

THE DOUGLASS
CLARION

HISTORICAL ISSUE | JUNE 2026

FREDERICK DOUGLASS REPUBLICANS OF TARRANT COUNTY

**“IF THERE IS NO STRUGGLE,
THERE IS NO PROGRESS.”**

— Frederick Douglass



FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Fellow Patriots,

It is with great honor and humility that I welcome you to the June 2026 Historical Issue of *The Douglass Clarion*. This month, we pause as a nation and as an organization to reflect on a moment of extraordinary significance—witnessing Major James Capers Jr. receive the Medal of Honor, our nation's highest award for valor. To be present in that room was to feel the weight of history, the presence of courage, and the power of a life committed to something greater than self.

Major Capers' story is more than one of military service; it is a testament to faith under fire, leadership in the face of danger, and the unwavering belief that freedom is never free. His journey reminds us of the countless men and women who answered the call to serve and whose sacrifices have secured the blessings we enjoy today.

This issue is dedicated to preserving and honoring that legacy. Within these pages, you will discover stories of patriotism, accounts of sacrifice, examples of leadership, and reflections on the faith that sustains those who defend our nation. We capture not only what happened, but why it matters—and how each of us is called to carry the torch forward.

“History is not merely something we study.
Sometimes, we are blessed to witness it
unfold before our eyes.”

As you read, I encourage you to remember that history is not distant—it is alive, present, and shaped by people of courage and conviction. May Major Capers' example inspire us all to live with purpose, to lead with integrity, and to love our country with action, not just words.

Thank you for being part of this mission to inform, to inspire, and to preserve the truth of our history. Together, let us continue to honor our past, serve our communities, and advance the cause of liberty for generations to come.

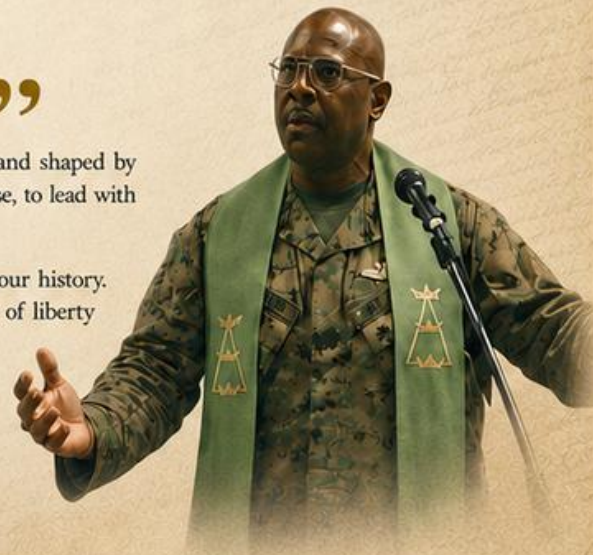
With gratitude and patriotism,

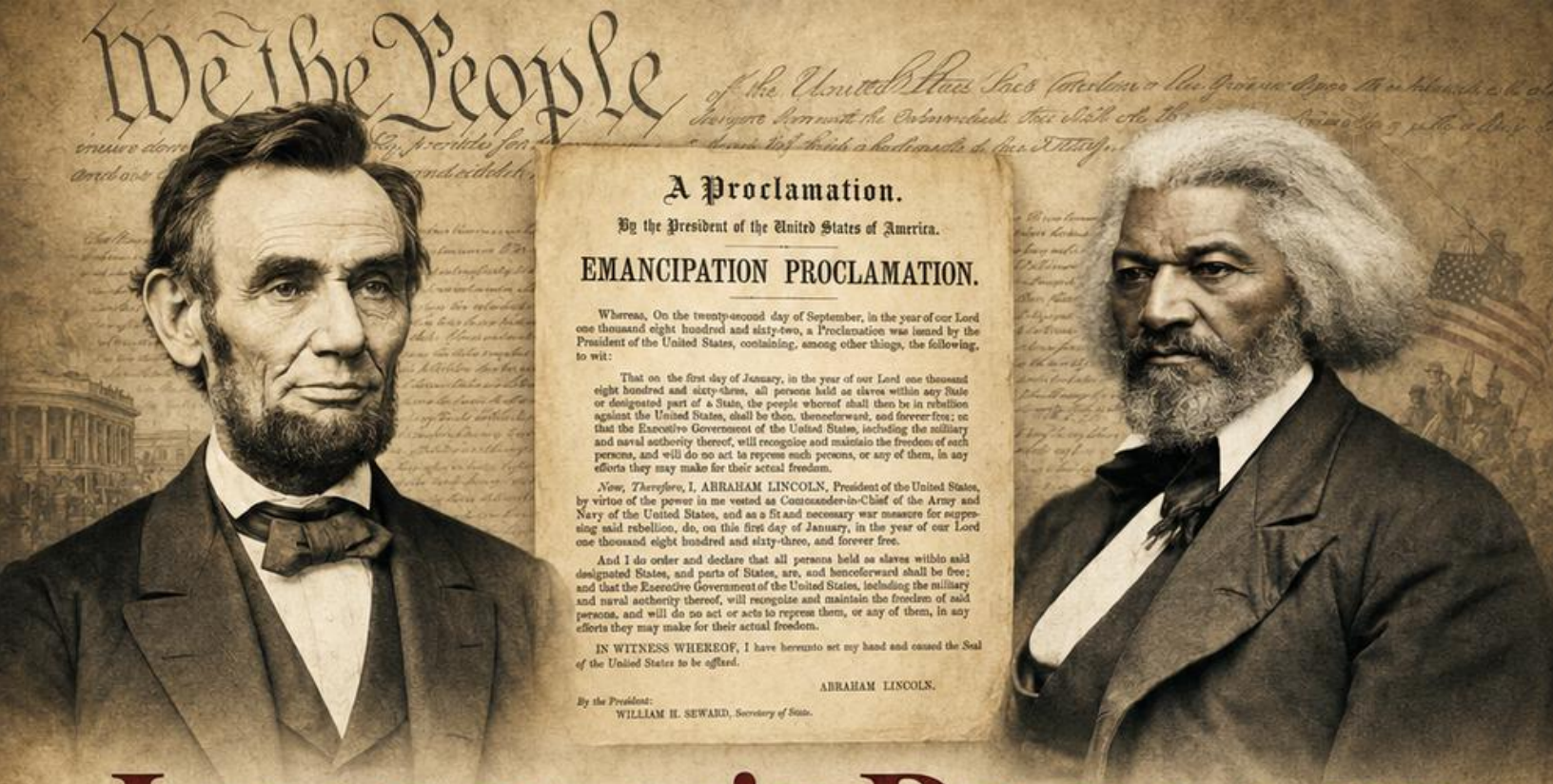
Chaplain Richmond Stoglin

Chaplain Richmond Stoglin

President

Frederick Douglass Republicans of Tarrant County





LINCOLN'S PROMISE

How Abraham Lincoln, Frederick Douglass, and the Republican Party Changed the Course of American History

In the midst of a nation torn by division and injustice, a promise was spoken, one that would echo across generations and transform the meaning of liberty in America.

Abraham Lincoln, guided by conviction and faith in a higher purpose, vowed that this nation could not endure half free and half slave. His leadership pushed the country toward a new birth of freedom.

Frederick Douglass, once enslaved and denied every right, became one of the greatest voices for freedom the world has ever known. His words awakened a nation. His courage demanded justice.

Together, Lincoln and Douglass helped shape a turning point in history, one made possible by the rise of a new political movement committed to liberty, equality, and human dignity.

From its founding in 1854, the Republican Party united Americans who opposed the expansion of slavery and believed the nation should uphold the principles of liberty, Union, and constitutional government. For many formerly enslaved Americans, it became the political home of emancipation, citizenship, education, and equal opportunity under the law.

The partnership between Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass demonstrated that political leadership and moral conviction could work together to move the nation closer to its founding ideals. Their shared commitment transformed the meaning of American freedom and prepared the way for the generations that would follow.

***“Power concedes nothing without a demand.
It never did and it never will.”***

— Frederick Douglass



THE PROMISE OF LIBERTY

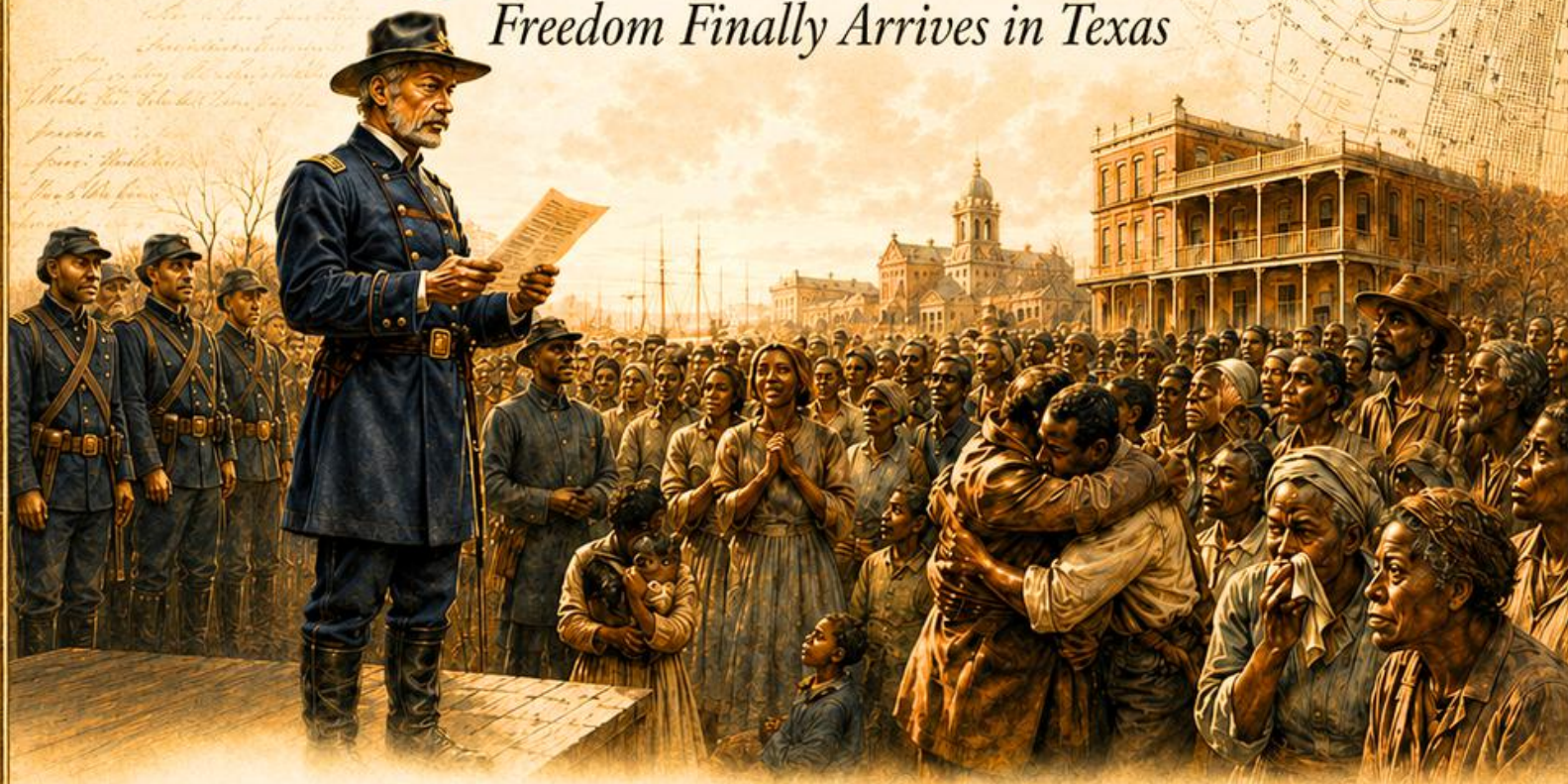
In the darkest hours of our nation, leaders of courage and conviction
lit the path toward freedom.

