

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with The Honorable Kimberly Lightford

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## Overview of the Collection

<b>Repository:</b>	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
<b>Creator:</b>	Lightford, Kimberly, 1968-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Kimberly Lightford,
<b>Dates:</b>	September 1, 2000
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2000
<b>Physical Description:</b>	3 Betacame SP videocassettes (1:10:17).
<b>Abstract:</b>	State senator The Honorable Kimberly Lightford (1968 - ) was elected to the Illinois State Senate in 1998. Senator Lightford serves as Minority Spokesperson of the Committee on Financial Institutions as well as Co-Chair of the Commission on Intergovernmental Cooperation. Lightford was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on September 1, 2000, in Chicago, Illinois. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2000_055
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Kimberly Lightford was born on May 10, 1968 in Chicago, Illinois. As a young child, she moved with her family to the surrounding suburb of Maywood, Illinois. Attending Proviso East High School, Lightford was active in the Student Council. Upon graduating from high school, she enrolled at Western Illinois University in Macomb, Illinois. There, she studied human relations and management with a minor in African American studies. Lightford's first job after graduation was with the Secretary of State's Office.

Lightford decided to pursue an advanced degree, enrolling at Sangamon State University in Springfield and majoring in public administration. While there, she interned with the Illinois House of Representatives. She became a Trustee of the Village of Maywood and, in 1998, was elected to the Illinois State Senate.

Senator Lightford serves as Minority Spokesperson of the Committee on Financial Institutions as well as Co-Chair of the Commission on Intergovernmental Cooperation. She is a member of the Commission on Legislative Research, the Education Committee and the Committee on State Government Operations. She was instrumental in passing a bill that would allow criminal background checks on Local School Council members. Lightford is also known for her support of the Moment of Silence Bill which made it mandatory for school to have a moment of silence everyday. Previously, it was optional.

Married, Lightford is a member of the National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials, the National League of Cities and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She has also remained a Trustee for the Village of Maywood at the time of the interview.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with The Honorable Kimberly Lightford was conducted by Adele Hodge on September 1, 2000, in Chicago, Illinois, and was recorded on 3 Betacame SP videocassettes. State senator The Honorable Kimberly Lightford (1968 - ) was elected to the Illinois State Senate in 1998. Senator Lightford serves as Minority Spokesperson of the Committee on Financial Institutions as well as Co-Chair of the Commission on Intergovernmental Cooperation.

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## Restrictions

### Restrictions on Access

Restrictions may be applied on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of The HistoryMakers®.

### Restrictions on Use

All use of materials and use credits must be pre-approved by The HistoryMakers®. Appropriate credit must be given. Copyright is held by The HistoryMakers®.

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## Related Material

Information about the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview, as well as correspondence with the interview subject is stored electronically both on The HistoryMakers® server and in two databases maintained by The HistoryMakers®, though this information is not included in this finding aid.

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## Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

### Persons:

Lightford, Kimberly, 1968-

Hodge, Adele (Interviewer)

Haynes, Frank (Videographer)

### Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Lightford, Kimberly, 1968---Interviews

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African American legislators--Illinois--Interviews

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African American politicians--Illinois--Chicago--Interviews

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Illinois. General Assembly. Senate

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Western Illinois University

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Political campaigns--Illinois

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Interns (Legislation)--Interviews

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## Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

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The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

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Illinois

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## Occupations:

State Senator

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## HistoryMakers® Category:

PoliticalMakers

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## Administrative Information

### Custodial History

Interview footage was recorded by The HistoryMakers®. All rights to the interview have been transferred to The HistoryMakers® by the interview subject through a signed interview release form. Signed interview release forms have been deposited with Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago.

### Preferred Citation

The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Kimberly Lightford, September 1, 2000. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

### Processing Information

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 5/30/2023 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

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## Other Finding Aid

A Microsoft Access contact database and a FileMaker Pro tracking database, both maintained by The HistoryMakers®, keep track of the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview.

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## Detailed Description of the Collection

### Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Kimberly Lightford, Section A2000\_055\_001\_001, TRT: 0:31:03 ?

Kimberly Lightford details her family background and education, explaining how difficult situations at home inspired her to become a success academically and professionally. Lightford explains how her undergraduate education and her work as an intern at the Illinois General Assembly inspired her career in politics.

African American legislators--Illinois--Interviews.

African American politicians--Illinois--Chicago--Interviews.

Illinois. General Assembly. Senate.

Western Illinois University.

Political campaigns--Illinois.

Interns (Legislation)--Interviews.

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Kimberly Lightford, Section A2000\_055\_001\_002, TRT: 0:29:44 ?

Kimberly Lightford details her political career, starting with her election as a Trustee of Maywood, Illinois. Lightford discusses her success there and explains how that inspired her to run for the Illinois State Senate, a seat she won in 1998. Lightford talks about how she adjusted to her first two years in the Senate, and how she responded to her biggest challenges. Lightford talks about how her family, in particular her father, has supported her and allowed her to achieve her goals. She then considers her future plans as a senator and for her career beyond government.

Video Oral History Interview with The Honorable Kimberly Lightford, Section A2000\_055\_001\_003, TRT: 0:09:30 ?

The Honorable Kimberly Lightford narrates her photographs.