



Blacks In Government®

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TO: Regional Council Presidents

November 13, 2007

Chapter Presidents

FROM: 
Darlene H. Young
National President

SUBJECT: **BIG VOTE 08**

Next year Americans will go to the polls to elect a new President of the United States as well as other government office holders. I expect and hope that BIG members and their respective chapters will be fully engaged in the election process. You are encouraged to exercise your right as an American citizen and vote for the candidate or candidates of your choice. In the Presidential election process you should vote in either your primary or caucus and in the November general election. If your candidate fails to win the necessary votes in the early primaries and caucuses being held mostly in January and February, chances are that your candidate will not be in the running in November's general election. Attached is a list of the caucus/primary dates for each State. Please review and make sure you share this information with others. Above all, make sure you vote in your State's primary or caucus and encourage others to do likewise.

In addition to exercising your individual right to vote we want you to contribute your time and expertise in educating and assisting others in your community to vote also. Democracy is best served when we have an informed citizenry engaged fully in the election process. To this end we have conceived BIG VOTE 08; a campaign to facilitate your full participation in the 2008 election campaign. Specifically we want you to participate in voter education, voter registration and in get-out-the-vote programs and activities. The Legislative Review Committee, over the coming months, will disseminate information and provide appropriate assistance in helping you to discharge your BIG VOTE 08 responsibilities. For example, we have already linked to our web site (bignet.org) a feature that will enable individuals to register to vote online. Simply click on the 'partnership information' icon and open the site for the 'National Coalition of Black Civic Participation'. The voter registration icon is on the front page. We encourage you to use this feature in registering individuals to vote. Soon we will be disseminating information on other programs and events that we will encourage you to participate in. However, please feel free to fashion and implement your own ideas into workable programs to achieve your BIG VOTE 08 objectives. We will share these, to the extent practical, with other BIG chapters.

To monitor and support your BIG VOTE 08 efforts I have asked the Chair of the Legislative Review Committee, Mr. Ron Mathis, to periodically monitor and report your BIG VOTE 08 activities and participation in the various programs offered. Beginning on January 15, 2008, and quarterly thereafter, you will be asked to submit your BIG VOTE 08 activities and accomplishments via email. A special 'email box' will be established for this purpose. Please respond as instructed and give Mr. Mathis your full cooperation.

Attachment

As Stated

CC:

Board of Directors

Executive Committee

One of America's Most Influential Organizations

"Thank You For Thinking BIG"