

Attorney – Educator – Community Organizer

William was born in Camden, Arkansas and graduated from Stephens High School (Stephens, Arkansas) in 1972 where he was the valedictorian of his high school class. After graduation, William attended the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville for a short time before volunteering for the U.S. Army. After an honorable discharge, William attended Henderson State University in Arkadelphia for one semester before leaving for California where he began working for a community-based veterans organization providing readjustment support to Vietnam-era veterans.

William graduated from the University of California, Berkeley in 1985 with a BA in Political Economy of Industrial Societies and holds a JD degree from Columbia University School of Law (1988). He is licensed to practice law in California and Colorado and has private and public practice experience.

He recently retired from Chabot College in Hayward, California where he was an Instructor and Department Chair for the Administration of Justice program and the Director of the Law and Democracy Program. William has community college faculty certifications in Law, Administration of Justice and Political Science.

Before joining the faculty at Chabot, William worked at Mills College and the Peralta Community College District, in Oakland, California. At Mills College, he was the Assistant Director of the Institute for Civic Leadership (ICL), a program to advance the civic leadership capacities and commitments of women. At Peralta, he was the Dean of Community Partnerships and Workforce Development at Laney College and the Interim Director of Development for the Peralta Community College District. He has been a member of the law school faculty at Gonzaga University, John F. Kennedy University School of Law, and a visiting professor at the University of Colorado School of Law.

William lives in Hot Springs, Arkansas with his wife of thirty-three years, Zaretta Hammond, an educator and author of *Culturally Responsible Teaching and the Brain*. They have two children (now young adults)— son Morgan, who resides in Little Rock, and daughter, Zindzi who lives in California.

