

Where is our representation?

For over 25 years, I proudly volunteered in this community since making it my home. Over the years, I've served in various capacities, including as PTA President, community football coach, Member of the PCFIT Team, Chairman of LAAPAC, a member of Lakewood Public Safety Commission, and a member of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge just to name a few.

I was raised in Philadelphia in a family rooted in the values of community-based living. Today, more than ever, it is essential for African-American citizens to increase our visibility and engagement in our communities. Our children are watching, and they must see us actively involved in every aspect of community development and prosperity.

Along with Min. Larry Woods, Ria J Johnson-Covington, and Melannie Denise-Cunningham, we have recommitted ourselves to continue working on tough issues with the Police and Community before they arise. I urge each of you to commit just one hour a week to volunteer. Your time can make a lasting impact. Together, we can continue building a stronger, more inclusive community."



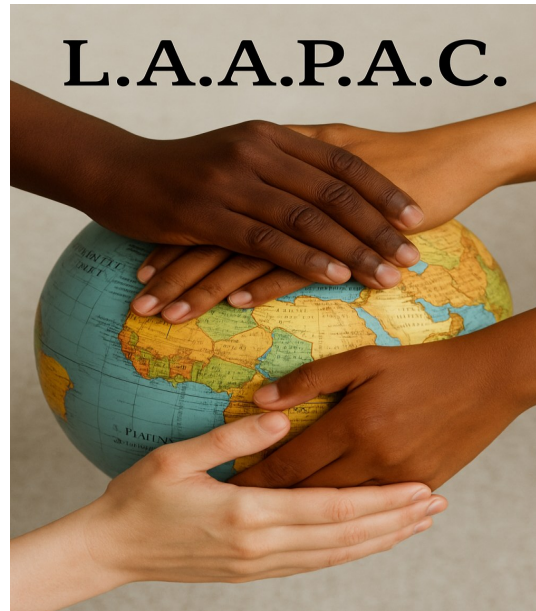
Thank you.

Julius W. Brown Jr.
LAAPAC Chair

**"We are what we give back."
Julius Wm. Brown Jr.**

Provide a Voice for the Community!

We need you at the table!



Bridging The Gap

"Bridging the gap between police & the community" refers to building mutual trust, understanding, and collaboration between law enforcement agencies and the people they serve. This is especially important in communities that have historically experienced strained or adversarial relationships with police.

Julius W. Brown Jr.
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**Public safety improves when communities
and police trust each other**

L.A.A.P.A.C.

**LAKEWOOD
AFRICAN AMERICAN POLICE
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**



**Brought together by the visions of two of
our past great Lakewood leaders.**



Dr. Claudia Thomas



Chief Larry Saunders

Our Purpose:

To create an atmosphere of respect and trust between the Lakewood Police Department and the African American Community.

Who We Are!

We are a group of concerned Lakewood Residents who believe that we should take a stake in making sure that our communities are policed in a fair, just and trusted manor by partnering and engaging proactively with the Police Department.

We are a group who believes that collaboration is paramount to the success of any program, and we are working to provide our community and first responders with proactive opportunities of engagement.

We are acting in the best interest of the African American community, and will partner with any groups that have a sincere desire to find solutions to the challenges that plague our communities.



The road to success is paved with many hardships. We must prepare for every one of them.

Lakewood Police Department

Starting in 2003, the soon to be Lakewood Police Department was front line collaborative partners with LAAPAC. Lakewood's first Chief of Police, Larry Saunders embodied the mission to create an atmosphere of respect and trust between the Lakewood Police Department and the African American Community

Chief Saunders, believed that it was important for the commanders and deputies to meet with the African American community, through forums, community engagement, dialogue and by building authentic respected relationships.

LAAPAC and the Lakewood Police Department must continue the due diligence needed to foster the purpose of building trust, enhancing public safety, and promoting equitable community engagement. To date, many LAAPAC members have participated in ride-alongs with patrol officers, engaged in tactical community training, and attended the Citizens Academy for Law Enforcement to better understand the mission.

LAAPAC Volunteers

There is an immediate need for African American committee members, leaders, volunteers, and young people to step up and bring forward your time, talent, networks, and commitment to help drive meaningful change in the community.

LAAPAC needs your action. Lakewood needs your voice.

If you're ready to get involved, now is the time. Join us in making a difference.

LAAPAC pledged its commitment to America's Promise Alliance. This multi-year national campaign chaired by retired General Colin L. Powell, seeks access to provide youth with five fundamental resources.

- Ongoing relationships with caring adults - parents, mentors, tutors, coaches;
- Safe places with structured activities during non-school hours;
- Healthy start and future;
- Marketable skills through effective education; and
- Opportunities to give back through community service.

We believe that creating space for a positive Police & Community relationship fosters trust

Volunteer!

If you have a question or issue you would like to discuss

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