They did not wait for permission. They acted. They spoke. They wrote. They fought.
And because of their faith and their fearless demand for justice, the door of opportunity
began to open for generations to come. Their promise is our inheritance.
Our responsibility is to protect it.

JUNETEENTH

Freedom Finally Arrives in Texas

GALVESTON
TEXAS.



FREEDOM FINALLY ARRIVES

More than two years after President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, the promise of freedom finally reached Texas.

On June 19, 1865, Union Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston with federal troops and issued General Order No. 3, announcing that all enslaved people in Texas were free. For more than 250,000 men, women, and children still held in bondage, the words marked the beginning of a new chapter in American history.

The order declared:

"The people are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free."

Though simple in its wording, the announcement transformed countless lives. Families long separated could begin rebuilding. Churches and schools would soon become centers of hope. Communities once denied liberty could finally begin shaping their own future.

Juneteenth became more than a date on the calendar. It became a celebration of freedom delayed, but never denied. For generations of Texans, it has stood as a reminder that liberty is not merely proclaimed. It must also be delivered, protected, and remembered.

The promise had finally reached Texas.

Now a new challenge lay ahead.

Freedom would have to become citizenship, leadership, and lasting institutions.

GALVESTON

Freedom reaches Texas

HOUSTON

Texas Republican
Party organized

AUSTIN

Reconstruction
government begins

THE ROAD TO RECONSTRUCTION

1854

Republican Party founded



January 1, 1863

Emancipation Proclamation issued



April 1865

Civil War ends



June 19, 1865

General Order No. 3
read in Galveston



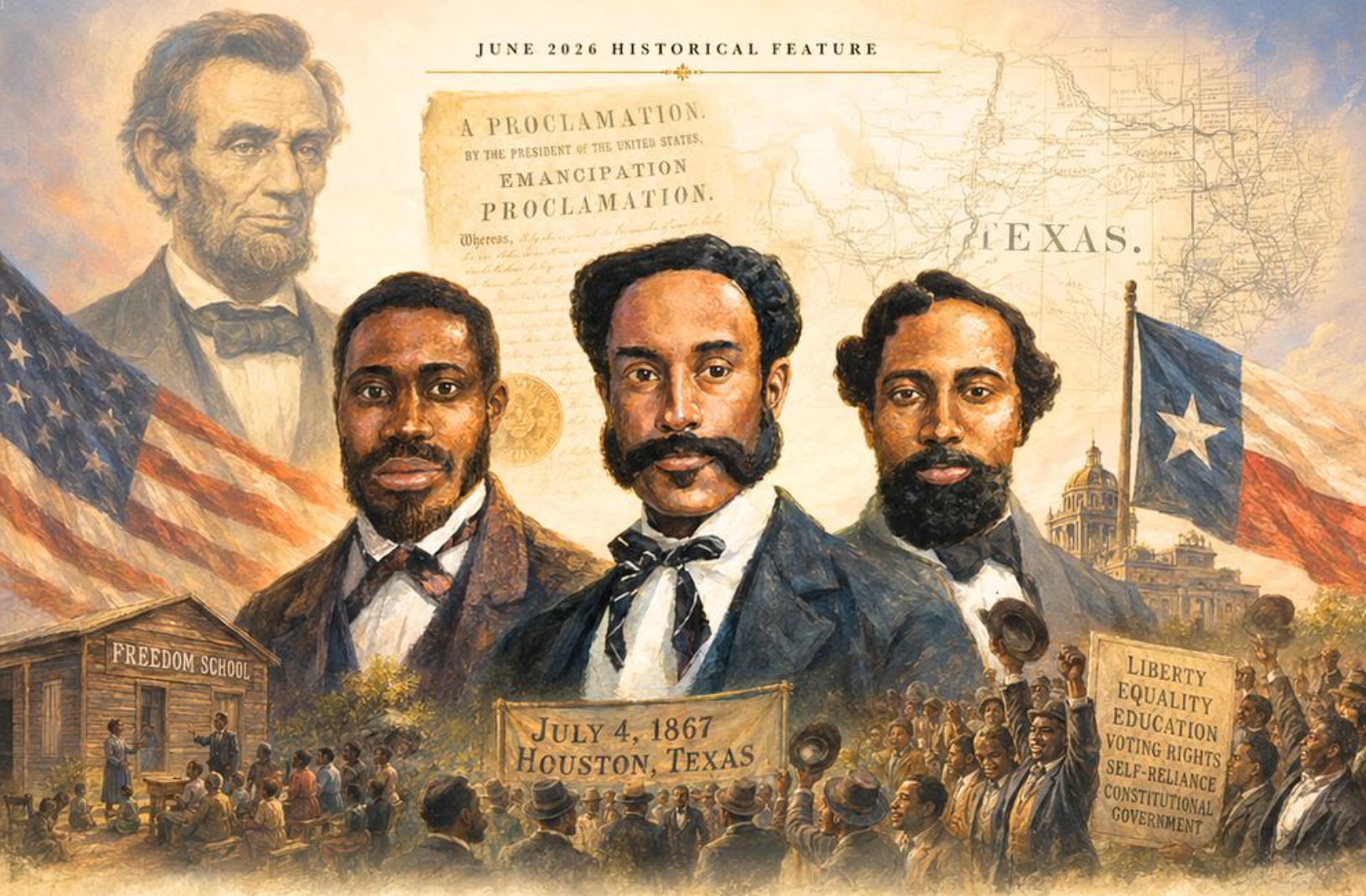
July 4, 1867

Texas Republican Party organized



BUILDERS OF RECONSTRUCTION

*The story continues
on the next page.*



THE ROOTS OF A PARTY

How Newly Freed Black Texans Helped Build the Republican Party in the Lone Star State

The end of the Civil War opened the door to a new chapter in American history—and in Texas, that chapter began with courage, conviction, and a relentless belief in liberty. On July 4, 1867, in the city of Houston, approximately 150 newly enfranchised Black Texans, joined by a small group of Unionist allies, gathered to organize the Republican Party of Texas during Reconstruction. At the forefront of this historic moment were **George T. Ruby, Matt Gaines, and Norris Wright Cuney**—leaders whose vision and determination helped shape the future of our state.

These men and the many newly freed Black Texans who stood with them believed in the promise of America. They believed in liberty, constitutional government, quality education, voting rights, self-reliance, and equal opportunity under the law. They were not asking for a place at the table—they were building the table. Their leadership helped lay the foundation for a party that championed progress, defended freedom, and lifted up communities across Texas.

Their courage on that July day established more than a political organization—it established a legacy. A legacy of faith, strength, and nation-building that continues to inspire us and future generations of Texans to this very day. ★

WALTER MOSES BURTON

From Enslavement to Statesmanship

FROM ENSLAVEMENT TO LEADERSHIP

Walter Moses Burton was born on August 9, 1840, into slavery in North Carolina. Around 1860, he was brought to Texas—part of a journey that would forever change the course of his life and the future of his state.

When freedom came after the Civil War, Burton wasted no time claiming the opportunities that liberty made possible. With determination and faith, he purchased land in Fort Bend County and built a successful life as a farmer. He believed in independence, hard work, and the promise of a better tomorrow for his family and community.

In 1869, Walter Moses Burton made history as the first Black Sheriff of Fort Bend County. Elected by his neighbors and trusted by his community, he served with courage, fairness, and integrity—setting a standard of public service that would endure for generations.

His leadership extended beyond the county. In 1874, Burton was elected to the Texas Senate, where he served four consecutive terms through 1883. In the Senate, he was a respected voice for his district and the values of the Republican Party—advocating for education, equal rights under the law, economic opportunity, and a stronger, more just Texas.

Walter Moses Burton's life is a powerful reminder that Reconstruction was not just a chapter in history—it was a promise fulfilled by men and women who turned freedom into service, service into leadership, and leadership into lasting change.

*The State of Texas
Senate Journal*

1874-February

of 1874

FORT BEND
COUNTY
TEXAS

TEXAS
HISTORICAL
MARKER

“
*His life reminds us that
freedom reaches its fullest
meaning when it is joined with
responsibility, service, and
leadership.*
”

LEGACY WALTER MOSES BURTON

- | | |
|---|--|
| Born into slavery in North Carolina | ★ Served four consecutive terms |
| Purchased land after emancipation | ★ Republican pioneer during Reconstruction |
| First Black Sheriff of Fort Bend County | ★ Champion of education, constitutional government, and civic leadership |
| Texas State Senator | |

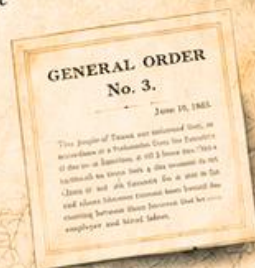
BUILDERS OF RECONSTRUCTION

The Leaders Who Helped Shape a New Texas



NORRIS WRIGHT CUNEY
*Statesman, Legislator,
Voice for Justice*

“ Together, these leaders transformed freedom into citizenship, education into opportunity, and public service into a lasting Texas legacy. ”



GALVESTON
*Freedom
reaches Texas.*

RICHMOND,
FORT BEND COUNTY



*Leadership takes root
in local communities.*
WALTER MOSES BURTON

T E X A S

AUSTIN



Black legislators help shape Reconstruction government.

