

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with The Honorable Larry Bullock

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## Overview of the Collection

<b>Repository:</b>	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
<b>Creator:</b>	Bullock, Larry S., 1946-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Larry Bullock,
<b>Dates:</b>	July 20, 2000
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2000
<b>Physical Description:</b>	5 Betacame SP videocassettes (2:30:00).
<b>Abstract:</b>	State representative The Honorable Larry Bullock (1946 - ) has served a total of four terms in the Illinois House of Representatives, is an ordained minister, and is the president of his own construction company. Bullock was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on July 20, 2000, in Chicago, Illinois. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2000_045
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Senator and former state representative Rev. Larry S. Bullock was born on April 14, 1946 in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Bullock was the first African American student to be admitted to Catawba College in Salisbury, North Carolina, where he graduated with his B.S. degree in political science. In 1969, he moved to Chicago, enrolled at Roosevelt University, and received his M.P.A. degree. After graduating from Roosevelt University in 1973, Bullock taught school in Evanston, Illinois. He also became active in Operation PUSH, finding a mentor in the Rev. Jesse Louis Jackson, Sr.

Bullock's experience working with PUSH eventually led him into politics. He ran for Representative of Chicago's 2nd Ward, but lost to incumbent William Barnett. Two years later, Bullock ran again and was defeated; however, Bullock prepared to run again and in 1978, he was elected to the Illinois House of Representatives. While in the state legislature, Bullock served on the Appropriations Committee as well as the Banking, Revenue and Labor committees. He sponsored legislation for the expansion of McCormick Place and chaired the House Governmental Operations Committee. He was also Chairman of the first Black Illinois Domestic Summit Conference.

Bullock served a total of four terms in the House. He ran for Congress in 1986 but lost to U.S. Congressman Charles B. Hayes.

Bullock later became an ordained minister at Ebenezer A.M.E. Church, and then founded and served as senior pastor of the Living Faith Cathedral Worship Church. He also worked as national manager of strategic relationships for Stewart Title Company and hosted two radio shows on WYLL-AM: "The Faith Factor: Jew and Christian In Dialogue" and "Real Estate Made Easy." Bullock is also owner and president of April Cobra Enterprises, Inc., a construction management, general contracting and real estate development firm.

Bullock serves as president of the Roosevelt University Alumni Association and is a member of the Roosevelt University Board of Trustees. He is also founder and president of the U.S. Minority Contractors Association, and

chairman of Heartland Energy Technology. His honors include the National Association of Real Estate Brokers' Presidential Award and the 2006-2007 *SuccessGuide Worldwide* magazine "Top Achievers" award.

Bullock is married to Dr. Gloria E. Bullock. He has two children and five grandsons.

Larry S. Bullock was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on July 20, 2000.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with The Honorable Larry Bullock was conducted by Adele Hodge on July 20, 2000, in Chicago, Illinois, and was recorded on 5 Betacame SP videocassettes. State representative The Honorable Larry Bullock (1946 - ) has served a total of four terms in the Illinois House of Representatives, is an ordained minister, and is the president of his own construction company.

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## Restrictions

### Restrictions on Access

Restrictions may be applied on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of The HistoryMakers®.

### Restrictions on Use

All use of materials and use credits must be pre-approved by The HistoryMakers®. Appropriate credit must be given. Copyright is held by The HistoryMakers®.

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## Related Material

Information about the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview, as well as correspondence with the interview subject is stored electronically both on The HistoryMakers® server and in two databases maintained by The HistoryMakers®, though this information is not included in this finding aid.

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## Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

### Persons:

Bullock, Larry S., 1946-

Hodge, Adele (Interviewer)

Haynes, Frank (Videographer)

### Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Bullock, Larry S., 1946---Interviews

African American politicians--Illinois--Interviews.

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## Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

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The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

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Illinois

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## Occupations:

State Representative

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## HistoryMakers® Category:

PoliticalMakers

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## Administrative Information

### Custodial History

Interview footage was recorded by The HistoryMakers®. All rights to the interview have been transferred to The HistoryMakers® by the interview subject through a signed interview release form. Signed interview release forms have been deposited with Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago.

