



## **BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT NEW DETROIT CHAPTER**

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Good Day,

I bring greetings from the National President of Blacks In Government (BIG), Ms. Darlene H. Young. BIG, is a nonprofit organization functioning as a knowledgeable, problem-identifying and solving organization for the Black civil servant. The organization is dedicated to promoting equity, excellence and opportunity through employee advocacy, professional development and empowerment of African-Americans and others dedicated to justice and equity at all levels of government. BIG also focuses on establishing and operating socioeconomic, political, and cultural programs, which enhance the life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness for all Americans. BIG strives to represent over 1.6 million African-American civil servants and has over three hundred chapters in eleven different regions. In April of 2002, Blacks In Government was named as one of Ebony Magazine's "Top 100 Influential Organizations". BIG has been in existence for over twenty-seven years and still going strong.

Department of Health, Education and Welfare Black Federal employees at the Parklawn Building in Rockville, Maryland conceived Blacks In Government. The organization was viewed as essential to the Black civil service employee, based on a wide assortment of racially motivated problems faced by the HEW Black employees in Rockville. Initially, it was thought that the umbrella organization would address only the problems at the Federal level. However, it was soon determined that State, County, and Municipal Black employees were faced with the same general type of employment problems. When coupled with the fact that no single civil rights organization has as its sole objective the preservation and enhancement of Black civil servants, it became apparent that these people had to unite and protect themselves. To some, this meant jeopardizing their careers. To others, it meant duplicating some of the efforts of other organizations. Nonetheless BIG was organized in 1975 and incorporated as a nonprofit organization under the District of Columbia jurisdiction in 1976.

The New Detroit Chapter of Blacks In Government was founded in August of 2000. Dedicated to carrying out the mission of BIG within the City of Detroit and its surrounding areas, the Chapter has also committed itself to making a difference within our community. Implementing such programs as the Information Student Superhighway Academy, Training in Communications and a variety of workshops and seminars focused on preparation and success of individuals in the workforce.

At this time we ask that you join with us and pledge your support by becoming a member of Blacks In Government. Enclosed with this letter you will find your membership application, I encourage you to fill it out and become a member of the BIG family today!

Sincerely,  
*Darryl J. Kennedy*  
Darryl J. Kennedy, President  
New Detroit Chapter, BIG