HOUSTON

150 Black Texans help
organize the Republican
Party.



FREEDMEN'S BUREAU SCHOOLS

*Education becomes the
foundation of freedom.*

THE FOUNDATION ENDURED

*Their work transformed freedom into citizenship,
citizenship into leadership, and leadership into a legacy
that continues to shape Texas today.*



MONTFORD POINT MARINES

The Men Who Opened the Door



The first generation of Montford Point Marines stands proudly outside Battalion Headquarters at Camp Montford Point, North Carolina.



Training was relentless. Discipline became the language through which barriers were broken.



Marine Corps Drill Instructors demanded excellence from every recruit.



Montford Point Marines prepared to serve with distinction throughout the Pacific Theater during World War II.

Before there was an integrated Marine Corps leading elite Force Reconnaissance teams through the jungles of Vietnam, there were the men of Montford Point.

In 1942, as America mobilized to defeat tyranny overseas while confronting segregation at home, the United States Marine Corps established Camp Montford Point beside Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. For the first time since the American Revolution, Black American men were accepted into the Marine Corps.

Between 1942 and 1949, approximately 20,000 Black Marines trained under the same demanding standards required of every Marine. Guided by legendary leaders such as Drill Instructor Gilbert “Hashmark” Johnson and Edgar R. Huff, they transformed determination into discipline and answered prejudice with unquestionable excellence.

Serving throughout the Pacific Theater, Montford Point Marines operated ammunition depots, defended strategic positions, and supported combat operations under dangerous conditions. Their professionalism, sacrifice, and unwavering commitment demonstrated beyond doubt that courage and character know no color.

Their distinguished service helped pave the way for President Harry S. Truman’s Executive Order 9981 in 1948, ending segregation within the United States Armed Forces and forever changing the future of military service in America.

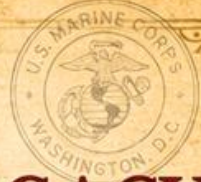
Camp Montford Point closed in 1949, but the road these Marines cleared never disappeared.

They did not simply earn a place in history.

They opened a door that generations after them would walk through.

One generation later, a sharecropper’s son from South Carolina would step through that very doorway.

MONTFORD POINT
TRAINING AREA
CAMP JOHNSON
NORTH CAROLINA



THE MEN WHO FORGED A LEGACY

The Pioneers of Montford Point

Behind every generation of Marines stands a generation of leaders who shaped them. Long before integration became policy, these pioneers built a culture of discipline, excellence, and unwavering commitment that forever changed the United States Marine Corps. Their leadership transformed opportunity into legacy and opened doors that countless others would one day walk through.



**GILBERT
"HASHMARK"
JOHNSON**

Legendary Marine Corps Drill Instructor whose uncompromising standards helped forge the first generation of Montford Point Marines. His leadership became the foundation upon which thousands of Black Marines built lives of service, discipline, and excellence.



**EDGAR
R. HUFF**

Among the earliest Black Marines to rise to the rank of Sergeant Major, Edgar R. Huff's distinguished career demonstrated that leadership, perseverance, and professional excellence could overcome barriers once believed impossible.



**FREDERICK
C. BRANCH**

Commissioned in November 1945, Frederick C. Branch became the first Black American officer in United States Marine Corps history, opening the path for generations of Marine officers who would follow.

“

Their greatest achievement was not simply breaking barriers. It was preparing others to walk through the doors they opened.

”

MARINE CORPS
HEADQUARTERS

TRAINING RECORD

MONTFORD POINT RECRUITS

NAME: *Branch, Fred*
SERIAL NO: *5119*
COMPANY: *1st*
DATE REC'D: *Dec 1945*
REMARKS: *SGT. MAJ.*

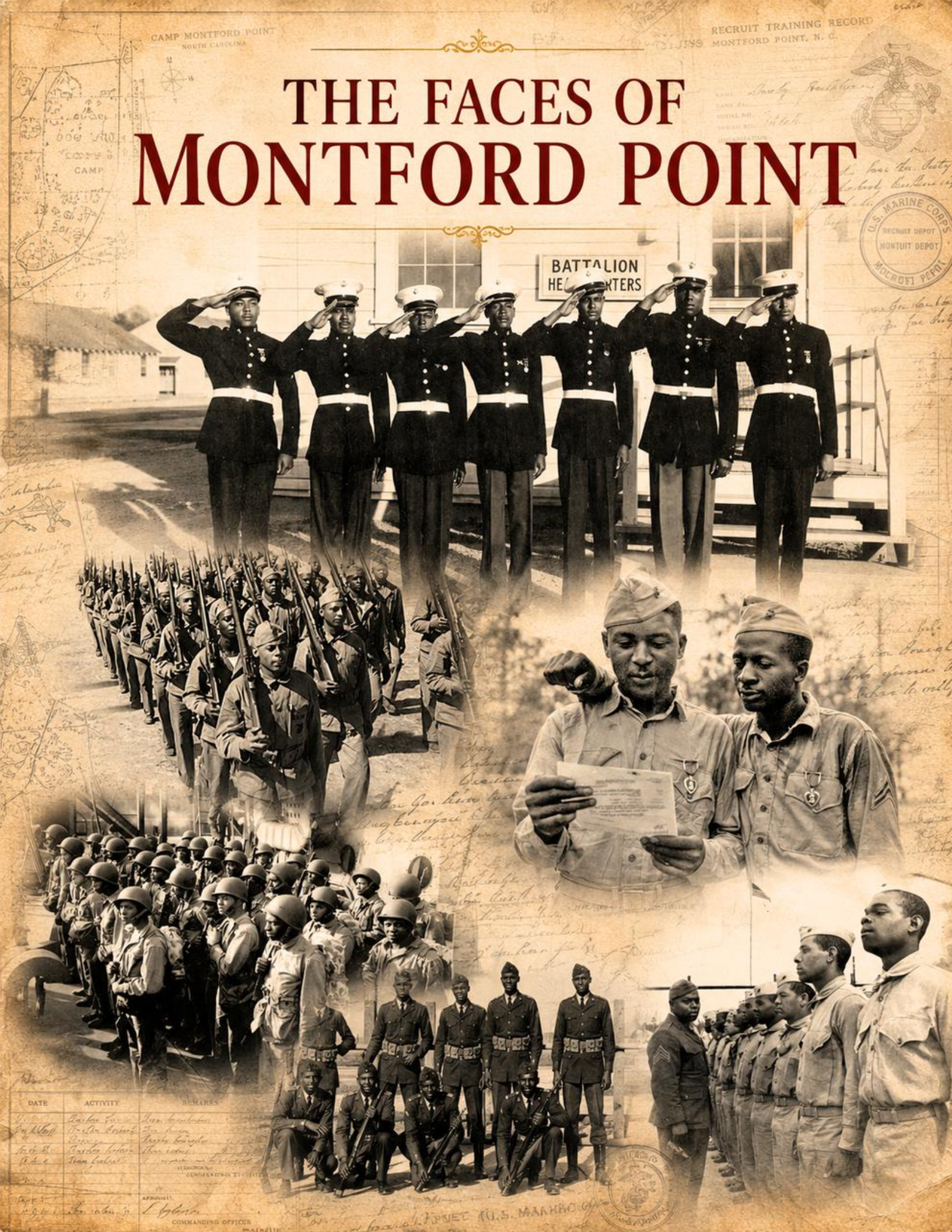
OFFICIAL BUSINESS



CAMP MONTFORD POINT
NORTH CAROLINA

RECRUIT TRAINING RECORD
MONTFORD POINT, N. C.

THE FACES OF MONTFORD POINT



BATTALION
HEADQUARTERS



DATE	ACTIVITY	REMARKS
Jan 10	Boat Race	Won
Jan 15	Field Drill	Good
Jan 20	Target Practice	Excellent
Jan 25	Marching Drill	Very Good
Jan 30	Team Sports	Participated

APPROVED: *[Signature]*
COMMANDING OFFICER





Name Diggs, Oliver
Index 250147 Date 2-1-42
Unit Montford Point, N.C.
Rank Private
Branch U.S. Marine Corps
Station Montford Point, N.C.



CORPORAL OLIVER DIGGS

A Living Bridge

Few living Americans can still tell the story of Montford Point firsthand. At 100 years old, Corporal Oliver Diggs stands as a living bridge between the first generation of Black American Marines and every generation that followed.

In 1942, as the nation prepared for war and the Marine Corps began a quiet revolution, sixteen-year-old Oliver Diggs left behind everything familiar and reported to Montford Point, North Carolina. There, he endured the doubt, the isolation, and the grueling tests designed to break men. Instead, those trials forged a Marine.

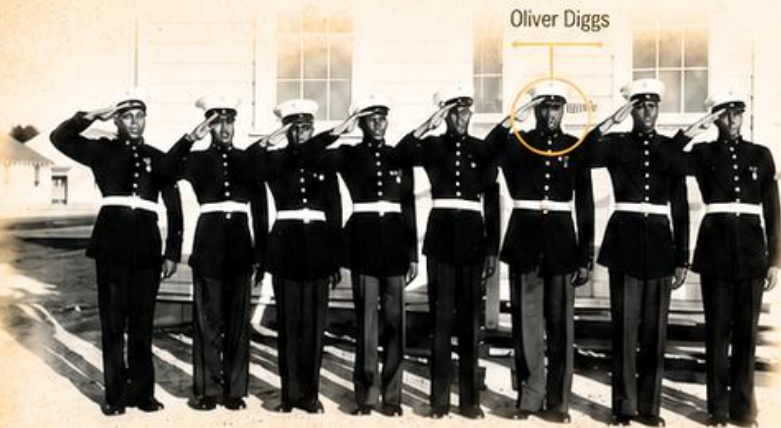
Corporal Diggs served his country with honor during World War II, including campaigns in the Pacific that tested his courage and strengthened his commitment to something greater than himself.

Today, at one hundred years old, he carries both the weight of history and the light of gratitude.

“Being a Marine is not defined by a single moment or assignment. It’s defined by character.”



Oliver Diggs



When Corporal Diggs speaks about Montford Point, he does not speak with bitterness. He speaks with grace. He speaks with love. He speaks with the humility of a man who knows he was part of something historic—yet greater than himself.

More than eighty years after reporting to Montford Point, Corporal Oliver Diggs remains living proof that courage is measured not only on the battlefield, but in a lifetime of faith, humility, service, and unwavering character. His story reminds us that the legacy of the Montford Point Marines is not confined to history books. It is still alive.

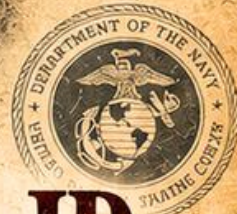
MARINE CORPS
PERSONNEL RECORD

NAME: CAPERS, JAMES, JR.
SERVICE NO: 0-802971
RANK: MAJOR, USMC
MOS: 0202
DESIGNATION:
Force Reconnaissance
DATE OF BIRTH:
25 August 1937
STATE OF BIRTH:
South Carolina

Credit: Major James Capers Jr. (RET, USMC)

VIETNAM
RECONNAISSANCE MAP
SOUTH VIETNAM
I CORPS

LRRP
AO BRAVO
GRID 633-634
ELEV. 120-200
'68-'69



MAJOR JAMES CAPERS JR.

