



**National Consortium on  
Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts**

**2020 Virtual Symposium  
November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Session D:**

**Symbols of the Confederacy and White Supremacy:  
Removing Monuments to Hate in the Public Square**

**Speaker Biographies**



**Orville Vernon Burton** is the inaugural Judge Matthew J. Perry Distinguished Chair of History and Professor of Pan-African Studies, Sociology and Anthropology, and Computer Science at Clemson University, and the Director of the Clemson Cyber Institute. From 2013-2015 he was Creativity Professor of Humanities; in 2016 received the Clemson Dean's Award for Research in the College of Architecture, Art, and Humanities, and in 2018 received the initial University Research, Scholarship and Artistic Achievement Award. From 2008-2010, he was the Burroughs Distinguished Professor of Southern

History and Culture at Coastal Carolina University. He was the founding Director of the Institute for Computing in Humanities, Arts, and Social Science (I-CHASS) at the University of Illinois, where he is emeritus University Distinguished Teacher/Scholar, University Scholar, and Professor of History, African American Studies, and Sociology. At the University of Illinois, he continues to chair the I-CHASS advisory board and is also a Senior Research Scientist at the National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA) where he served as Associate Director for Humanities and Social Sciences from 2002-2010. He serves as Executive Director of the College of Charleston's Low Country and Atlantic World Program (CLAW). Burton served as vice-chair of the Board of Directors of the Congressional National Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Foundation, 2009-2017. In 2007 the Illinois State legislature honored him with a special resolution for his contributions as a scholar, teacher, and citizen of Illinois. A recognized expert on race relations and the American South, and a leader in Digital Humanities, Burton is often invited to present lectures, conduct workshops, and consult with colleges, universities, and granting agencies.

Burton is a prolific author and scholar (twenty authored or edited books and more than two hundred articles); and author or director of numerous digital humanities projects. *The Age of Lincoln* (2007) won the Chicago Tribune Heartland Literary Award for Nonfiction and was selected for Book of the Month Club, History Book Club, and Military Book Club. One reviewer proclaimed, "If the Civil War era was America's 'Iliad,' then historian Orville Vernon Burton is our latest Homer." The book was featured at sessions of the annual meetings of African American History and Life Association, the Social Science History Association, the Southern Intellectual History Circle, and the latter was the basis for a forum published in *The Journal of the Historical Society*. His *In My Father's House Are Many Mansions: Family and Community in Edgefield, South Carolina* (1985) was featured at sessions of the Southern Historical Association and the Social Science History Association

annual meetings. *The Age of Lincoln* and *In My Fathers' House* were nominated for Pulitzers. His most recent book, *Penn Center: A History Preserved* (2014).

Recognized for his teaching, Burton was selected nationwide as the 1999 U.S. Research and Doctoral University Professor of the Year (presented by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education). In 2004 he received the American Historical Association's Eugene Asher Distinguished Teaching Prize. At the University of Illinois he won teaching awards at the department, school, college, and campus levels. He was the recipient of the 2001-2002 Graduate College Outstanding Mentor Award and received the 2006 Campus Award for Excellence in Public Engagement from the University of Illinois. He was appointed an Organization of American Historians Distinguished Lecturer for 2004-16.

Burton's research and teaching interests include the American South, especially race relations and community, and the intersection of humanities and social sciences. He has served as president of the Southern Historical Association and of the Agricultural History Society. He was elected to honorary life membership in BrANCH (British American Nineteenth-Century Historians).

Among his honors are fellowships and grants from the Rockefeller Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Pew Foundation, the National Science Foundation, the American Council of Learned Societies, the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, the National Humanities Center, the U.S. Department of Education, National Park Service, and the Carnegie Foundation. He was a Pew National Fellow Carnegie Scholar for 2000-2001. He was elected to the Society of American Historians and was one of ten historians selected to contribute to the Presidential Inaugural Portfolio (January 21, 2013) by the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies. Burton was elected into the S.C. Academy of Authors in 2015 and in 2017 received the Governor's Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Humanities from the South Carolina Humanities Council.

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**Dreama Caldwell** is a native of Alamance County.

She graduated from Walter Williams High School in 1995 and received an Associates in Applied Sciences in Early Childhood Education from Alamance Community College. Married to Alexis Caldwell. Her children are Nikole and Xavier.

