



November 2022

THE DEEP BENCH

A Monthly Newsletter by The Office of African American Affairs

The Office of African American Affairs is proud to recognize the many Black professionals throughout New Mexico who are committed to impacting the lives of Black New Mexicans. Their education, expertise, and experience have poised them to be leaders in their careers, in the public and private sectors.

Each month we recognize individuals, spotlighting their accomplishments and their impact on New Mexico. If you would like to nominate a Black professional (including yourself) to be in the Deep Bench, please send your name and contact information to Charlycia.Strain1@state.nm.us



Ebony J. Baty

Degree and Alma Mater:

B.A. in Broadcast Journalism; M.A. in Mass Communication - Eastern New Mexico University

Current Position:

Field Representative in the District Office of Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury

Community Involvement:

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated

Ebony J. Baty is a native New Mexican, born and raised in Albuquerque, NM. She attended Albuquerque High School and graduated in 2016. After high school, Ebony attended Eastern New Mexico University in Portales, NM, where she graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Communication in 2019 and a Master of Arts in Mass Communication in 2020.

She also taught Interpersonal Communication at ENMU for a year and a half while completing her Master's degree. Ebony became a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated in the Spring of 2021 and enjoys serving her community in various ways with the sorority, including as the current Chair of Salute to Youth, their annual scholarship program for high school seniors.

In Congresswoman Stansbury's office, Ebony serves as a Field Representative and is the district lead on several issue areas, including Education, Public Safety, Women's Issues, Social Justice Reform and Youth Development. Her favorite parts of working in the district are the food and the various cultural and social events that happen around Albuquerque throughout the year.

What do you want your influence on the NM Black Community to Be? I think that the most fulfilling thing for me would be to have a positive influence on the youth in our community. I believe that it's important for young Black children to see people who look like them and feel inspired, and the thought that I can be that person for even one child is what drives me to continue doing the work that I do.

What can NM do to attract more Blacks to our state? I'd love to see more youth-centered and family spaces for Black people in New Mexico, efforts that I am working to support as a Field Representative for Congresswoman Stansbury through federal funding for the New Mexico Black Leadership Council. The Black community here in New Mexico is rapidly growing, and we have so many young people moving here with fresh new ideas and businesses, so creating spaces where Black families feel comfortable and are able to have fun would help encourage more Black people to move here.

What do you believe are the strengths of the NM Black Community?

I believe that our greatest strength here in New Mexico as Black people is our sense of community and togetherness. I have personally received such a tremendous amount of support from the Black community throughout my life and I've had so many positive influences to look up to, and that has played a significant role in where I am now. We are currently in a period where we have brilliant Black people in positions to make a difference in this state, and it's exciting to see their progress and their influence on New Mexico.



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