

Richard Lee Snow 112th Elder Watson Diggs Awardee

Richard Lee Snow is the 7th of ten children born to the late Irma and James Snow and is a native of the Western Pennsylvania City of Clairton. Educated in the Clairton School System, he was a standout basketball player. While matriculating to The Pennsylvania State University (Penn State) as part of a special minority engineering program, he eventually joined the varsity team as a walk on, only playing one year before deciding to leave the team. On February 18, 1977, he was initiated into The Delta Theta of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Snow served as a two-term Polemarch and was twice named "Brother of the Year."

Graduating in 1981, he married the former Judith Lynn Brister the next year. He joined the Philadelphia (PA) Alumni Chapter in 1985 and quickly rose through its leadership ranks. In 1993, he received the Chapter's highest award and became its 36th Polemarch in 1994. At the age of 36, he was its youngest and the Chapter was the largest in Kappa with nearly 400 members. During his tenure, the Chapter hosted the 72nd Grand Chapter Meeting (1995) and purchased the Achievement Center in the Germantown section of Philadelphia.

Snow chaired several province and national committees before being hired as the fraternity's 8th Executive Director in 1998. In 2003, at the 76th Grand Chapter Meeting in Charlotte, he was given the additional title of Chief Operating Officer, the only Executive Director to have that distinction. For his service to the Northeastern Province, he was honored with the James M. Kidd Award, its highest recognition, in 2006.

Richard serves currently as Senior Advisor - Multicultural/Field Development for ALSAC/St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. He sits on numerous Boards, past and present, and is a very active community volunteer in his hometown of Philadelphia, PA with a particular passion for supporting children-based organizations focusing on arts and education. Snow is currently Board Chairman for PHL Diversity, a division of The Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau. He is a member of Canaan Baptist Church of Germantown, has been married to Judith for 36 years, and has two adult sons: Richard, Jr. and Joseph.