

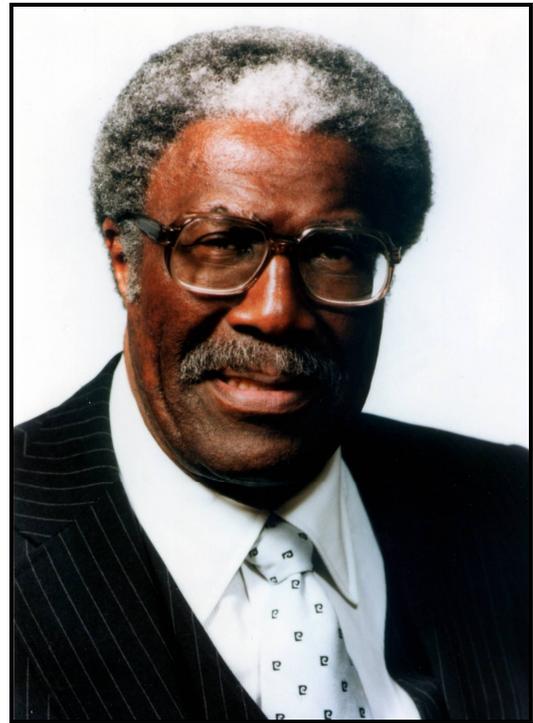
PAUL D. WHITE SCHOLARSHIP

The BakerHostetler scholarship honors Paul D. White, “discerning counsellor, kindly critic, and esteemed friend.”¹

Paul D. White was a Partner in the Employment Law and Benefits Group of BakerHostetler’s Cleveland office. Mr. White received an A.B. from Kentucky State College in 1940 and an L.L.B., J.D. from Western Reserve University in 1950.

Paul D. White had a prestigious and influential law career. He served as an attorney and counselor at law in general practice during 1950 and 1951. In 1951 he became Assistant Police Prosecutor for the City of Cleveland, a position held until 1959 when he was named Chief Assistant Police Prosecutor. When Paul D. White was elected Judge of the Cleveland Municipal Court in 1963, he was the first black judge to be elected in Cleveland. He was re-elected Judge in 1965, and in 1967 resigned from the Bench to become Law Director for the City of Cleveland. In that capacity, Mr. White held the top Cabinet position in Cleveland’s City Hall, with the responsibility to serve as Acting Mayor when Mayor Carl B. Stokes was not in town. That period of service led to a 1988 article by his son, Ronald D. White, then a reporter for *The Washington Post*, entitled “My Father, the Acting Mayor...” which recalled the challenges he faced as a leading black political figure during times of racial unrest.

Paul D. White joined BakerHostetler in 1968, becoming the first black lawyer in a major Cleveland law firm. In 1970 he was named Partner in the Firm and began a distinguished legal career while continuing his leadership role in community activities. He was widely respected as a labor and employment lawyer and community leader. Mr. White served on the State Board of Bar Examiners, was a Trustee of the Cleveland Bar Association and



(1917-1997)

the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, and was a permanent delegate to the Judicial Conference of the 8th District of Ohio. Mr. White had been president of the Cleveland Metroparks and served on the Boards of Dyke College, Western Reserve Law School, the Nationalities Services Center, the East End Neighborhood House, the Eliza Bryant Home for the Aged, Cedar YMCA, Boy Scouts, the National Conference of Christians and Jews, and the Urban League of Greater Cleveland.

As his son wrote in the December 30, 1988 article in *The Washington Post*, “It took my father longer to walk a city block than anyone I know. Many people knew him by name and he knew theirs. He always had time to talk.”

BakerHostetler

¹ Excerpt from a citation honoring Paul D. White for his years of service on the Board of Trustees for Dyke College.