MARINE. LEADER. HERO.

From the cotton fields of Jim Crow South Carolina to the elite ranks of Force Reconnaissance, Major James Capers Jr. became one of the most extraordinary Marines in American history.

Major James Capers Jr. was born on August 25, 1937, in South Carolina to a family of sharecroppers during the Jim Crow era. He later moved to Baltimore, where he met the love of his life, Dottie, and chose to enlist in the United States Marine Corps, beginning a legendary career that would break barriers both on and off the battlefield.

Capers quickly distinguished himself as a natural leader and earned selection into the elite Force Reconnaissance community. He excelled in one of the Marine Corps' most demanding assignments, participating in sixty four long range reconnaissance patrols and five major campaigns in Vietnam.

His teammates knew him as the steady leader of Team Broadminded, a Force Reconnaissance team trusted with some of the most dangerous missions of the war. Capers led with calm authority, discipline, and a fierce commitment to placing his Marines before himself.

His service included reconnaissance patrols, amphibious operations near the Demilitarized Zone, a presidentially directed prisoner of war rescue mission, aircraft recovery operations, and clandestine missions deep inside enemy territory.

His decorations include the Silver Star, Bronze Stars with Combat "V", Purple Hearts, the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V", the Air Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon, and many other distinguished honors.

He also broke historic barriers as the first Black American to command a Marine Reconnaissance company and the first enlisted Black American Marine to receive a battlefield commission as an officer.

Long before history fully recognized his sacrifice, Major James Capers Jr. had already become one of the most respected Marines of his generation.



“ Courage is revealed long before history ever learns your name. ”



U.S. MARINE CORPS
FIELD REPORT
DATE: 11/1/69
LOCATION: 224 Hea
MISSION: 1st para Bn

SECRET

RADIO LOG

31 MAR - 3 APR 67

TEAM BROADMINDED

FREQ: 30.25

CALL SIGN: HAWK 6

PHÚ LỘC

- THE BATTLE THAT DEFINED A HERO -

FORCE RECONNAISSANCE LIAISON
PATROL ORDER

3d Force Reconnaissance Co.

OPERATION: BROADMINDED

DTG: 310800H MAR 67

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

PATROL INSERT

31 MAR 67

L2 COLONY

0900H

RP: BLUEBOY

GRID:

XT 7114

9156

PATROL SIZE

9 MEN

MISSION NOTES

- RECON ENEMY BASE CAMP
- OBSERVE & REPORT
- DIRECT SUPPORTING FIRES
- PROTECT LEFT FLANK
- EXFIL & RTB



From March 31 through April 3, 1967, then Second Lieutenant James Capers Jr. led Team Broadminded, a nine man Force Reconnaissance patrol deep into the rugged jungle southwest of Phú Lộc in Thừa Thiên Province, South Vietnam. Their mission was among the most dangerous assigned during the Vietnam War: locate a hidden North Vietnamese Army regimental base camp, gather critical intelligence, direct supporting fires, and protect the exposed flank of nearby Marine forces.

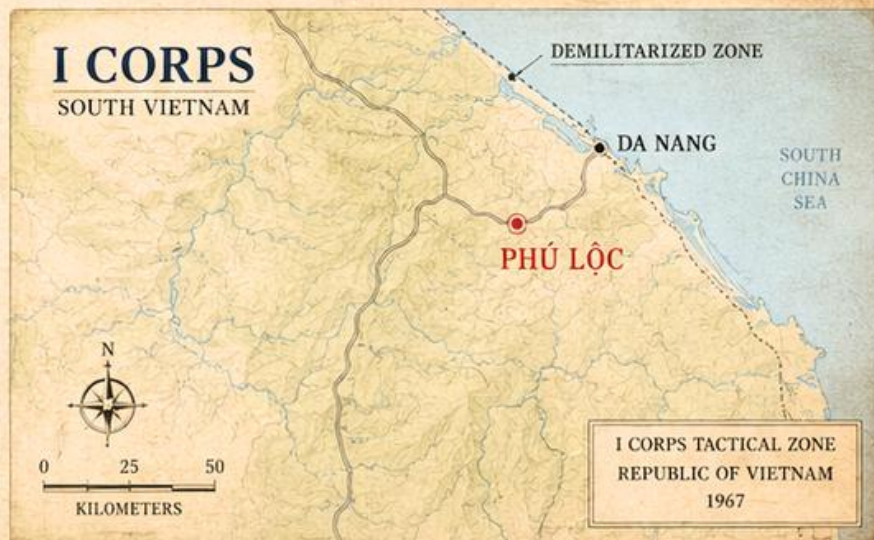
Operating for four days behind enemy lines, the patrol successfully located the enemy position and transmitted intelligence that helped disrupt a major North Vietnamese offensive. Every decision required discipline, patience, and absolute trust among the Marines operating far beyond friendly lines.

The final day would become one of the most extraordinary moments in Marine Corps history.

★ MISSION PROFILE ★

	MISSION	Long range reconnaissance patrol.
	LOCATION	Southwest of Phú Lộc, Thừa Thiên Province, South Vietnam.
	DATES	March 31 through April 3, 1967.
	UNIT	3d Force Reconnaissance Company 3d Marine Division
	TEAM	Team Broadminded
	OBJECTIVE	Locate enemy forces, gather intelligence, direct supporting fires, and return safely.

I CORPS SOUTH VIETNAM



OBSERVATIONS: ENEMY ACTIVITY INCREASED
1 APR - 3 APR
- MULTIPLE BUNKER COMPLEXES
IDENTIFIED

DECLASSIFIED
PER DOD DIR 5200-6

BY:

DATE:

5/12/93

Operation: **BROADMINDED**

Date: **MAR - APR 1967**

Location: **PHU LOC VALLEY
RVN**

Mission:

RECONNOITER NVA REGIMENTAL
BASE CAMP / COLLECT INTEL
PROTECT LEFT FLANK OF
FRIENDLY FORCES

FREQ: 30.16

31 MAR 67 0600Z

ORP established
Grid AZ 67234Y

31 MAR 67 0915Z

Contact NVA activity
Request fire mission

0920Z

Fire mission
On target

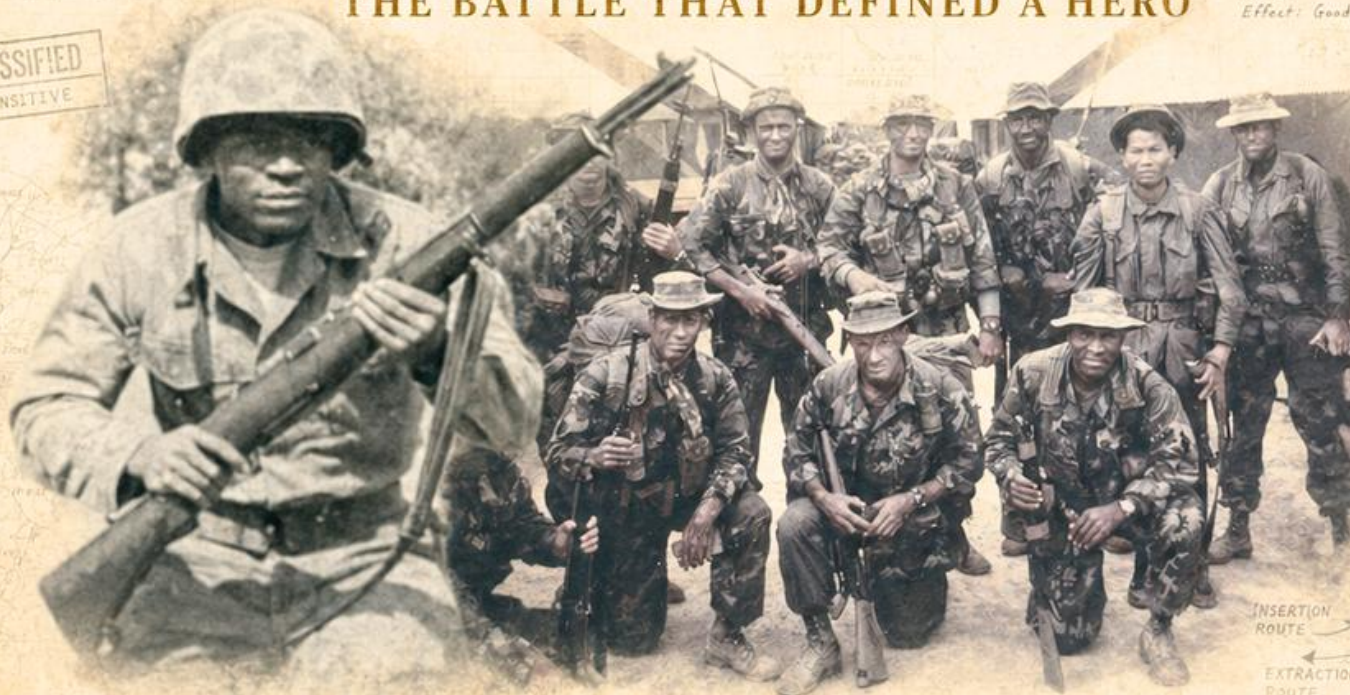
0923Z

Effect: Good

OPERATION BROADMINDED

THE BATTLE THAT DEFINED A HERO

CLASSIFIED
SENSITIVE



PHU LOC
VALLEY

GRID AZ 67234Y



1

MISSION BEGINS



Team Broadminded inserts deep behind enemy lines to locate a hidden North Vietnamese Army regimental base camp.

The patrol begins gathering intelligence while protecting the exposed flank of nearby Marine forces.

2

ENEMY DISCOVERED



The patrol successfully locates the concealed enemy base camp.

Supporting fires are directed onto enemy positions, disrupting preparations for a major offensive.

3

MISSION CONTINUES



The team remains deep inside hostile territory for several days while continuing reconnaissance and transmitting valuable intelligence.

Every decision requires patience, discipline, and complete trust among the Marines.

4

AMBUSH



On April 3, 1967, Team Broadminded is ambushed by a numerically superior enemy force.

King, the team's military working dog, absorbs the deadly blast of a claymore mine and is killed protecting Lieutenant James Capers Jr.

5

LEADERSHIP UNDER FIRE



Despite multiple gunshot wounds, fragmentation injuries, and a broken leg, Capers refuses evacuation.

He directs supporting air strikes, organizes the defense, and maintains command while drifting in and out of consciousness.

