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News Release

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For more information, contact:
Debra Kós at debrakos@gmail.com
or 405.740.5254

NINE LIFE MEMBERS TO BE INDUCTED AT 63RD ANNUAL URBAN LEAGUE GALA

OKLAHOMA CITY — JUNE 21, 2010 — The Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City will induct nine new members during the life member induction ceremony at the 63rd Annual Membership and Awards Gala on Saturday, June 26, 2010, 6:30 p.m., at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. State Representative Jabar Shumate will be among the members being inducted at the ceremony. The other members include Daniel S. Adams from Enterprise Holdings; Kenneth D. Lawson from IBM; Reginald Johnson from MidFirst Bank; Bernard Jones from OCU School of Law; Marcellus Jones from Sonic America's Drive-In; Sandra Rochell from CFMC, Bank of Oklahoma; Lynn Smith from Bank of America Home Loans; and Patricia A. Tisdale from Devon Energy.

In addition to the life member ceremony, the annual gala also includes a reception and silent auction, dinner, dancing and live entertainment, and an awards presentation. Awards in the areas of volunteer service, board service, outstanding service from a young professional, and corporate service will also be presented.

“The annual gala is one of the highlights on the Urban League calendar,” said Dr. Valerie Thompson, Urban League president and CEO. “The event allows us to recognize individuals and corporations who have been instrumental in advancing the mission of the Urban League during the year. Of course, the gala also provides us with our biggest fundraising opportunity that enables us to continue to support our local community as we endeavor to bring all families into social and economic equality.”

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Proceeds from the gala support the League service and programs and contribute to the League's impact on the community, including: 55 percent of employment clients have been placed in gainful employment; 100 percent of students enrolled in the School Age Learning Center have improved grades; 100 percent of high school seniors in the youth leadership program have gone on to college; and the completion of two new affordable housing developments in northeast Oklahoma City that will contribute over \$2 million annually to the local economy.

Sponsorships, tables, and tickets are now available. For more information, contact Gayle Berry at 424-5243, or visit www.urbanleagueok.org.

The Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City is an affiliate of the National Urban League and is a United Way partner agency, serving over 10,000 clients per year. The Urban League's mission is to assist African Americans, minorities and the poor in the achievement of social and economic equality.

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