

# Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Joyce E. Tucker

PERSON

Tucker, Joyce E., 1948-

**Alternative Names:** Joyce E. Tucker;

**Life Dates:** September 21, 1948-

**Place of Birth:** Chicago, Illinois, USA

**Residence:** Clarendon Hills, IL

**Occupations:** Corporate Executive

## Biographical Note

Experienced advocate of equal-opportunity employment Joyce Elaine Tucker was born on September 21, 1948 to Howard (George) and Vivian Tucker in Chicago, Illinois. A middle child with two sisters, Tucker attended Irving Elementary School and Proviso East High School in Maywood, Illinois where she received her diploma in 1966. Tucker earned her B.S. degree from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign in 1970 and began working as a substitute teacher for Chicago Public Schools.

In 1970, Tucker was also hired as a mental health specialist at Tinley Park Mental Health Center. Four years later, she served as coordinator of the Illinois Department of Mental Health's equal employment opportunity and affirmative action (EEO/AA) programs. Tucker was then promoted to chief of the EEO/AA Title VI program at the Illinois Department of Mental Health. She received her J.D. degree from the John Marshall Law School in 1978 before becoming acting director for the Illinois Department of Equal Employment Opportunity. In 1980, Tucker was hired as director for the Illinois Department of Human Rights and was the first black woman to serve in the Governor's cabinet.

In 1990, Tucker was appointed to the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission by President George H.W. Bush and in 2001 President George W. Bush appointed Joyce to the White House Initiative Advisory Board for Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Tucker began her own EEO management company Tucker Spearman & Associates in 1997. Since 2002, she has been vice president of Global Diversity and Employee Rights for the Boeing Company.

Tucker has been named a "Diversity Leader" by Women of Color magazine and was the keynote speaker at the Executive Symposium for Women Business Leaders in 2006.

She has also received the Legacy of Opportunity Award, awarded by the Black Law Students Association at the John Marshall Law School. Joyce Tucker was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on May 24, 2010.

## Related Entries

**John Marshall Law School** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Juris Doctor**

**University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**B.S.**

**Proviso East High School** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Diploma**

**Irving Elementary School** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Diploma**

**Boeing Company** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 2002 to ?]

**Vice President of Diversity**

**Tucker Spearman & Associates** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1997 to 2002]

**President**

**Illinois Department of Human Rights** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1980 to 1990]

**Director**

**United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1990 to 1996]

**Commissioner**

**Illinois Department of Equal Employment Opportunity** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1979 to 1980]

**Acting Director**

**EEO/AA Title VI Program, Illinois Department of Mental Health** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1976 to 1979]

**Chief**

**Title VII Program, Illinois Department of Mental Health** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1974 to 1976]

**Coordinator**

**Tinley Park Mental Health Center** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1972 to 1974]

**Mental Health Specialist**

**Chicago Public Schools** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1970 to 1972]

**Substitute Teacher**

**President's Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities**  
[MEMBEROF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Board Member**

**Near North Health Service Coporation (NNHSC)** [MEMBEROF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Board of Directors**

**Chicago Center for Cultural Connections** [MEMBEROF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Board Member**

**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Club** [MEMBEROF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Board Member**

**League of Black Women** [MEMBEROF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Chairman**

**Girl Scouts of the USA** [MEMBEROF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Board Member**

**National Executive Board of the National Conference of Community and Justice**  
[MEMBEROF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Board Member**

**National Conference of Community and Justice** [MEMBEROF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Board Member**

**Abraham Lincoln Centre** [MEMBEROF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Board Member**

**International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies** [MEMBEROF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Board Member**

**National Women Executives in State Government** [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

**Founder**

**National Institute for Employment** [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

**Founder**

**State of Illinois Minority and Female Business Enterprise Council** [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

**Member**