

**FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE:**

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Houston-Black American Democrats Endorsements Affirms Tenure of Jackson Lee; seeks change in Austin and the Harris County Court House

**John Sharp endorsed in October, 2009 in anticipation of Hutchinson departure
from US Senate**

Houston, Texas – January 22, 2010

In a time when the African American community finds itself in the most dire straits in a generation, **Houston-Black American Democrats (H-BAD)**, voted unanimously to endorse a slate of candidates that “we feel is the best that this election year has to offer. “ I am so excited by the depth of experience and the fresh perspective that these candidates possess”, said Doris Hubbard, Chair of the H-BAD Screening Committee.

H-BAD unanimously voted to work for another term for Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee. “Sheila is a definite star in this community’s crown. She has brought millions of dollars into this district, made sure Houston/Harris County got a fair share of FEMA dollars during and after Hurricane Ike, helped to save businesses from foreclosure and has the most active district case-working operation in this state.....we want her back, we will work hard to send her back,” Hubbard said.

Also at the top of the ticket, H-BAD unanimously voted for a familiar “new” face in the race for Governor. “Bill White is a proven product in Houston and we feel he will bring the same level of inclusive, business-like leadership to the State Capital. Its time for a change in Austin that takes us off the hit list of material for comedians. The Governor’s office has been a joke for the last 9 years with very painful consequences in our community...a quick look at the conviction, dropout and unemployment rates in our community and that is all we need to say to highlight the need for change....We NEED a change in Austin and we need it now, if we are going survive in this state”, Hubbard said.

In late 2009, H-BAD endorsed former State Senator, Comptroller and Railroad Commissioner John Sharp to replace US Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson. Hutchinson was expected to resign her seat to run for Governor. While she kept her commitment to make the Republican Primary contest against Rick Perry, she abandoned her commitment to give it her full attention, blaming it on events in Washington. Many Democrats feel it shows she is less than confident about the outcome of the Republican Primary and is just hedging her bets. “We look forward to the contest for this Senate seat because we have no voice in Washington on the Senate side and John Sharp represents the kind of person who will return us to the days when we had REAL representation and not just a tired pair of old sloganeers.”

“H-BAD is going to place unprecedented emphasis and resources on turning the Harris County Court House back to Blue. We have to take back the Court House. When the republicans took over at the Court House, in all but a tiny few cases, Justice followed the Democrats out of the door and its time to return fairness, inclusiveness and civility back to the courts of Harris County.

“As you review the H-BAD slate of judicial candidates, we think the community will be as excited as we are at our selections. There are tenured, scholarly minds and fresh new faces of these excellent candidates who have offered themselves for public service and we feel they will make the court house a place where only the guilty will be afraid to go. We intend to make it known that the bottom of the ticket is equally as important as the top and with the fine candidates Sheila Jackson Lee and Bill White at the top we will accomplish a sea change to turn this county BLUE. We want such names Ursula Hall, Paul Simon, Donna Roth, Shawn Theirry, Christina Bryan, Jim Wrottenberry and Damien LaCroix to be household names by election day and that our voters understand they are the key to a change in county government.”

“ I am also extremely proud of our members who served on the Screening committee, they gave more than 60 hours of their time in the evenings to extensively question each candidate as to their qualifications for office, commitment to fairness and inclusiveness and their specific plans for change”. The committee included:

J.M.“Smokie” Phillips, Pres, Black Deputys Assoc	Willie Bell Boone President of SE Precinct Judges Org
Gabrielle Hadnot, Interim Pres.H-BAD, Prct. Judge	Mary Taylor, Pres. Acres Homes Beautification Assoc
Almeda Dent, Vice Pres TX Coalition of Black Democrats	Sylvia Petrie, Precinct Judge
Ray Jones, Precinct Judge, Businessman	Mary Seymore, SDEC, Senate District 13
Glenda Buckner , Community Activist	Alvin Pruitt, Jr, Community Activist.
Ernest McGowan, Jr., Community Activist	

H-BAD 2010 DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY ENDORSEMENTS

U S Representative, District 18
Governor
Texas Attorney General
Texas Agriculture Commissioner
Harris County Clerk
Harris County Tax Assessor Collector
State Representative, District 146
180th Criminal District Court
183rd Criminal District Court
248th Criminal District Court
113th Civil District Court
157th Civil District Court
189th Civil District Court
190th Civil District Court
234th Civil District Court
270th Civil District Court
281th Civil District Court
295th Civil District Court
245th Family District Court
247th Family District Court
308th Family District Court
309th Family District Court
310th Family District Court
311th Family District Court
313th Juvenile District Court
314th Juvenile District Court
315th Juvenile District Court
County Civil Court at Law # 1
County Civil Court at Law # 2
County Civil Court at Law # 3
County Civil Court at Law # 4
County Criminal Court at Law # 1
County Criminal Court at Law # 2
County Criminal Court at Law # 3
County Criminal Court at Law # 9
County Criminal Court at Law # 12
County Criminal Court at Law # 13
County Probate Court # 1
County Probate Court # 2
County Probate Court # 3
Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1, Place 2
Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3, Place 2
Justice of the Peace, Precinct 7, Place 2

SHEILA JACKSON LEE
BILL WHITE
BARBARA ANN RADNOFSKY
HANK GILBERT
SUE SMITH SCHECHTER
DIANE TRAUTMAN
BORRIS MILES
DARRELL JORDAN
MICHAEL GOMEZ
JIM SULLIVAN
CHRISTINA BRYAN
SHAWN THIERRY
URSULA A. HALL
JIM WROTENBERRY
TANNER GARTH
BOB THOMAS
DONNA ROTH
PAUL SIMON
RAYMOND L. “Ray” FISHER
MARY KAY GREEN
BRUCE KESSLER
BILL RICE
JUDY DOUGHERTY
BRAD MORRIS
NATALIE OAKES
DAVID LONGORIA
KEITH BRANCH
STEVE REILLY
DAMIAN E. LaCROIX
DAMON CRENSHAW
BRUCE MOSIER
LOUIS McWHERTER
MARY CONNERLY ACOSTA
JUDITH SNIVELY
JUANITA JACKSON BARNES
CHERYL HARRIS DIGGS
DENNIS SLATE
KATHY STONE
JOELLA SNOW
MARY GALLIGAN
DAVID M. PATRONELLA
DON COFFEY
ZINETTA BURNEY