



TRUMAN CIVIL RIGHTS SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 2023

Library of Congress, 101 Independence Ave SE

7:00-9:30 pm ET **Opening Event: To Secure These Rights**

- **U.S. Rep. James E. Clyburn**, Assistant Democratic Leader
- **Judge Richard Gergel**, United States District Court for the District of South Carolina and author of *Unexampled Courage: The Blinding of Sgt. Isaac Woodard and the Awakening of President Harry S. Truman and Judge J. Waties Waring*
- **Dr. Carla Hayden**, 14th Librarian of Congress

Due to limited seating, the in-person event is by invitation only and will be live-streamed

THURSDAY, JULY 27, 2023

George Washington University, Jack Morton Auditorium, 805 21st St NW

8:00am ET — Registration

9:00 am ET — Opening Remarks

9:15am ET (General Session 1) — Black Americans in the U.S. Armed Forces

Moderated by **Eugene Robinson**, the session will explore the history of African American military service from the American Revolution through WWII.

- **Dr. Woody Holton**, Professor of History at the University of South Carolina
- **Dr. Lorien Foote**, Professor of History at Texas A&M University
- **Dr. Adriane Lentz-Smith**, Associate Professor of History at Duke University
- **Dr. Thomas Guglielmo**, Department Chair and Associate Professor of American Studies at George Washington University

11:00 am ET (General Session 2) — The Right to Fight: The Implementation and Impact of Executive Order 9981

Moderated by **Michele Norris**, the second session will explore President Truman's decision to desegregate the military and its consequences and impact on subsequent conflicts.

- **Dr. Sabrina Thomas**, Associate Professor of History at Texas Tech University
- **Dr. David P. Cline**, Professor of History and Founding Director of the San Diego State University Center for Public and Oral History
- **Dr. Kyle Longley**, Professor of History, Director of the Masters in War and Society Program at Chapman University
- **Dr. Robert F. Jefferson**, Associate Professor of History at the University of New Mexico

2:00 pm ET (General Session 3) – Veteran Voices: Desegregation's Impact on the Individual Experience

Moderated by **Rawn James, Jr.**, the afternoon concludes powerfully with personal reflections from those whose lives and careers were directly impacted by Executive Order 9981.

- **Brig. Gen. Terrence A. Adams**, Director, Cyberspace Operations and Warfighter Communications, U.S. Air Force
- **Amb. John L. Estrada**, former United States Ambassador to Trinidad and Tobago and 15th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps
- **Adm. Michelle Howard (Ret.)**, the first woman to reach the rank of four-stars in the U.S. Navy and the first Black woman to reach three and four stars in the Armed Forces
- **Brig. Gen. Donald Scott (Ret.)**, the first graduate of HBCU Lincoln University to earn a star in the U.S. Army

National Archives, 700 Constitution Avenue, NW, Special Events Entrance

5:15-6:30 pm ET — Reception

The Rotunda Galleries offer a magnificent setting for this special reception just steps away from the centerpiece of the National Archives Museum — the Rotunda for the Charters of Freedom — where the original Declaration of Independence, U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights are permanently displayed.

6:45-7:15 – Pre-program begins; Livestream Begins

7:30 pm ET — Keynote Address by President Joe Biden

FRIDAY, JULY 28, 2023

National Museum of African American History and Culture, 1400 Constitution Avenue, NW

8:00 am ET — Registration

9:00 am ET — Opening Remarks

9:15 am ET — (General Session 4) – The Future of Inclusion: Equal Opportunity in Today’s Military — and Tomorrow’s

Having looked to the past and into the present lives of Black veterans, the Symposium’s final panel, moderated by **Cmdr. Theodore “Ted” R. Johnson (Ret.)**, will look ahead to ask where we are going as a nation pledged to human rights and equality, in light of the history of E.O. 9981 and the experiences of African American veterans.

- **Lt. Col. Jason Dempsey (Ret.)**, Executive Director, Center for Veteran Transition & Integration at Columbia University
- **Capt. Cynthia Macri (Ret.)**, M.D., FACS, FACOG, Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Women Veterans, and Maryland State Veterans Commissioner
- **Kori Schake**, Senior Fellow and Director of Foreign and Defense Policy Studies, American Enterprise Institute
- **Secretary Anthony Woods**, Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs

10:15 am ET — Closing Remarks: General Charles Q. Brown, Jr., Chief of Staff of the Air Force