

John F. Burrell 109th Elder Watson Diggs Awardee

Brother John F. Burrell is the second of three children born to Norma Jean Young. He was reared in Vicksburg, Mississippi. Brother Burrell is a 1988 initiate of The University of Southern Mississippi Chapter, the Kappa Iota of Kappa Alpha Psi. He served as Chapter Polemarch in 1989-90. During his undergraduate years, he strengthened his knowledge of fraternal regulations and programs, and became a Life Member of the fraternity. He received guidance and mentorship from the Hattiesburg (MS) Alumni Chapter and Southwestern Province leaders. He received his Bachelor's degree in Athletic Training from USM in 1990.

Brother Burrell has served in the administration of five Grand Polemarchs, primarily involved with the development and coordination of Membership Training Academy initiatives. He has affiliated with several alumni chapters in the Southwestern, Southern and Eastern Provinces: Natchez (MS); Shreveport (LA); Bossier City (LA) - charter member; Jacksonville (FL); Alexandria-Fairfax; and Dulles-Leesburg - charter member. He is also a Past Polemarch of the Jacksonville (FL) Alumni Chapter. Brother Burrell is a Life Member of six provinces: Southwestern, Southern, Middle Western, Eastern, East Central and Northeastern.

His thirty-two-year career as an ATC (Athletic Trainer Certified) is highlighted by his involvement with the National Football League (NFL), Canadian Football League (CFL), and United Football League (UFL). He is a member of the National Athletic Trainers Association's Board of Certification. He is licensed in Mississippi, Louisiana, Commonwealth of Virginia, Nebraska and Florida. Brother Burrell received a gubernatorial appointment to the Florida State Board of Athletic Training. He has served as a Seasonal Intern for the Atlanta Falcons (NFL), Assistant Athletic Trainer for the Shreveport Pirates (CFL) and with notable recognition as the first African-American Assistant Athletic Trainer of the Jacksonville Jaguars (Expansion Team), Head Athletic Trainer for the Washington Redskins (NFL) and Omaha Nighthawks (UFL).

Brother Burrell is currently serving as the Executive Director of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated. He manages the daily operations of the international headquarters. His tenure has focused on structure,

effectiveness, professionalism, and standards of excellence. He is a transformative leader with an innovative and progressive mindset. He is very committed to enhancing undergraduate and alumni relations.

Brother Burrell has two Godsons: Dallas M. Jones and Darnell Miller, Jr. He has two nephews: Ryan J. Tims and Antonio W. Davis, ATC.