6

EXTRACTION



Rescue helicopters finally reach the landing zone.

Capers refuses to board until every wounded Marine has been safely evacuated, becoming the final member of Team Broadminded to leave the battlefield.

S-2
ESTIMATE

Enemy Strength:
1x Regiment
Local Security

Weapons:
AK-47, RPG
Mortars, B-40

**“I did what any Marine would do.
I just did it a little longer.”**

Major James Capers Jr.

TOP SECRET



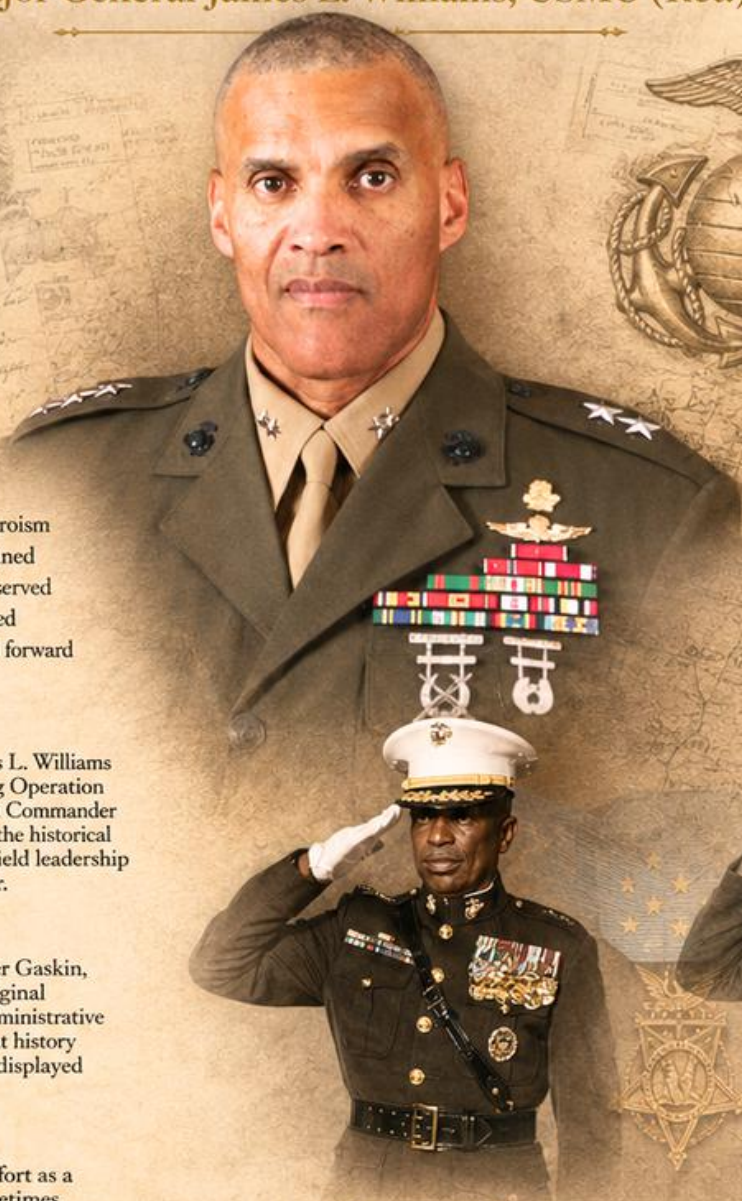
DECLASSIFIED
AUTHORITY NND 785005

AIR SUPPORT
AVAILABLE
A-4 SKYHAWK
UH-1 HUEY
ARTILLERY
105MM

OPERATION BROADMINDED
AFTER ACTION REPORT
ANNEXES

THE CALL TO FINISH THE MISSION

Major General James L. Williams, USMC (Ret.)



For decades, the extraordinary heroism of Major James Capers Jr. remained overlooked by the institution he served so faithfully. While many advocated quietly, one Marine leader stepped forward and refused to let the story die.

REOPENING THE RECORD

In 2006 and 2007, then Brigadier General James L. Williams carefully reviewed Major Capers' actions during Operation Broadminded while serving as Assistant Division Commander with the 2nd Marine Division. After examining the historical record, Williams concluded that Capers' battlefield leadership clearly met the standard for the Medal of Honor.

LEADERSHIP IN ACTION

With the support of then Major General Walter Gaskin, Williams directed a formal inquiry into the original recommendation process. What began as an administrative review became a determined effort to ensure that history accurately reflected the extraordinary courage displayed on the battlefield.

A MISSION FINISHED

Williams later described the decades-long effort as a "49-year scrum," recognizing that justice sometimes requires perseverance long after the battle itself has ended. Working alongside fellow advocates, veterans, and supporters, he remained committed to ensuring Major Capers received the recognition he had earned.

A LEGACY OF PERSEVERANCE

Major General James L. Williams represents the highest ideals of Marine leadership. His steadfast commitment to truth, honor, and historical integrity reminds us that leadership is measured not only by victories in combat, but also by the courage to correct the historical record and honor those who served before us.

Major General Walter Gaskin

Major James Capers Jr.

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

Nearly five decades after Operation Broadminded, the Medal of Honor recommendation for Major James Capers Jr. was successfully restored through the persistent efforts of Marine leaders, veterans, advocates, and members of Congress.



THE COLLECTIVE

Many Voices. One Mission.

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS



HEADQUARTERS
2ND MARINE DIVISION (INFORMED)
CAMP LEJEUNE, NORTH CAROLINA

15 June 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Review of Medal of Honor Recommendation
Major James Capers Jr., USMC
Operation Broadminded - Vietnam

OPERATION
BROADMINDED

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

H.R. 3377

To authorize the President to award
the Medal of Honor to
Major James Capers Jr., USMC,
for conspicuous gallantry and
intrepidity at the risk of his life
above and beyond the call of duty
in connection with military
operations involving conflict
with an armed enemy.

MAJ. GEN.
JAMES L. WILLIAMS
USMC (RET.)

MAJ. GEN.
WALTER GASKIN
USMC (RET.)

CHAPLAIN
RICHMOND STOGLIN
USN/USMC (RET.)

CONGRESSMAN
RALPH NORMAN

For nearly six decades, the extraordinary heroism of Major James Capers Jr. remained unrecognized. Restoring that honor required the perseverance of Marines, veterans, advocates, military leaders, lawmakers, and countless supporters who refused to let his story be forgotten. Across generations, each contributed in different ways to one shared mission: ensuring that extraordinary courage received the recognition it had earned.

REOPENING THE CASE

In 2006 and 2007, Brigadier General James L. Williams, serving as Assistant Division Commander of the 2nd Marine Division, reviewed Major Capers' record from Operation Broadminded. With the support of then Major General Walter Gaskin, Williams initiated a formal inquiry into the original recommendation. This effort helped reopen the historical record and laid the foundation for years of advocacy that followed.

THE ADVOCATES WHO CARRIED IT FORWARD

Chaplain Richmond Stoglin, a retired Navy chaplain and dedicated Marine veteran advocate, became one of the most consistent voices preserving Major Capers' story. Through years of speaking, organizing, encouraging fellow veterans, and supporting continued awareness, he helped ensure the mission never faded from public view.

THE LEGISLATIVE PUSH

Representative Ralph Norman of South Carolina led the legislative effort in Congress by introducing and championing H.R. 3377. His leadership helped move the legislation through the House, authorizing the President of the United States to award the Medal of Honor to Major James Capers Jr.

A MISSION COMPLETED BY MANY

On June 18, 2026, Major James Capers Jr. received the Medal of Honor. That moment reflected decades of faithful service from military leaders who reopened the record, advocates who refused to let the mission end, lawmakers who advanced the legislation, and countless supporters whose dedication helped correct a historic injustice.

MEDAL OF HONOR
RECOMMENDATION



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
H.R. 3377

To authorize the President to award
the Medal of Honor to
Major James Capers Jr., USMC.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

June 14, 2024

HONOR RESTORED.

A NATION FOREVER GRATEFUL.

JUSTICE AT LAST



For nearly six decades, Major James Capers Jr.'s extraordinary courage waited for the nation's highest military honor.

On June 18, 2026, that wait finally came to an end.

Inside the White House, President Donald J. Trump presented the Medal of Honor to Major James Capers Jr. for extraordinary heroism during Operation Broadminded near Phú Lộc, Republic of Vietnam, from March 31 through April 3, 1967.

History could not change what happened in Vietnam.

But it could finally recognize it.

Nearly sixty years after leading his wounded Reconnaissance team through overwhelming enemy fire, Major James Capers Jr. stood before the nation wearing the Medal of Honor he had earned in Vietnam.

Justice had finally caught up with heroism.



*"If there is no struggle
there is no progress."*



We the People

HALL OF HEROES



MEDAL OF HONOR
CITATION

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MAJOR JAMES CAPERS, JR.

For more than half a century, Major James Capers Jr. carried a truth the nation had not yet caught up with.

He fought in a war that tested everything a Marine could endure and upheld.

He lived with an omission that never reflected his courage.

But history, patient and unyielding, has a way of setting the record straight.

The Hall of Heroes now stands as a permanent reminder of what courage truly looks like and what justice finally achieved.

His name is now where it has always belonged.

Among America's finest.

When history finally found its voice, America simply recognized the hero who had always been there.



HALL OF HEROES



BLACK AMERICAN PATRIOTISM

Patriotism Has Always Been Part of Our Story.



MAP
OF
TEXAS.
1870.

Proclamation
by the
Executive of the State of Texas,
EMANCIPATION.
JANUARY 1, 1863.

RECONSTRUCTION
GOVERNMENT
DOCUMENT
1868.

FREEDOM.
EQUALITY.
OPPORTUNITY.
THE AMERICAN
PROMISE.
FOR ALL.

JUNETEENTH
JUNE 19, 1865

We Have Never Stopped Believing in America.

F

From the shores of Galveston to the plains of West Texas, from the bayous to the borders, Black Texans have built, fought, prayed, taught, served, led, and sacrificed for a nation that has been both their challenge and their promise.

Our patriotism is not recent. It is not reactive. It is not performative. It is generational.

It is rooted in faith that carried our ancestors through emancipation. It is reflected in the courage of those who reconstructed communities, established schools, built churches, purchased land, created businesses, fought for equal rights, and stood for constitutional liberty.

It is seen in the men who wore the uniform in every American war. It is heard in the voices of educators who refused to let ignorance define our future. It is lifted in the prayers of mothers and fathers who taught their children that freedom is a responsibility.

It is lived by those who continue to believe in the promise of America—because they have invested in it.

“Black American patriotism is not measured by words alone. It is measured by generations who built communities, defended liberty, expanded opportunity, strengthened families, and answered their nation’s call whenever duty required it.”

