



HIGGS & JOHNSON

Counsel & Attorneys-at-Law

Partner Honoured as one of the 'Legal Firsts' in Florida



Higgs & Johnson is pleased to congratulate its partner Dr. Earl A. Cash (pictured) who will be honoured on 27 June 2009 at the Legacy Gala in Orlando, Florida during the annual Florida Bar Convention with over 250 other attorneys at the unveiling of the publication "Florida's First Black Lawyers (1869 – 1979)". This chronicles the successes and challenges they faced while practicing law in Florida.

Under the direction and leadership of Chief Justice Peggy A. Quince, Virgil Hawkins Florida Chapter National Bar Association (VHFCNBA) spearheaded the book's publication, researched and wrote its content and coordinated the Legacy Gala celebration.

"Ironically, this book illustrates both the legal advances that have been made and the continuing need for more diversity within the legal profession," said Judge June C. McKinney, Florida's First project chairman. "We are celebrating the commendable service of Florida's first black lawyers and our abiding appreciation for their pioneering efforts."

Dr. Cash noted, "I am gratified to be a part of this distinguished group of Florida attorneys. My years at the University of Miami School of Law and the bonds forged with fellow members of the chapter of the then Black American Law Students Association have had an indelible imprint on my legal career. However far we might have come, we will never be able to forget those challenging beginnings and the invaluable support provided us by such Association and, especially, the late Professor Robert Waters."

Dr. Earl Cash worked in the Appellate Division of the Public Defenders Office in Miami, Florida and in April, 1979 was admitted to the Florida Bar. He was called to the Bahamas Bar in 1982 and spent the 1990s as a temporary Stipendiary and Circuit Magistrate for Night Court in the Bahamas, and served as a member of the Disciplinary Tribunal of the Bahamas Bar and the Ethics Committee of the Bahamas Bar Association. Specializing in Trusts and Estates, he is a member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP) and an occasional delegate at IBC's Annual International Trust and Tax Planning Conference. He has also travelled to the United States, England and Switzerland with the Bahamas Financial Services Board, of which he is now a Director, to assist in the promotion of The Bahamas as a choice international jurisdiction. He was named a pre-eminent adviser in Euromoney's *Guide to the World's Leading Trusts and Estates Lawyers* (2009).