

## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 15, 2010

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### **National Coalition of Black Meeting Planners' Founding Member, Howard F. Mills, Sr. CMP Expires**

Silver Spring, Maryland — The National Coalition of Black Meeting Planners announced today that Howard F. Mills, Sr., CMP passed away at 1:30 a.m. on Wednesday, December 15, 2010 after a long illness. Mr. Mills had celebrated his 75th birthday on December 11, 2010.

Howard F. Mills, CMP, was a dynamic, results-oriented executive with an extensive business background that included over 25 years as the chief meeting/conference planner for the National Urban League. He was a founding member of the National Coalition of Black Meeting Planners and Chairman Emeritus of the organization. Mills was also currently serving as the organization's Chairman of the Board.

He was a tireless advocate for inclusion and the advancement of Blacks in the meetings and hospitality industry and he served as a trainer and consultant to several hotels and convention bureaus. He remained steadfast in his commitment to mentor and work with young people in the industry. Through his vigilant networking, he brought together young people and key industry practitioners, often resulting in new or advanced employment opportunities for young people.

Mills was recognized by his peers in the industry. He received the Hall of Leaders Award presented by the Convention Industry Council, The Spirit of Hospitality Award given by the IACVB Foundation, numerous awards presented by the NCBMP, the Whitney M. Young, Jr. Award and the Ann Tanneyhill Award, both bestowed by the National Urban League, as well as many citations and awards presented to him by cities, convention and visitors bureaus and hotels.

A graduate of Tuskegee University, Mills was experienced in all facets of meeting/conference planning, budgeting and negotiations. He was singularly honored for his pioneering efforts and sterling contributions on behalf of Black meeting planners and promoting meeting planning as a career.

Mills is survived by his wife, Rubena Mills, daughter Sharon Chapman (Harold), son, Howard, Jr. (Teresa), two grandchildren Zakiya 13 and Zachary 10.

Condolences may be sent to Mrs. Rubena Mills and Family 487 Coolidge Avenue Rockville Centre, NY 11570

In lieu of flowers, please make contributions in memory of Howard to:

- Long Island Tuskegee Alumni Association, P.O. Box 110322, Cambria Heights Station, Cambria Heights, NY 11411
- St. Albans Church Educational Fund, 172-17 Linden Boulevard, St. Albans, NY 11434

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