- 25 years in education
  - 22 years in Early Childhood Education (included day care, Head Start, More at Four)
  - 20 Management experience (include day care director, Executive Director, AGM, General Manager)
  - Hospitality (last 5 years)
  - Founder of nonprofit As A Family that provides clothes, food and diapers to people experience insecurities or unexpected emergencies.
    - Provides free masks due to the COVID-19 pandemic
    - Free Internet Access to neighborhoods as a result of remote learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic
    - Assisted essential workers find quality child care options during to COVID-19 pandemic
    - Provided Christmas gifts via donations to children of incarcerated parents
    - Held vision board seminars
    - School Supply Drives and Donations the last 13 years
    - Work with persons criminally justice involved to create life and home plans
    - President of Women Empowering Women (Thanksgiving and Christmas Drives, awareness events for: Juvenile Diabetes, Mental health, Stop the Violence an many more)
    - Down Home NC member, advocated for Medicaid Expansion, advocacy for the Alamance 12, advocated against 287(g)
    - One of the founding member of the Alamance County Bail Fund
    - Panelist in Washington, DC on Rural Jails
    - Lobbied on Capitol Hill in Raleigh, NC for a Second Chance for people currently or formerly involved in the criminal justice system
    - Lobbied on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC for Medicaid Expansion
    - Graduate of the Black Campaign School in 1995
    - Member of NC Bloc (Black leaders organizing and collective)
    - Volunteer with Morrow town Community Task Force (delivered meals, community clean up, voter's registration drive)
    - 2019 Cesar Chavez Community Hero Award
    - 2019 Inaugural Triumphant Woman Award
    - 2020 Delta Sigma Theta Community Jewel Award
    - 2020 Nominated for Women Leading the Way in Alamance County
    - 2020 Phenomenal Black Woman of Alamance County
    - Member of Alamance Alliance for Racial Equity (AREA)
    - Former 2020 Candidate for County Commissioner (first black woman to get through the primary for this office)
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**Hampton Dellinger** works to remove Confederate monuments, protect the rights of voters, promote gender equity in sports, and end higher education [tuition discrimination](#) against undocumented Americans. A partner at a transatlantic law firm, Hampton handles domestic and international matters. He has special knowledge of federal courts in the Fourth Circuit and all tribunals in North Carolina where he was named a 2020 “[Leader in the Law](#)”. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and the Yale Law School.

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**Karl A. Doss** is the Deputy Director of the Legal Services Corporation of Virginia, which develops, funds, coordinates and oversees the delivery of civil legal services to the poor in Virginia through the work of nine regional Legal Aid programs and a statewide support center comprising 35 offices that serve every city and county in Virginia. He is also a member of the Virginia Access to Justice Commission and serves on the Commission's Pro Bono and Outreach and Education Committees.

Prior to joining LSCV, Mr. Doss served as the Director Access to Legal Services for the Virginia State Bar from August 2013 to December 2017, where he was the administrator to the Access to Legal Services Committee and coordinated the VSB's access to justice initiatives involving matters of pro bono, civil legal aid, and indigent defense and served as the administrator for [Virginia.freelegalanswers.org](#). He received his J.D. from the University of Minnesota School of Law in 1986 and his B.A. in Political Science/Sociology from Tulane University in 1983.

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**Karen Howard** Elected as county commissioner in 2014, Karen Howard is a former attorney who lives in Northeast Chatham with her three youngest sons. She and her former husband also have three adult children. Commissioner Howard served as a member of the Chatham County Board of Education from 2012-2014 and as Chair of the Board from 2013-2014.

Howard has served on the Chatham County Schools AIG [Academically and Intellectually Gifted] Advisory Committee and the Chatham County Schools district accreditation committee as well as volunteering as a Literacy Mentor at Virginia Cross Elementary in Siler City and a tutor at North Chatham Elementary for several years.

Commissioner Howard previously served on the Admissions Committee for UNC Kenan-Flagler's MBA@UNC program, the Legislative Committee of the North Carolina Schools Boards Association and the Parent Advisory Council of the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics. She has been a member of the Executive Committee of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners since 2017 and currently serves as co-Chair of the task force on year's Presidential Initiative, Pathways for Disconnected Youth.

Born in New York, Commissioner Howard spent much of her childhood in the Bahamas. She obtained a Bachelor of Arts in English from Georgetown University and a LLB in Law from the University of Buckingham in England. She was called to the Bar of England & Wales and The Bahamas Bar in 1992.

In addition to serving on the Board of Directors of the Chatham Arts Council, Commissioner Howard is also currently the liaison to the following boards and committees:

Board of Education

Chatham County Partnership for Children

Community Child Protection Team

Child Fatality Team

Central Piedmont Community Action (voting member)

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (voting member)

Library Advisory Committee

Cardinal Innovations Central Community Mental Health (voting)

County Commissioner Advisory Board for Cardinal Health (voting member)

Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (voting member)

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