

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Vicki Hallman

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Hallman, Vicki, 1954-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Vicki Hallman,
Dates:	October 26, 2004
Bulk Dates:	2004
Physical Description:	6 Betacame SP videocassettes (2:54:00).
Abstract:	State government appointee Vicki Hallman (1954 -) has served as the Assistant Regional Director for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice and was later named Region II Director of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice/Parole Division. Hallman was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on October 26, 2004, in Dallas, Texas. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2004_215
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Vicki Hallman was born in Dallas, Texas on October 20, 1954. She grew up in the Hamilton Park neighborhood in Dallas, attending public schools there. After graduating from Hillcrest High School in 1972, Hallman attended East Texas State University, where she earned her B.A. degree in pre-law and psychology in 1976.

After graduating, Hallman was hired by the Paris Outreach Clinic in Paris, Texas, and in 1977, she joined the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. Over the ensuing years, Hallman rose through the ranks, and by 1989 she was a parole supervisor. In 1995, she was named the assistant regional director for Dallas, and on August 1, 2002, she became the region II director of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice/Parole Division. There, she managed the development, implementation and planning of all parole-related functions for thirteen offices. She also instituted programs such as Females, First and Foremost (F3), Cognitive Restructuring, African American Male Survival Skills, Hispanos Survival Skills and anger management courses for parolees, all of which have been highly effective.

Hallman has received numerous honors and recognitions over the years, including the Governor's Award, Outstanding Woman of the Year and the Dr. Emmett J. Conrad Leadership Award. She is a member of Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice and serves as a board member of EXODUS Ministries.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Vicki Hallman was conducted by Larry Crowe on October 26, 2004, in Dallas, Texas, and was recorded on 6 Betacame SP videocassettes. State government appointee Vicki Hallman (1954 -) has served as the Assistant Regional Director for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice and was later named

Region II Director of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice/Parole Division.

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®.

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.

Controlled Access Terms

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

Persons:

Hallman, Vicki, 1954-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Hallman, Vicki, 1954---Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Texas. Dept. of Criminal Justice. Parole Division

Occupations:

State Government Appointee

HistoryMakers® Category:

PoliticalMakers

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 Vicki Hallman, October 26, 2004. 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).

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.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with Vicki Hallman, Section A2004_215_001_001, TRT: 0:29:40 ?

Vicki Hallman was born on October 20, 1954 in Dallas, Texas. Her mother, Bobbie Chism McCarty, was born on October 25, 1935 in Paris, Texas to Lucy Hamilton and Tim Hamilton. Her mother grew up on a farm in Arthur City, Texas, a small rural community. Hallman's mother worked as a domestic during Hallman's early childhood then stayed at home with her two children while remaining civically active. Hallman's father, Curtis McCarty, was born on February 23, 1933 in Paris, Texas to Pauline McCarty and William McCarty. His father was a carpenter and his mother did domestic work. Hallman's father received a college scholarship but turned it down to enter the U.S. military. He then worked at an aircraft supply company to support his family until he was able to open an auto body shop and buy several other businesses and properties

as investments. Hallman and her younger sister were raised in the tight-knit community of Hamilton Park in Dallas, Texas. They attended church regularly and enjoyed frequent family outings.

Video Oral History Interview with Vicki Hallman, Section A2004_215_001_002, TRT: 0:28:40 ?

Vicki Hallman spent her early childhood in the African American middle-class community of Hamilton Park in Dallas, Texas. A neighbor and community leader, the Reverend Zan Wesley Holmes, Jr. eventually became a Texas state representative. Hallman was a natural leader from an early age. Until tenth grade, she attended Hamilton Park School where her teachers helped her to excel. In 1970, Hallman and half of her classmates were bused to the majority-white Richardson High School. The following year, Hallman's family moved to McShann Estates and she entered the mostly white Hillcrest High School. During her first year, Hallman joined many clubs and began to feel accepted by her white peers. As more black students entered the school her senior year, tensions grew. Hallman felt torn between the two communities, but ultimately participated in a walkout organized by incoming black students because she understood their concerns. Hallman was able to form friendships among both groups and helped bring people together.

Video Oral History Interview with Vicki Hallman, Section A2004_215_001_003, TRT: 0:31:15 ?

Vicki Hallman decided to attend East Texas State University in Commerce, Texas after not receiving a scholarship despite her high grades in high school. While in college, Hallman majored in prelaw and psychology but did not become politically involved on campus. Hallman joined Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority which was advised by Dr. Talbot, who became a role model to her. After graduation, Hallman applied to law school but decided to defer entering. She struggled to find a job until she moved to Paris, Texas to work with troubled youth as an intake officer at Paris Outreach Claim Clinic. While there, she was the only African American on staff and gained a lot of independence while learning on the job. Hallman met her husband while visiting a cousin in Dallas, Texas. After working in Paris for one year, she returned to Dallas and was hired by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice despite an unorthodox interview. Hallman also remembers the influence of her younger sister who passed away from cancer in 2003.

Video Oral History Interview with Vicki Hallman, Section A2004_215_001_004, TRT: 0:29:50 ?

Vicki Hallman was hired as a parole officer at the Texas Department of Criminal Justice in 1977. In this entry-level position, Hallman faced many challenges as a young African American woman from managers, parolees and communities she visited. From the beginning, Hallman had ambitions to become regional director as she saw many problems in the department's management. After struggling to be promoted, she became a regional supervisor in 1987. Within two years, she was promoted to assistant regional director over Dallas, Texas. She was the first woman and first African American in this position. As assistant regional director, Hallman performed community outreach to speak about the ability of ex-offenders to make a positive change and spearheaded a job fair for ex-offenders. Hallman and her team implemented innovative programming, such as starting a Day Resource Center for their clients in Dallas which involved the community in the ex-offenders' reintegration.

Video Oral History Interview with Vicki Hallman, Section A2004_215_001_005, TRT: 0:28:20 ?

Vicki Hallman implemented many unprecedented and unorthodox programs as assistant regional director at Region II, Texas Department of Criminal Justice, parole division. Hallman created Females, First and Foremost, Cognitive Restructuring, African American Male Survival Skills and Hispanos Survival

Skills. With her Day Resource Center, Hallman centralized services, making it easier for parole officers to maintain contact with clients and for parolees to access the services they needed. In addition, she performed outreach with her Community Participatory Council that facilitated the reintegration process for parolees. In 2002, Hallman became the first African American woman promoted to regional director. This placed her in charge of parole in North Texas. She was able to accomplish so much, including a more than ten percent reduction in recidivism rates, with the support of her staff. Hallman also shares a success story about an influential client who managed to tackle drug addiction with Hallman's help.

Video Oral History Interview with Vicki Hallman, Section A2004_215_001_006, TRT: 0:26:15 ?

Vicki Hallman helped organize a community effort to create annual success celebration for clients who have reached certain parole requirements for one year. The success celebrations have continued to grow every year, and Hallman remains involved with them. Hallman talks about her impact as a leader and the support she receives from her staff. Hallman describes her hopes and concerns for the African American community and how she would like to be remembered. She talks about the importance of her parents and her children, Tiffini and Nickolas Hallman, in her life, as well as her future plans. Hallman reflects upon her life and legacy and concludes the tape by narrating her pictures.