PRESS RELEASE

ALFREDA ROBINSON

INSTALLED AS

THE 77TH PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF

THE NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION

Alfreda Robinson was installed as the 77th President and Chief Executive Officer of the prestigious and legendary National Bar Association on July 25, 2019, at the 94th Annual NBA Convention in New York City. President Robinson expressed that it was a tremendous honor and distinct privilege to take the oath of office of the Association. Founded in 1925, the NBA is the oldest and largest national organization of primarily African American and minority lawyers, judges, law professors, and students. The NBA has a reach that extends beyond the contiguous United States, with affiliates in Canada.

At the installation, President Robinson was sworn in by the Honorable Arnette R. Hubbard, Judge for the State of Illinois Circuit Court of Cook County, and the first female NBA president, and the Honorable Chief Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby of
President Robinson became the 13th female president of the Association. During this fantastic moment, she thanked the NBA members for the privilege of service and declared that the coming Bar year would be extraordinary as “we work together to move forward.”

Joseph Drayton of New York, Immediate NBA Past President, passed the torch of leadership to Robinson under the breathtaking stars and magnificent shoreline at Chelsea Pier 31 in Manhattan, New York. President Robinson thanked Immediate Past President Drayton for an outstanding Bar year and convention. New York City Mayor de Blasio sent formal congratulations.

During her first Presidential Address, she announced three significant initiatives for NBA Bar Year 2019-2020, which are as follows:

1. The NBA Capital Campaign chaired by newly elected Vice President Nathan Lee of Indianapolis, Indiana;
2. The NBA Black Women’s Equity Project chaired by NBA Past President Vanita Banks of Northbrook, Illinois, and co-chaired by newly elected Secretary Ashley Upkins of Nashville, Tennessee; and
3. The NBA Election Protection and Security Project chaired by newly-elected President-Elect CK (“Tricia”) Hoffler of Atlanta, Georgia.

President Robinson told the hundreds of banquet guests that her Capital Campaign goal was to raise one million dollars. Then, the unexpected and extraordinary happened: Marwan Porter, an NBA Division Chair and Board member, pledged $100,000 to kick off the campaign. A few hours later, Vice President Lee and Capital Campaign Chairman wrote the first check for $10,000. President Robinson, President-Elect Hoffler, and Past President Vanita Banks also pledged.

President Robinson is a Washington, D.C. resident but was born and raised in Williamsburg, Brooklyn and attended public schools, including Sheepshead Bay High School, where she excelled. She earned her B.A, and M.A. degrees from the prestigious University of Chicago, and J.D. degree from the renowned George Washington University School of Law.

In her professional capacity, President Robinson is the Associate Dean for Trial Advocacy and Co-Director of the Litigation and Dispute Resolution Program at The George Washington University Law School. President Robinson has successfully litigated for decades and taught trial and pretrial techniques to thousands of law students, lawyers, law teachers, and judges - nationally and internationally. In her service to the legal academy and its constituents for over twenty years, she has been a law school administrator, scholar, teacher, and mentor at one of the top law schools.
in the county. She has published law review and other articles on various civil rights, diversity and social justice issues. She is a much sought-after speaker, leadership coach, and public intellectual.

The NBA has awarded President Robinson with their *highest honor, the C. Francis Stradford Award*, in addition to 14 other distinguished NBA honors. She has held over 50 NBA leadership positions, including chairing the influential and highly-regarded NBA Judicial Selection Standing Committee. Moreover, she served as the National Bar Association’s Vice President of Regions and Affiliates, acting as the direct liaison to the affiliates nationally and internationally, and establishing new and activating lapsed affiliates. Additionally, the President served as the Vice Chair of the NBA’s Civil Trial Advocacy Section and as a member of several NBA Constitutional Standing Committees. Finally, she served as the immediate past chair of the NBA Law Professors Division, Elected NBA Board Member-At-Large, and Region XII Director (Washington, DC).

Among other things, President Robinson is a member of the Executive Committee of the Board Directors for the influential Washington Bar Association. She served on the Advisory Board for the fourth National People and Law Faculty of Color Conference (March 2019), which is the largest organized gathering of legal scholars of color in the United States. President Robinson is a nationally known and much sought-after major fundraiser, as she has raised millions of dollars for several non-profits including, GW Law, National Bar Association, National Democratic Party, and others.

President Robinson is an ordained Deacon and Officer of the National Presbyterian Church of Washington, D.C. She is married to attorney William Bennett, a very proud mother of two daughters, Julia and Christine (one is a lawyer, and the other is a DCCC Regional Press Secretary, respectively), and grandmother of two.