

Legislative Black Caucus meets with Albany leaders



Chairman Andrew [Joyce](#) (center) with the Legislative Black Caucus, [Albany](#) Common Council members, and President Richard Harris and members of 100 Black Men of the Capital Region at 388 Clinton Ave., Albany. All enjoyed a great evening of unity.

ALBANY (*April 27th, 2018*)—African-American leaders from Albany County and the City of Albany formally met for the first time on Thursday at a special reception hosted by the civic organization **One Hundred Black Men of the Capital Region**.

The six members of the Albany County Legislature's **Black Caucus** and four of the six African-Americans from the **Albany Common Council** discussed issues affecting their constituents during a meeting of The One Hundred

Black Men in the organization's headquarters at 388 Clinton Ave., Albany. One Hundred Black Men President Richard Harris invited Legislators to the group meeting to commend the **Albany County Legislature** for voting in March to create the first Legislative Black Caucus, and its members for embracing it.

“We envision the Legislative Black Caucus as playing a critical role in increasing the voting power of minorities in Albany County, and helping minorities have a greater voice in local and county governmental affairs,” Harris said.

Legislature Chairman **Andrew Joyce** attended the meeting with his two young children. Harris praised the Chairman for appointing Legislator **Wanda F. Willingham** to the leadership position of deputy chairman of the Legislature, and a record number of Legislators from *Minority/Majority Districts* to the 12 Legislative committees.



Albany County and City of Albany leaders broke bread together on Thursday night.

Joining Chairman Joyce and Deputy Chair Willingham at the meeting were County Legislators **William M. Clay**, chairman of the Legislative Black Caucus and vice president of One Hundred Black Men, **Samuel I. Fein**, the secretary of the Black Caucus, **Norma J. Chapman**, **Lucille M. McKnight** and **Merton D. Simpson**. Representing the the City of Albany were Council Members **Derek Johnson**, **Joyce Love**, **Jahmel Robinson** and **Owusu Anane**.

“This has never been done before, probably because we’ve never had as many people of color in these positions,” Legislator Clay said. “We plan to work a lot together in the future to address the needs of our districts, wards and all of Albany County.”

The Legislative Black Caucus formed last month to represent the interests of African-Americans in Albany County. It consists of Legislators who represent Majority-Minority Districts, and members of color who share interests with the Majority-Minority districts and their constituents.



One Hundred Black Men works to empower and improve the lives of African-Americans and other minority citizens in the Capital Region. The chapter formed on January 15, 1993. Learn more about them [here](#).