

# Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Albert Dotson, Jr.

PERSON

**Dotson, Albert, 1960-**

**Alternative Names:** Albert Dotson, Jr.;

**Life Dates:** June 9, 1960-

**Place of Birth:** Detroit, Michigan, USA

**Residence:** Palmetto Bay, FL

**Work:** Miami, FL

**Occupations:** Lawyer;

## Biographical Note

Lawyer Albert E. Dotson, Jr. was born on June 9, 1960 in Detroit, Michigan. Dotson is the oldest of four siblings. Values of self pride and community development were instilled in Dotson and his siblings at very early ages. Dotson's father, Albert E. Dotson, Sr., became the first African American store manager for Sears Roebuck & Company. His position required relocation to several Sears' stores across the country. Thus, the Dotson family lived in Detroit, Chicago, and Atlanta. The family settled in Miami, Florida where Dotson, Sr. and his family formed personal relationships with various African American community leaders. In 1978, Dotson, Jr. became the first family member to attend a four-year university. He enrolled in Dartmouth University majoring in economics and history. After his third quarter, Dotson took advantage of the foreign exchange programs at Dartmouth traveling to Morocco and Spain. Dotson graduated from Dartmouth in 1984. He then received a full scholarship to attend Vanderbilt University's Law School in Nashville, Tennessee. During his academic tenure, Dotson was awarded the Bennett Douglas Bell Memorial Prize for academic achievement and high ethical standards. In 1987, Dotson completed his J.D. degree. He works in private practice as an equity partner with the Miami law firm of Bilzin, Sumberg, Baena, Price & Axelrod, LLP specializing in land use and zoning, and federal and local government procurement contracts and compliance.

In 1993, Dotson was the second African American to be voted on the Orange Bowl. Dotson's father was the first African American to serve in this capacity. Dotson served as Vice President of 100 Black Men of America in 1996, later becoming Chairman in 2004. In March 2006, Dotson was sworn in to serve as President of The Orange Bowl Committee for the 2006-2007 Orange Bowl Festival and FedEx Orange Bowl Game.

## Related Entries

**Woodward Academy** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Winston Churchill School** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**James Hart School** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Mason Elementary School** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Dartmouth College** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Vanderbilt University** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**State of Florida** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1981 to 1982]

**State's Attorney's Aide**

**Fine Jacobson Schwartz Nash Block and England** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1987 to ?]

**Associate**

**Bilzin, Sumberg, Baena, Price & Axelrod, LLP** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1998 to ?]

**Partner**

**100 Black Men of America** [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

**Chair**

**Orange Bowl Committee** [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

**President**