From Frederick Douglass who reminded America to live up to its ideals, to Abraham Lincoln who signed the Emancipation Proclamation, to the freedom celebrated on Juneteenth—our story has always been linked to the soul of this nation.

From the builders of Reconstruction who laid the foundation for Black political, economic, and educational advancement, to Walter Moses Burton who opened doors in Texas governance, to the brave few of the Montford Point Marines who broke barriers in military service, to Major James Capers Jr. whose valor was recognized at the highest level—this is our legacy.

From the march toward the Hall of Heroes, where our stories are now etched for all time, to the leaders, teachers, pastors, veterans, public servants, and everyday citizens who continue the work—Black American patriotism did not begin in one moment, and it will not end in this generation.

THE TORCH NEVER WENT OUT.

IT WAS CARRIED FORWARD BY
THOSE WHO BELIEVED IN
AMERICA’S PROMISE, EVEN WHEN
THAT PROMISE WAS DELAYED.



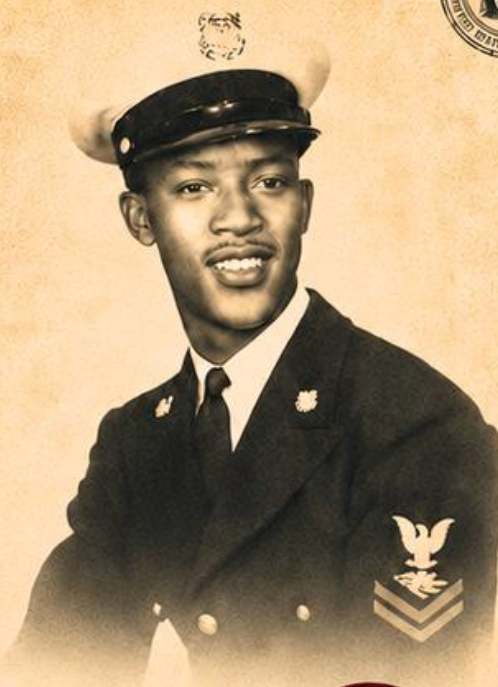
EDUCATION.
CIVIC DUTY.
CONSTITUTIONAL
LIBERTY.
FAITH.



TEXAS HISTORICAL MAP 1900



NAVY DEPARTMENT
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



REBY CARY

The Keeper of the Torch

From the decks of Navy ships to the classrooms of Texas, Reby Cary carried a simple conviction: freedom must be remembered and defended. Born in Texas, shaped by service in the United States Navy during the World War II era, Cary dedicated his life to ensuring that the full story of Black American patriotism, including the courage of those who built communities, defended the nation, and upheld the Constitution, would never be forgotten.

Reby Elwood Cary was a Texas native, veteran, educator, historian, and public servant. His military service instilled in him a deep commitment to discipline, duty, and country. Those experiences stayed with him long after he returned home, fueling a passion for truth and self reliance.

*"History is
not just what
happened.
It is what we
choose to
remember and
teach."*

Reby Cary

After witnessing how stories of Black achievement and patriotism were often overlooked, Cary became a passionate advocate for accurate Black history education. He emphasized that Black Texans have always contributed to the state's growth, from the Reconstruction era to military service, and that preserving this history strengthens community self reliance, faith, and civic responsibility.

Cary understood that education was the foundation of liberty. He taught that knowing one's heritage empowers individuals to claim America's promise fully. His work as a historian and educator was never just about the past. It was about preparing future generations to carry the torch with integrity and purpose.



UNITED STATES NAVY
HONOR • COURAGE • COMMITMENT



THE STATE OF TEXAS
House of Representatives
AUSTIN, TEXAS

March 12, 1956

Reby E. Cary
Committee on Education
Austin, Texas

Dear Mr. Cary,

The Speaker has referred to you for consideration and as a potential for confirmation and report the case.

Reby Cary's life stands as a bridge between generations. Through his service, scholarship, and unwavering belief in America's ideals, he ensured that the stories of Black American patriotism, from Juneteenth to the halls of the Texas Legislature, would continue to inspire. He did not merely preserve history. He kept the torch alive for those who would follow.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE OF TEXAS
AUSTIN.

COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION
TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
REPORT TO THE HOUSE

REBY CARY

Public Service and the Torch of Principle

*Leadership is measured not only by the offices we hold,
but by the lives we help shape.*

Reby Cary's time in elected office was defined by service — fighting for better schools, stronger communities, and policies that empowered individuals rather than dependency. Elected to the Texas House of Representatives, he served multiple terms with a clear focus on education, economic opportunity, and fair representation for all Texans.

As a lawmaker, Cary championed quality schools as the pathway to self-reliance and civic engagement. He believed that strong education equipped citizens to build better lives, contribute to their communities, and fully participate in the promise of America. His work reflected a deep commitment to lifting families through opportunity, hard work, and constitutional fidelity.

Over time, Cary's deep study of history, together with his unwavering commitment to constitutional principles, led him to the Republican Party. He saw in its founding ideals rooted in Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass a continuation of the values that had lifted generations: limited government, individual responsibility, faith, family, and self-governance. For Cary, the Republican Party represented the party of opportunity and constitutional liberty, consistent with the Black Texans who helped build it during Reconstruction.

This decision was not made lightly. It came from conviction after years of public service and reflection on what truly advanced freedom and justice. Cary viewed the Republican Party as the natural home for those who believed in the same principles that carried Black Americans through emancipation, military service, and community building.

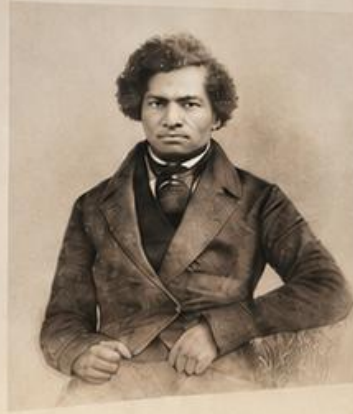
*"True progress comes not from government alone,
but from the character and determination of the people."*



*Reby Cary's journey in public life showed that patriotism is lived through service and principle.
From the Texas House to his broader legacy, he remained a steadfast keeper of the torch,
ensuring that the story of Black American patriotism would continue with integrity
and purpose for generations to come.*



Frederick Douglass Republicans of Tarrant County, TX



REBY CARY

Founding the Frederick Douglass Republicans of Tarrant County

History survives because someone chooses to preserve it.

Determined that the stories of Black patriotism would not fade, Reby Cary founded the Frederick Douglass Republicans of Tarrant County. The organization became a steward of history, honoring Reconstruction-era Black Texans who helped build the Texas GOP, celebrating military service, and encouraging civic engagement rooted in Frederick Douglass's ideals of education and moral courage.

Cary's vision was clear: Black Texans should know their full patriotic heritage and actively participate in shaping Texas's future through self-governance and community leadership. The mission centered on historical preservation, civic education, voter registration, and promoting principles of faith, family, education, and constitutional liberty.

Through FDRSTC, Cary worked to reclaim and teach the rich history of Black Republicanism in Texas, from leaders like Walter Moses Burton to military pioneers who served with distinction. He believed that understanding this legacy strengthened community self-reliance and civic responsibility.

Reby Cary saw the organization not as a political vehicle alone, but as a guardian of truth. By preserving these stories, FDRSTC ensures that the torch of Black American patriotism continues to burn brightly, inspiring new generations to claim America's promise with integrity and purpose.

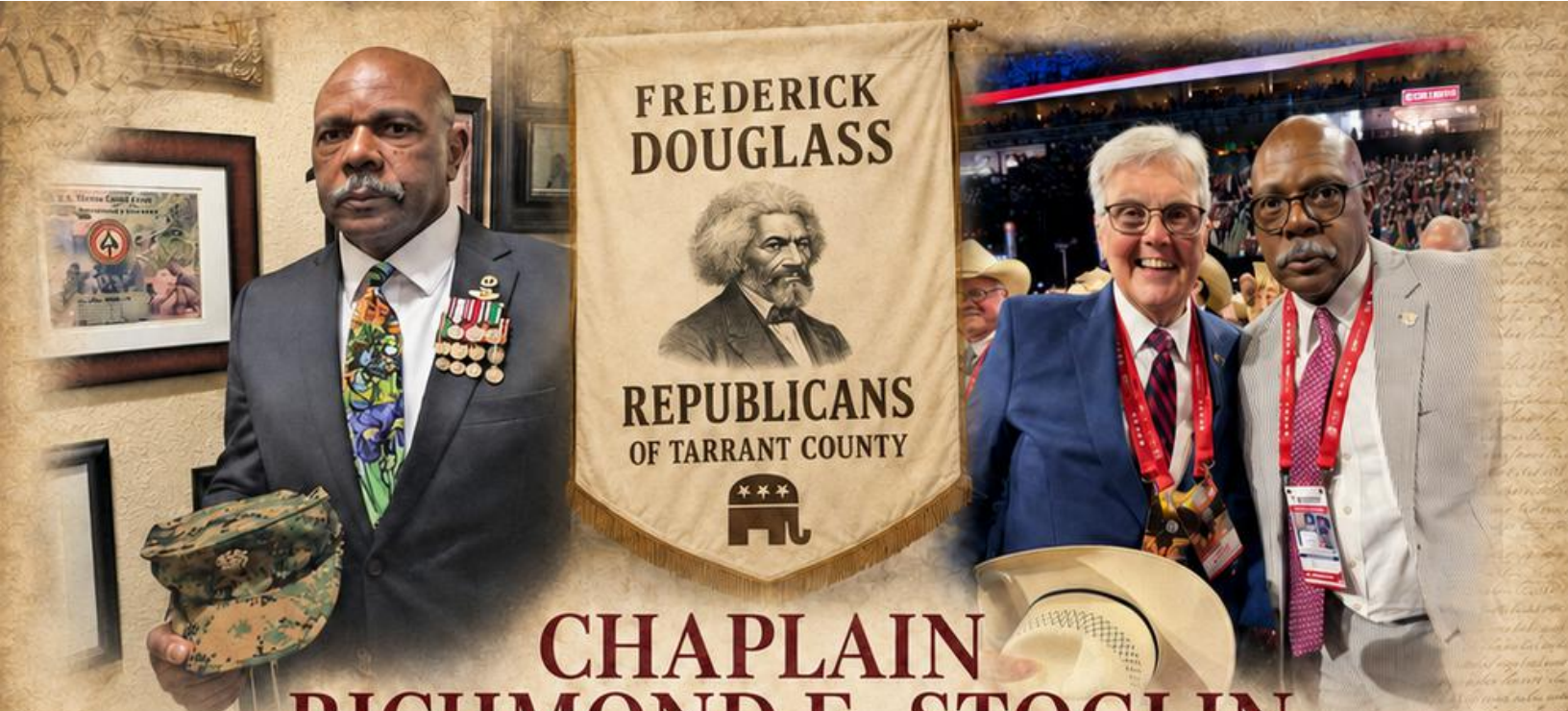
THE MISSION

- ★ Faith
- ★ Education
- ★ Historical Preservation
- ★ Civic Engagement
- ★ Voter Registration
- ★ Constitutional Liberty
- ★ Community Leadership

"Without knowledge of our history, we cannot fully claim our future."

