women who knew the need for an organization that addressed their similar concerns has grown significantly throughout Georgia. GABWA's service to the community and the profession encompasses many areas, including awarding over \$200,000.00 in scholarships, mentoring teen girls, educating our members, and endorsing candidates local, statewide, and national elections.

During GABWA's 2009 planning meeting JaDawyna Butler (GABWA's 2012 President) outlined her vision of a Judicial and Public Office Academy ("Academy") for our members who have an interest in public service through the judiciary or other elected office. In October 2011 the Academy welcomed its first class of 13 women with aspirations of serving in capacities as varied as city council, state judicial seats, and the United States Senate.

In support of this nomination I have attached the application for the Academy and the schedule from the fall term. I have also enclosed the announcement of the completion of the fall term, which lists the eight committee members and the faculty. The faculty consisted of judges, elected officials, and campaign consultants.

Spring 2012 brings the next term of the Academy, during which Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed will teach a session on running a successful campaign. The term will culminate with graduation at the State Bar of Georgia's Annual Meeting!

## GABWA'S 2011 JUDICIAL AND PUBLIC OFFICE ACADEMY

**Statement of purpose:** GABWA was founded, in part, to increase Black female representation in the judiciary and other elected offices. We firmly believe that public offices should be representative of the communities in which we serve and that our presence and voice make a difference. We have made tremendous strides over the past thirty years with GABWA members serving on nearly every level of the judiciary. Tremendous opportunities still lie ahead for GABWA to increase the representation of its members in the judiciary and in public office outside of metro Atlanta, in the Georgia legislature, and nationally.

GABWA has a proud history of active participation in the election and appointment process. As an organization, we endorse candidates for particular political offices. Our Political Action Committee coordinates candidate forums and woman power and resources to support GABWA's endorsed candidates. Through our Judicial Review Committee, we provide input to judicial appointing authorities, including the state Judicial Nominating Commission, about prospective judicial candidates. We have championed our interest in increasing the numbers of diverse, well-qualified applicants for public office regardless of political affiliations. GABWA has long been a vehicle for informal mentoring between those judges and elected officials who have been supported by GABWA and members interested in serving in public office. The JPO Academy is a natural and timely extension of all of these efforts.

The JPO Academy's curriculum is geared toward active GABWA members who are African-American female attorneys considering pursuing judicial or other elected office in two or more years. Participants will gain an understanding of the pre-planning that should occur now to position themselves as viable candidates in the future. Our broad goals for the JPO Academy are to support, educate, promote, and fuel the pipeline of well prepared African-American female attorneys who desire to obtain public office. We specifically aim to: (1) promote awareness among GABWA members about opportunities to serve in judicial and public office; (2) arm GABWA members with the knowledge and resources needed to prepare and successfully compete for judicial and public office; (3) provide an opportunity to build relationships among potential candidates, office holders, and campaign professionals; and (4) strategize among potential candidates to maximize the positions that our members attain. The JPO Academy is a non-partisan effort.

**Format:** Each term of the Academy will be completed in consecutive weeks lasting three to four weeks. The Academy's curriculum also includes a number of experiential opportunities in which students are encouraged to participate between formal sessions. Each session will be led by faculty who include current members of the judiciary, elected officials, and campaign, election and related professionals.

**Program features:** In addition to instruction and experiential learning, Academy participants will:

- have opportunities to moderate sessions, assist in developing session content, and coordinate experiential opportunities;
- receive a comprehensive collection of reference materials comprised of materials provided over the course of the term;
- prepare an initial “action plan” in consultation with program faculty that includes goals, timelines, strategies, and possible opportunities;
- earn Continuing Legal Education credit for eligible sessions; and
- be paired with at least one mentor. (Potential judicial candidates may be matched through the mentor program established by the Gate City Bar Association’s Judicial Section, assuming participants meet all criteria for participation in that program.)

**Experiential learning opportunities (outside of classroom time)**

- Attend campaign team meeting
- Volunteer on election day with campaign
- Attend “Meet and Greets” and call-time sessions with candidates
- Informal meetings with campaign professionals

**Recommended Reading Includes:**

- “How to Win a Local Election,” Lawrence Grey
- “The Campaign Manager: Running and Winning Local Elections,” Catherine Shaw
- “Winning Your Election the Wellstone Way: A Comprehensive Guide for Candidates and Campaign Workers,” B. Lofy, B. Goldfarb and E. Peterson

**Enrollment:** Enrollment in the JPO Academy will be limited to individuals who have been members of GABWA for at least two years preceding enrollment. Potential Academy participants may be chosen through a competitive selection process. (This component is waived for the 2011 Academy launch.) Preference will be given to participants who can commit to attending the full program.

**Fee for participation:** Tuition for the JPO Academy is \$75 to cover program expenses. (Tuition waivers may be available based on need.) Participants who desire CLE credit will be responsible for paying those expenses separate from tuition.



## GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF BLACK WOMEN ATTORNEYS 2011 JUDICIAL & PUBLIC OFFICE ACADEMY APPLICATION

In keeping with its mission to serve the needs and interests of Black women attorneys, the **Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys** is seeking qualified applicants for the inaugural Judicial and Public Office Academy.

