

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR MICHAEL S. STEELE STATE OF MARYLAND



In January 2003, Michael Steele earned a place in history when he became the first African American elected to statewide office, and the first-ever Republican Lieutenant Governor in Maryland.

As Lieutenant Governor, Michael Steele serves as a partner, advisor and principal representative for Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. Mr. Steele works with the state's congressional delegation, state and local elected officials to promote and implement the administration's policies and initiatives.

His top priorities are to reform the state's Minority Business Enterprise program where he currently chairs the Governor's Commission on Minority Business Reform. He is equally committed to improving the quality of Maryland's public education system, expanding economic development in the state and fostering cooperation between government and faith-based organizations to help those in need.

Mr. Steele was born on October 19, 1958 at Andrews Air Force Base in Prince George's County. He graduated from Archbishop Carroll High School, earned his bachelor's degree in International Relations from Johns Hopkins University in 1981 and his law degree from Georgetown University Law Center in 1991. Mr. Steele also attended the Augustinian Friars Seminary at Villanova University in Villanova, Pennsylvania, in preparation for the priesthood.

As an associate at the international law firm Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton in Washington, DC, Mr. Steele specialized in sophisticated financial transactions on behalf of Wall Street underwriters. Mr. Steele worked in Cleary's Tokyo office in the area of major product liability litigation and in the London office representing clients in the initial public offering of stock on the London Stock exchange.

Michael Steele rose through the political ranks in Prince George's County to become the first African American County Republican Party Chairman. In December 2000, Mr. Steele was elected Chairman of the Maryland State Republican Party, the first African American to be elected chairman of a state Republican Party. In this capacity, he spearheaded the Maryland Republican Party's successful court challenge to a state-enacted legislative redistricting plan. Mr. Steele also served as a member of the Executive Committee of the Republican National Committee.

Mr. Steele also served as an advisor to campaigns of fellow politicians and has held membership in several political organizations. Among these are: Chairman, Maryland State Minority Outreach Task Force (1995-1997); Alternate Delegate to the 1996 Republican National Convention, San Diego, California, Delegate to the 2000

Republican National Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Honorary Co-Chairman, Truth iN Taxation Committee (1996), Chairman, Term Limits Coalition (2000). In 1995, Mr. Steele was selected Maryland State Republican Man of the Year.

In 2002, President George W. Bush appointed Mr. Steele to serve on the Board of Visitors of the United States Naval Academy. Under Presidents Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford, Mr. Steele served as a Commissioner on the National Federal Election Reform Commission. Other affiliations include serving on the NAACP's Blue Ribbon Panel on Election Reform, the Board of Directors of The Hospice of the National Capital Area; the Prince George's County Chapter of the NAACP. He is a former member of the Board of Trustees of Johns Hopkins University.

Lt. Governor Steele is a member of the State House Trust, a member of the East Baltimore Development Corporation and Co-Chairs The Family Violence Council.

Since taking office, Lt. Governor Steele has received several awards for his outstanding leadership and valuable contributions to Maryland. They include the African American Chamber of Commerce of Montgomery County Outstanding Speaker award, NAACP Meritorious Achievement award, The William and Victorine Q Adams Leadership award, Knights of Columbus Maryland State Council Citizen of the Year award, Alpha Kappa Alpha Spirit Award, and the Prince George's County Board of Trade Citizen of the Year Award.

He has also received an Honorary Doctorate of Law from Morgan State University and Washington College and an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from the College of Notre Dame in Baltimore.

In 2001, Mr. Steele established and hosted "Lunchtime with the Maryland's GOP," an hour-long weekly radio show in the Baltimore market. He has also appeared on numerous radio and television programs including "Politically Incorrect", "Metro Talk," "That Show With Those Black Guys," "The Joe Madison Show," "Extra," "Capitol Sunday" and "BET Tonight" He is the author of numerous columns and op-ed pieces published in *The Washington Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Baltimore Sun*, and *The Journal Newspapers*.

Mr. Steele is a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Landover Hills, Maryland where, in 1998, was recognized as the Man of the Year. He attends mass regularly with his wife Andrea and their two sons, Michael and Drew.