



THE ALBERTA ODELL JONES, ESQ. SCHOLARSHIP

EXTRAORDINARY POWER OF S.H.E.

Alberta Odell Jones, Esq. was born November 12, 1930 in Louisville, Kentucky. She graduated from Central High School, attended Louisville Municipal College for Negroes graduating third in her class, and helped to integrate the University of Louisville. Alberta graduated fourth in her class at Howard University Law School. She was a member of the Eta Zeta Chapter in Louisville, Kentucky and the Great Lakes Region. Alberta fully embodied the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated creed of accomplishing firsts. She was the first Black woman to pass the Kentucky State Bar Exam and the first woman to serve as prosecuting attorney in Jefferson County. Her activism included founding of the Independent Voters Association. As an advocate for voter participation in the Black community, she rented voting machines, taught classes on voting in her law office, and registered 6,000 Black voters. Alberta negotiated the first professional boxing contract of Cassius Clay, 1960 Olympic Gold Medal Champion. He went on to become Muhammad Ali, World Heavyweight Champion, and social activist. Alberta, a civil rights icon, was sworn in on February 25, 1965. She prosecuted hundreds of domestic violence court cases. Alberta's work was brutally halted with her murder on August 5, 1965 at the age of 34. More than five decades later, her murder remains unsolved.

On May 25, 2024, under the leadership of Keisha D. Smith, 26th Great Lakes Regional Director, the Great Lakes Region introduced the Inaugural Alberta Odell Jones, Esq. Scholarship ~ Extraordinary Power of S.H.E. (Social Justice, Health Justice, and Economic Justice). This scholarship will be awarded to a graduating high school senior that has been accepted at an accredited public or private college or university with a focus aligned to social, health, and/or economic justice.

Applicants are to complete the [Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Great Lakes Region 2025 Alberta Odell Jones, Scholarship Application](#) google form and upload all required documents by **Friday, March 14, 2025**. The high school graduating scholarship recipient will receive notification of the Scholarship Committee's decision by Friday, April 11, 2025. The undergraduate awardees will receive notification at the 2025 Great Lakes Region Leadership Conference which is scheduled to take place May 15-18, 2025, at the Indianapolis Marriott Downtown in Indianapolis, IN.

If you have any questions, or concerns, please contact us directly at the contact information listed below.

Sisterly,

Johnique Davis
2024 GLR Scholarship Coordinator
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