

## *Derrick Johnson*

### **MISSISSIPPI**

Derrick Johnson currently serves as State President for the Mississippi State Conference NAACP. Elected in 2004, he is the youngest State President in the country. He earned his Jurist Doctorate Degree from South Texas College of Law in Houston, TX and a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Tougaloo College in Jackson, MS. Mr. Johnson serves on the boards of the Mississippi ACLU, Hope Community Credit Union, and on the Advisory Council of the Mississippi Economic Policy Center. In February 2008, he was elected to the NAACP National Board of Directors by the Association's board members. Additionally, Mr. Johnson was appointed by the Chief Justice of the Mississippi Supreme Court as a Commissioner to the Mississippi Access to Justice Commission.

Mr. Johnson served as a Fellow with the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation in Washington, DC working in the office of Congressman Bennie G. Thompson and as a Fellow with The George Washington University Graduate School of Political Management Minority Fellowship Program. After completing Law School, Mr. Johnson joined the staff of Southern Echo, Inc., a non-profit organization located in Jackson, MS. Serving as the Regional Organizer for Southern Echo; Mr. Johnson provided legal, technical, and training support for communities within 6 states across the south (Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, Louisiana, Arkansas, and South Carolina). Mr. Johnson is GIS (geographic information system) and database management trained. He has provided redistricting services to municipal and county governments across the state of Mississippi.

In response to the Hurricane Katrina devastation in Mississippi, Mr. Johnson was appointed to serve as Vice-Chair of the Governor's Commission for Recovery, Rebuilding, and Renewal. Mr. Johnson has become a leading voice for the equitable rebuilding for the working poor in the aftermath of the hurricane.

Recently added to his extraordinary list of accomplishments he successfully managed the Jackson Public School District bond referendum campaign that brought \$150M in renovations and new schools to the Jackson, MS area.