### **PURPOSE:**

GABWA has a proud history of active participation in the election of judges, state and local officials, and has contributed to the selection of federal appointments. As an organization through our Political Action Committee, commonly referred to as PAC, we have endorsed candidates for particular political offices, coordinated and hosted candidate forums, informed and educated the community on voter registration, and provided support and resources to support GABWA's endorsed candidates. Through GABWA's Judicial Review Committee, we provide input to judicial appointing authorities, including the state Judicial Nominating Commission, about prospective judicial candidates. We have championed our interest in increasing the numbers of diverse, well-qualified applicants for public office regardless of political affiliations. GABWA has long been a vehicle for informal mentoring between those judges and elected officials who have been supported by GABWA and members interested in serving in public office. The JPO Academy is a natural and timely extension of all of these efforts.

The JPO Academy's curriculum is geared toward active GABWA members who are African-American female attorneys considering pursuing judicial or other elected office in two or more years. Participants will gain an understanding of the pre-planning that should occur now to position themselves as viable candidates in the future. Our broad goals for the JPO Academy are to support, educate, promote, and fuel the pipeline of well prepared African-American female attorneys who desire to obtain public office. We specifically aim to: (1) promote awareness among GABWA members about opportunities to serve in judicial and public office; (2) arm GABWA members with the knowledge and resources needed to prepare and successfully compete for judicial and public

office; (3) provide an opportunity to build relationships among potential candidates, office holders, and campaign professionals; and (4) strategize among potential candidates to maximize the positions that our members attain. The JPO Academy is a non-partisan effort.

**FORMAT:**

Each term of the Academy will be completed in consecutive weeks lasting three to four weeks. The Academy's curriculum also includes a number of experiential opportunities in which students are encouraged to participate between formal sessions. Each session will be led by faculty who include current members of the judiciary, elected officials, and campaign, election and related professionals.

The mandatory dates for the 2011 inaugural program are as follows:

- November 13 from 2:30 – 6:30 p.m.;
- November 16 from 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.;
- November 20 from 2:30 – 6:30 p.m.;
- November 30 from 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.; and,
- December 4 from 2:30 – 6:30 p.m.

**ENROLLMENT:**

Enrollment in the JPO Academy will be limited to individuals who have been members of GABWA for at least two years preceding enrollment. Potential Academy participants are chosen through a competitive selection process. (This component is waived for the Winter 2011 Academy launch). Preference will be given to participants who can commit to attending the full program.

**FEE:**

Tuition for the JPO Academy is \$75 to cover program expenses. (Tuition waivers may be available based on need). Participants who desire CLE credit will be responsible for paying those expenses separate from tuition.

**DEADLINE:**

Applications must be e-mailed no later than **November 7, 2011**, to Lisa Collins at [lcollins@madllp.com](mailto:lcollins@madllp.com) and L'Erin Barnes at [lerinbarnes@yahoo.com](mailto:lerinbarnes@yahoo.com).

**ADMITTANCE:**

Applicants will be notified of their admission to the JPO Academy by November 10, 2011.

**CONTACT:**

For questions, contact Lisa Collins or L'Erin Barnes.

**GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF BLACK WOMEN ATTORNEYS**

**WINTER 2011 JPO ACADEMY APPLICATION**

*Please TYPE or PRINT. The application may be replicated by use of a computer, but the submitted application must be a close reproduction of the original application and must include all sections. If more space is needed, please attach additional pages.*

**I. GENERAL INFORMATION**

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Years of Practice in Georgia: \_\_\_\_\_  
Years of Membership with GABWA (please include non-consecutive membership years): \_\_\_\_\_

**II. EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION**

Name of Law School: \_\_\_\_\_  
Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**III. HONORS AND PUBLICATIONS**

List any honors that you have received in your legal, judicial, or public office career and any publications that you have authored and/or co-authored during your legal, judicial, or public office career.

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**IV. EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION**

List any employment following law school graduation (including any legal clerkship or public office service):

<u>Employer Name and Address</u>	<u>Position/Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
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_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

**V. CAREER STATEMENT**

Provide a general statement of your career objectives and your expectations related to judicial or public office.

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**VI. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

Describe your involvement in any social, civic, religious, professional or other community groups working to support or advance women's issues (including any leadership roles you currently hold or have held in such groups).