### Preferred Citation

The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Larry Bullock, July 20, 2000. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

### Processing Information

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 5/30/2023 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

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## Other Finding Aid

A Microsoft Access contact database and a FileMaker Pro tracking database, both maintained by The HistoryMakers®, keep track of the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview.

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## Detailed Description of the Collection

### Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Larry Bullock, Section A2000\_045\_001\_001, TRT: 0:30:00 ?

Larry Bullock is the oldest of seven children born to Anna Potea and Edward Bullock. Edward Bullock worked in the harness racing industry. His maternal grandfather, Jessie Gwyn was a tobacco farmer in North Carolina. In Bullock's youth, it was in his family, church, and with athletics that Bullock was taught leadership and responsibility. Bullock was the first African American to integrate Mount Airy High School in Mount Airy, North Carolina, and Catawba College in Salisbury, North Carolina. When Bullock integrated Mount Airy High School, he received a lot of support from his community; however, he had a negative experience integrating Catawba College. This experience led Bullock to pursue public office. At Catawba College, Bullock worked on Earl Ruth's U.S. Congressional Campaign. His political activity continued when he moved in Chicago, where he was involved with Operation PUSH and decided to enter state politics. In Illinois politics, the media's distrust of politicians and the growing cynicism of constituents shaped Bullock's approach to the press.

Childhood and youth--North Carolina--Mount Airy.

African American families--North Carolina--Mount Airy.

School integration--North Carolina.

Catawba College.

Ruth, Earl B. (Earl Baker), 1916-1989.

Operation PUSH (U.S.).

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Larry Bullock, Section A2000\_045\_001\_002, TRT: 0:30:00 ?

Larry Bullock reflects on his experiences integrating Mount Airy High School and the hostility he faced on the field as a football player. With the encouragement of his mentors, Bullock decided to enroll at Catawba College in Salisbury, North Carolina. While at Catawba, Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination in 1968 led Bullock to increase his political involvement. He became the college's first African American graduate in 1969. After graduation, Bullock moved to Chicago, Illinois where he joined Operation PUSH and worked with HistoryMakers Reverend Jesse Jackson, Sr. and Reverend Willie Barrow. During this period, Reverend Jackson taught Bullock how to effectively reach the African American community. Bullock used this training when he ran for alderman of Chicago's 2nd Ward as well as for Illinois House Representative. Bullock also talks about life after public office including his service as a minister for the AME Zion Church and his success in the construction industry.

Catawba College.

School integration--North Carolina.

Operation PUSH (U.S.).

Jackson, Jesse, 1941-

African Americans--Mentoring--Illinois--Chicago.

African American political activists--Illinois--Chicago.

Barrow, Willie T. (Willie Taplin), 1924-2015.

African American ministers--Illinois--Chicago.

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Larry Bullock, Section A2000\_045\_001\_003,  
TRT: 0:30:00 ?

Larry Bullock talks about the legacy of Illinois State Representative Corneal Davis, and his influence on Bullock in the Illinois General Assembly. Bullock served in the Illinois General Assembly from 1978 until 1986. While in the House, Bullock championed issues affecting African Americans and the public welfare. Bullock discusses the positive effect of Mayor Harold Washington's election on the African American community, his mail fraud conviction, overcoming anger, and his hopes and concerns for the African American community. Bullock also talks about the power of state government to change a person's quality of life and the first African American State Comptroller, Roland Burris.

African American politicians--Illinois--Chicago.

Davis, Corneal A., 1900-

Washington, Harold, 1922-1987.

African American communities--Illinois--Chicago.

Burris, Roland W.

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Larry Bullock, Section A2000\_045\_001\_004,  
TRT: 0:30:00 ?

Larry Bullock expresses his faith in the federal government to defend civil rights. Bullock also talks about the strides African Americans have made in political representation, the lack of political mentors in the African American community, and his legacy.

African Americans--Mentoring.

African Americans--Political representation.

Civil rights--United States.

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Larry Bullock, Section A2000\_045\_001\_005,  
TRT: 0:30:00 ?

Larry Bullock narrates his photographs.

Photographs.