— Reby Cary

Reby Cary's founding of the Frederick Douglass Republicans of Tarrant County stands as a lasting testament to his life's work. He did not merely preserve the past. He equipped the present to carry the torch forward with faith, education, and unwavering commitment to constitutional liberty.



CHAPLAIN RICHMOND E. STOGLIN

Continuing the Mission

*History is carried forward by those willing to preserve it
through faith, service, and conviction.*

As Reby Cary's work continued, he entrusted the mission to one man — Chaplain Richmond E. Stoglin. A retired Navy and Marine Corps chaplain, veteran advocate, and community leader in North Texas, Stoglin was specifically chosen by Cary to step into the role and carry forward the torch.

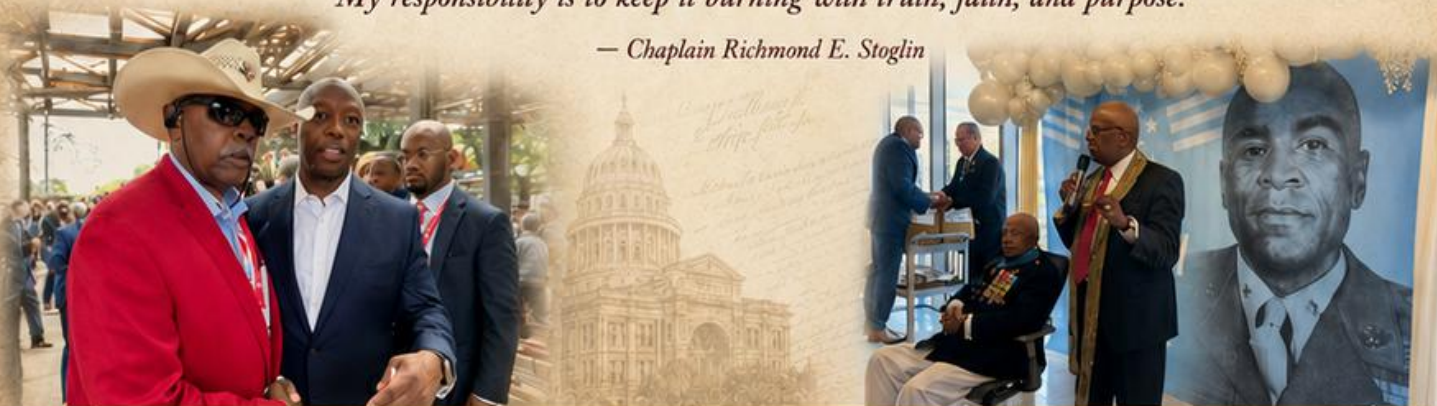
Chaplain Stoglin has served with distinction as a spiritual guide for veterans and their families. He attended Major James Capers Jr.'s Medal of Honor ceremony and continues his public service with the same faith and dedication that defined Cary's legacy. As President of the Frederick Douglass Republicans of Tarrant County, Stoglin leads with a commitment to historical preservation, faith-based community work, patriotic education, and civic engagement.

Under his leadership, FDRSTC remains a steward of Black American patriotism, honoring the stories of Reconstruction, military pioneers like the Montford Point Marines, and heroes such as Major James Capers Jr. Stoglin ensures the organization stays rooted in Frederick Douglass's principles of education, self-reliance, moral courage, and constitutional liberty.

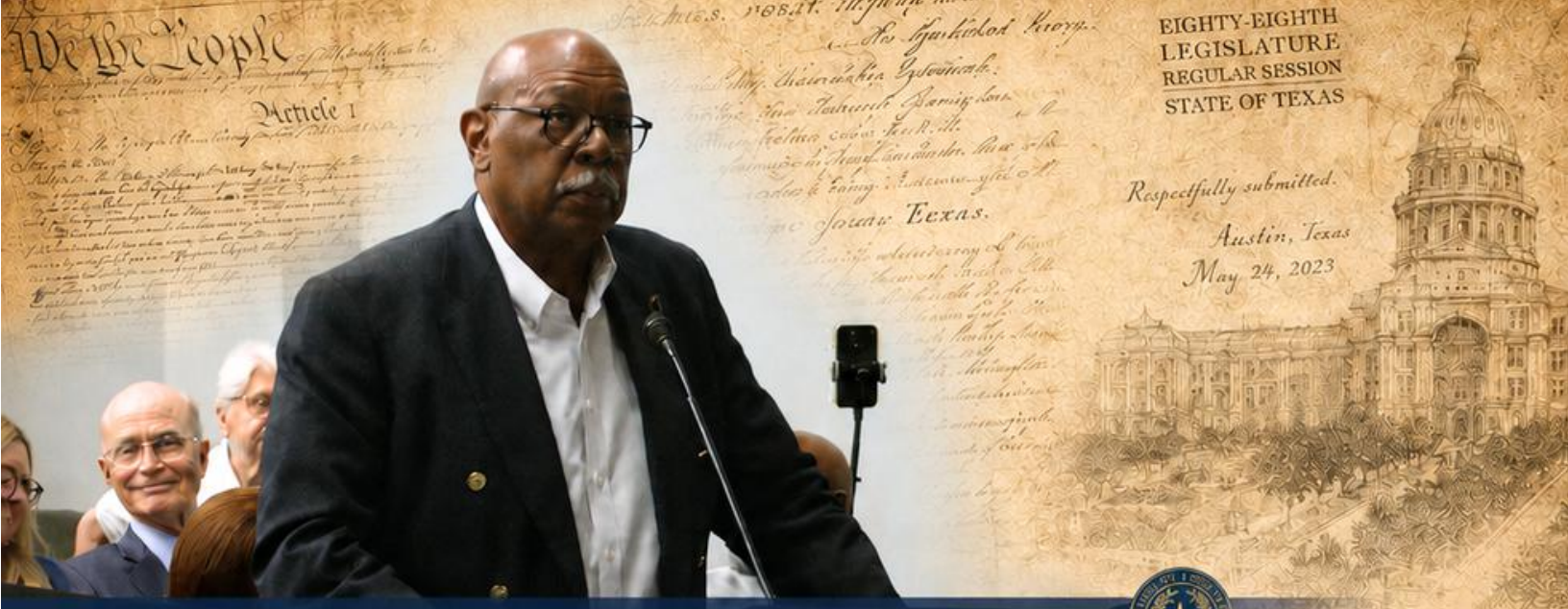
Reby Cary saw in Chaplain Stoglin the character and conviction needed to safeguard the mission. That trust has been honored. Through faith, service, and unwavering commitment to Texas values, Stoglin continues the work, ensuring the torch of Black American patriotism burns brightly for the next generation.

*"The torch was passed to me by a man who understood its weight.
My responsibility is to keep it burning with truth, faith, and purpose."*

— Chaplain Richmond E. Stoglin



*Reby Cary safeguarded the history. Chaplain Richmond E. Stoglin carries it forward.
Together, they remind us that the story of Black American patriotism is not confined to the past.
It lives on through those who choose to lead with integrity, faith, and unwavering service.*



COMMITTEE ON CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING, SELECT

CHAPLAIN RICHMOND E. STOGLIN

The Cost of Conviction

Some moments define a leader long before history has the chance to record them. During testimony before the Texas House Select Committee on Congressional Redistricting, Chaplain Richmond E. Stoglin walked into one of the most emotionally charged public hearings in recent Texas history. As he defended his convictions before lawmakers, the chamber erupted with jeers, insults, and interruptions. Cries of “sellout,” “Uncle Tom,” and other personal attacks echoed through the room until proceedings were halted to restore order.

When the committee restored the hearing and returned his remaining time, Chaplain Stoglin did not retreat. He did not respond to the insults. He simply continued his testimony with the same calm conviction that had carried him through decades of military service, ministry, and public leadership.

The testimony spread rapidly across television broadcasts, news outlets, and social media platforms, generating millions of views, shares, comments, and reactions nationwide. Supporters praised his courage. Critics condemned his position. Regardless of opinion, the moment became one of the most widely discussed testimonies of the Texas redistricting debate and placed Chaplain Stoglin at the center of a national conversation about race, representation, and political conviction.

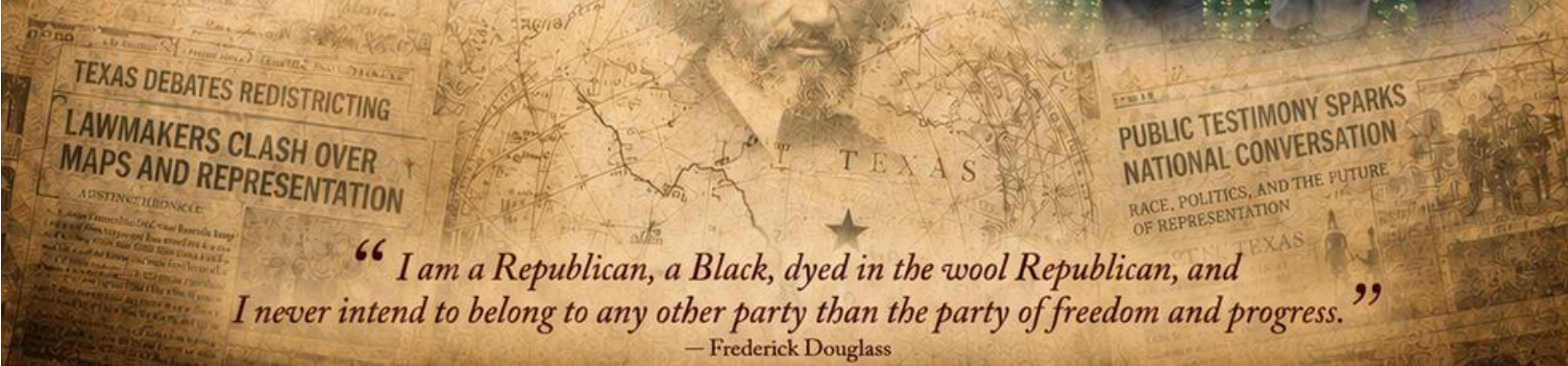
For many leaders in attendance, including members of the Texas Legislature, Chaplain Stoglin's composure under extraordinary public pressure became a defining example of principled leadership. His willingness to continue speaking after order had been restored demonstrated the same quiet resolve that has marked generations of Black American patriots who chose conviction over comfort.