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**VII. CERTIFICATION**

I, the undersigned applicant, hereby affirm that the information provided herein is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and recollection.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Signature

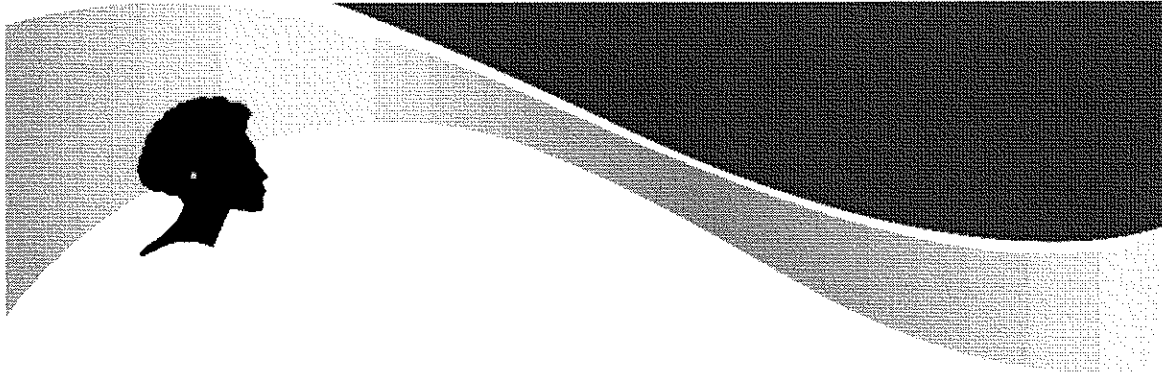
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## 2011 Judicial & Public Office Academy Schedule

DATE/ TIME	TOPIC
Thurs. 10/20 6:00-8:00pm	GABWA General Body Meeting: “Taking Stock and Looking Ahead: African-American Judges and Elected Officials in Georgia”
Sun. 11/13 2:30 – 6:30  (45 mins)	<u>Introduction</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program introduction</li> <li>• Program Overview</li> <li>• Committee and participant introductions</li> </ul> <p><u>Remarks:</u> “Challenges and opportunities for Black female candidates”</p>
(1 hr)	<u>Initial personal considerations</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When is the best time in your career to run?</li> <li>• How will campaigning impact your family?</li> <li>• Personal financial planning: Understanding the financial implications of campaigns</li> <li>• Do you have the time to run?</li> <li>• Do you have the stamina and discipline needed to run?</li> <li>• Are YOU electable?</li> </ul>
(1 hr)	<u>Initial political considerations</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Choosing your race</li> <li>• How to identify opportunities</li> <li>• National v. State v. County v. Municipal races</li> <li>• The right time?</li> <li>• The right seat?</li> <li>• Why you for that seat?</li> <li>• Can you win?</li> <li>• How much will that particular race cost? How will you pay for it?</li> </ul>
(45 mins)	<u>Personal responsibility</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Before you run: Getting and keeping your personal house in order</li> <li>• Tightening your “public persona”</li> </ul>







*Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys*

***Judicial & Public Office Academy***  
**2011 Class**

*"The JPO Academy is designed to identify, support, educate, promote, and fuel the pipeline of qualified, well prepared African-American female attorneys who desire to obtain judicial and political office."*

**We are pleased to announce the completion of GABWA's inaugural Judicial & Public Office Academy! Congratulations to the 2011 Class:**

**Wenona Belton  
Tasha Clemmons  
Hoganne Harrison-  
Walton  
Angela Johnson  
Monica Owens  
Davene Walker  
Shermela Williams**

**Jacqueline Bunn  
Lisa Cupid  
Rena Holmes  
Candice McKinley  
Cameil Reddick  
Michelle West**

***Click [here](#) to learn more about the 2011 JPO Academy Class and their aspirations.***

**What's next for the 2011 Class? Capitalizing on the knowledge and relationships gained through the JPO Academy, class members will begin focused preparation on their aspirations to obtain judicial and public office. GABWA and our supporters will seek opportunities for our participants to continue their preparation and obtain positions.**

**In our December 2011 meeting with Mayor Reed, we touted our JPO Academy and discussed GABWA's overall goal of increasing the representation of African-American female attorneys in the judiciary and political office and our desire to be a resource to the mayor in identifying qualified, prepared African-American female attorneys to serve in judicial and other positions.**

**We intend to convey the same sentiments to Governor Deal in our January 2012 meeting.**

**Our next Judicial & Public Office Academy session will be held in Spring 2012!**

**A special "thank you" to our Academy Faculty and Committee for supporting GABWA's 2011 JPO Academy:**

**Judicial Faculty**

**Hon. Kimberly Esmond Adams  
Hon. Tangela Barrie  
Hon. Crystal Gaines  
Hon. Steve Jones  
Hon. Bensonetta Tipton Lane  
Hon. Johnny Mason  
Hon. Allyson Pitts  
Hon. Eleanor Ross  
Hon. Gail S. Tusan  
Hon. Daphne Walker  
Dionne McGee**

**Campaign Consultant Faculty**

**Keisha Carter  
Stacey Chavis  
Howard Franklin  
Fred Hicks  
Ken Newby  
Belinda Pedroso  
Will Sellers  
Justin Tanner**

**Public Office Faculty**

**Sherry Boston  
Keshia Lance Bottoms  
Tom Bowen  
Asha Jackson  
Yolanda Johnson  
Robbin Shipp  
H. Lamar Willis**

**2011 Judicial & Public Office  
Academy Committee**

**L'Erin Barnes  
JaDawnya Butler  
Lisa Collins  
Asha Jackson  
Jamala McFadden  
Ken Newby  
Tashwanda Pinchback  
Tyronia "Ty" Smith**