Courage is rarely tested in comfortable rooms. It is tested when conviction carries a cost. On that day in Austin, Chaplain Richmond E. Stoglin reminded Texas that the torch of Black American patriotism is still carried by men and women willing to stand, speak, and endure for principles they believe are larger than themselves.



“I am a Republican, a Black, dyed in the wool Republican, and I never intend to belong to any other party than the party of freedom and progress.”

— Frederick Douglass



DEFENDERS OF THE CONSTITUTION

Guardians of Constitutional Liberty

We the People
Article 1

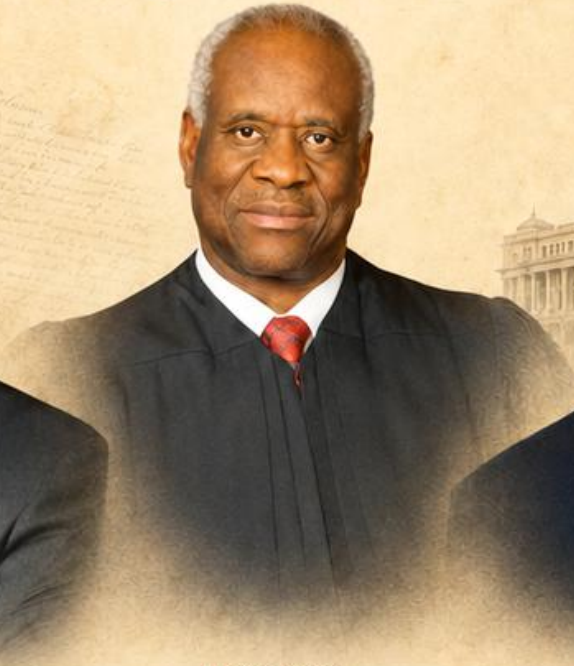
Bill of Rights
Congress of the United States



**HONORABLE JUDGE
KENNETH E. NEWELL**

Judge
233rd District Court
Tarrant County, Texas

Judge Kenneth E. Newell has built a distinguished judicial career defined by fairness, integrity, and an unwavering commitment to the rule of law. As Judge of the 233rd District Court in Tarrant County, Texas, he is known for his thoughtful leadership, his dedication to justice, and his deep respect for all who appear before the court.



**JUSTICE
CLARENCE THOMAS**

Associate Justice
Supreme Court
of the United States

Justice Clarence Thomas has served the United States with distinction for more than three decades as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. His unwavering fidelity to the Constitution, his intellectual independence, and his steadfast commitment to liberty have made him a defining voice for judicial integrity and constitutional originalism in America.



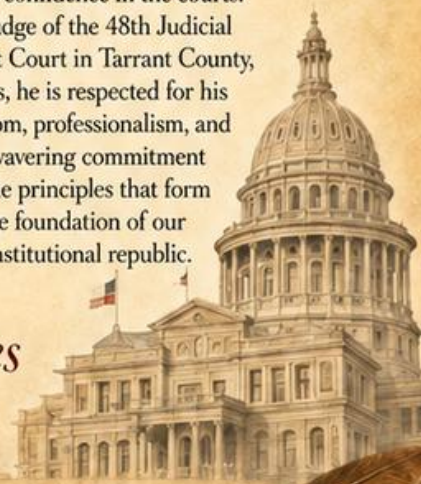
**HONORABLE JUDGE
CHRISTOPHER "CHRIS" TAYLOR**

Judge
48th Judicial District Court
Tarrant County, Texas

Judge Christopher "Chris" Taylor has dedicated his career to upholding justice, protecting individual rights, and strengthening public confidence in the courts. As Judge of the 48th Judicial District Court in Tarrant County, Texas, he is respected for his wisdom, professionalism, and unwavering commitment to the principles that form the foundation of our constitutional republic.

*"The Constitution of the United States
is a glorious liberty document."*

— Frederick Douglass



We the People

Congress of the United States

Frederick Douglass

We the People of the United States

Congress of the United States
At the Session

A BILL



THE LEGISLATORS

Serving the American Republic

SENATOR TIM SCOTT

*United States Senator
South Carolina*

Senator Tim Scott serves as the first Black Republican elected to the United States Senate from the South since Reconstruction. Raised by a hardworking single mother, his journey reflects the enduring promise of faith, personal responsibility, education, and perseverance.

Throughout his service, Senator Scott has championed economic opportunity, criminal justice reform, school choice, veterans, and policies that strengthen families and expand opportunity for every American. His leadership reflects a steadfast commitment to constitutional liberty, individual responsibility, and the belief that every citizen deserves the opportunity to succeed.

CONGRESSMAN WESLEY HUNT

*United States Representative
Texas*

Congressman Wesley Hunt represents Texas's 38th Congressional District after serving with distinction as a Black Hawk helicopter pilot in the United States Army, completing multiple combat deployments to Iraq and earning the Bronze Star Medal.

His military service shaped a lifelong commitment to duty, constitutional government, secure borders, economic opportunity, and the values of faith, family, and limited government. Congressman Hunt continues serving Texas with the same courage and devotion that defined his military career.

CONGRESSMAN BYRON DONALDS

*United States Representative
Florida*

Congressman Byron Donalds represents Florida's 19th Congressional District with a strong commitment to constitutional conservatism, economic freedom, fiscal responsibility, and parental rights in education.

Following service in the Florida House of Representatives, Congressman Donalds has become a national voice for limited government, free enterprise, and equal opportunity. His leadership reflects a belief that liberty flourishes when individuals, families, and communities are empowered rather than dependent upon government.

"I would unite with anybody to do right and with nobody to do wrong."

— Frederick Douglass

Congressional
Register.

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES
OF THE
FORTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES.

REPORT.

Mr. Chairman:

Your Committee on

Internal Affairs, have the honor

to submit to you the following

report.

House of Representatives.
Washington, D.C.

To the Speaker:
The Special Annual Session
of the House of Representatives
has been held at the
City of Washington, D.C.
on the 1st day of January, 1900.

We the People

U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
WASHINGTON.

March 3, 1863.

Hon. Schuyler Colfax,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith
a copy of *Scrivener's report* from the
Committee on Printing.

Very respectfully,
Yours obediently,
Hon. Mc Kinstry.

IN CONGRESS, July 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America.

Charles Cunningham

State Representative
Texas House of Representatives
District 127

A U.S. Army veteran and proud Black Republican, Rep. Cunningham serves the people of Humble and Harris County in the Texas House. He earned a bachelor's degree from Our Lady of the Lake University and has worked as a distribution account consultant. His service on the Humble ISD Board of Trustees and in the Legislature reflects a commitment to education, community, and conservative principles.

Congress of the United States.

At the First Session.

Began and held at the City of Washington on
Wednesday, the fourth of March, one thousand
seven hundred and eighty-nine.

Bill

Burgess Owens

United States Representative
Utah's 4th Congressional District

A former NFL Super Bowl champion, small business owner, and proud Black Republican, Congressman Owens brings real-world experience to Congress. He is a strong advocate for school choice, economic opportunity, secure borders, and constitutional liberty. His journey reflects the power of faith, family, and self-reliance.

John James

United States Representative
Michigan's 10th Congressional District

A West Point graduate, combat veteran, and successful businessman, Congressman James served with distinction in the United States Army. He is a strong voice for national security, fiscal responsibility, and empowering working families. His leadership demonstrates the values of duty, honor, and principled conservatism.

"People might not get all they work for in this world,
but they must certainly work for all they get."

— Frederick Douglass

Bill of Rights
Congress of the United States.



LEGISLATIVE CORRESPONDENCE.
House of Representatives.



The Courage That Changed America

We the People

IT IS EASIER TO
BUILD STRONG CHILDREN
THAN TO REPAIR
BROKEN MEN.

—FREDERICK DOUGLASS

Freedom has always demanded courage.

Frederick Douglass fought with words.
The Montford Point Marines fought for the
opportunity to serve.
Major James Capers Jr. fought for his
fellow Marines.

Though separated by generations, each reminds us that character, duty, sacrifice, and perseverance shape the American story.

Frederick Douglass challenged a nation to live up to its highest ideals. With unwavering conviction, he declared that liberty is not a gift—it is a promise that must be defended.

The Montford Point Marines answered that challenge in their own time. They broke barriers, endured prejudice, and proved through discipline and excellence that Americans of every background deserve the chance to serve the country they love.

Major James Capers Jr. carried that legacy forward into the crucible of war. Leading with courage, compassion, and unspakable resolve, he embodied the finest traditions of the Marine Corps and the American spirit.

*Liberty survives because each generation chooses to defend it in its own way.
Words. Service. Sacrifice. Leadership. Different tools. Same mission.*

Today, their stories call us to the same duty. Not to repeat the past, but to learn from it. Not to seek recognition, but to do what is right when others depend on us. Not to ask what our country can do for us, but what we can do for our country.

The legacy of Frederick Douglass, the Montford Point Marines, and Major James Capers Jr. is not just history — It is a charge. The work of freedom is never finished.

*May we honor their courage by carrying forward
the work they began.*

**"ONCE YOU LEARN
TO READ, YOU WILL
BE FOREVER FREE."**

— FREDERICK DOUGLASS

THE DOUGLASS LEGACY

FREDERICK DOUGLASS
challenged America to live up to its
founding ideals and insisted that every
person is entitled to liberty and dignity.

THE MONTFORD POINT MARINES
opened doors that had long been closed
and proved that excellence and honor
know no color.

MAJOR JAMES CAPERS JR.
demonstrated the highest ideals of
military service—leading with courage,
placing his men above himself, and
earning the Nation's highest honor.

EACH GENERATION INHERITS THE WORK
OF THE ONE BEFORE IT.
EACH GENERATION MUST CHOOSE
TO CARRY IT FORWARD.



We the People
inadvisable through the exercise of the
and our Protection, as well as

THE DOUGLASS
CLARION

VOLUME 2 ★ ISSUE 6

STAY CONNECTED

*Follow the Frederick Douglass Republicans of Tarrant County online
and stay informed, engaged, and connected to the work ahead.*



FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/FDRofTC>



X

<https://x.com/FDRSTC>



INSTAGRAM

https://www.instagram.com/fdrstc_85/



WEBSITE

<https://frederickdouglassrepublikansoftarrantcounty.org/>



YOUTUBE

<https://www.youtube.com/@FDRSTC>

NEXT MEETING DATE

TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2026

6:10 PM

Stay connected with us online for updates, events, community news,
and opportunities to get involved. We invite you to follow, share,
and remain engaged as we continue advancing faith, freedom,
and constitutional values throughout Tarrant County and beyond.