BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HONORING TRAILBLAZERS IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION
Macon Bolling Allen became the first licensed African-American attorney in the United States in 1844. The following year, he became the first to practice law in the nation.
Jane Bolin was a trailblazing attorney who became the first African-American female judge in the United States, serving on New York's Family Court for four decades.
Fred Gray is an attorney, preacher and former elected official who defended Rosa Parks and led a number of Alabama key cases during the Civil Rights Movement.
Constance Baker Motley was a legal advocate in the Civil Rights Movement. She became the first female African-American federal judge in 1966.
Thurgood Marshall was instrumental in ending legal segregation and became the first African-American justice on the U.S. Supreme Court.
Leader, educator, and diplomat John Mercer Langston is known as the first African-American lawyer in Ohio and the first to be elected to public office in the United States.
James Weldon Johnson was an early civil rights activist, a leader of the NAACP, and a leading figure in the creation and development of the Harlem Renaissance.
Charles H. Houston
Lawyer, Educator, Civil Rights Activist (1895–1950)

Attorney Charles H. Houston helped create the legal precedents that led to the rejection of "separate but equal" schools for African Americans.
Benjamin Hooks worked as a lawyer, judge and minister. He was also a civil rights activist who later served as executive director of the NAACP.
Dennis Archer served on the Michigan Supreme Court from 1986 to 1990; was the mayor of Detroit from 1994 to 2001; and became the first African American President of the American Bar Association in 2002-2003.
Paulette Brown serves as the Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer for Locke Lord and became the first African American women President of the American Bar Association.
Eric Holder is a lawyer who served as the 82nd and first African American Attorney General of the United States from 2009 to 2015.
Barack Obama is an attorney who served as the 44th and first African American President of the United States from 2009 to 2017. He previously served as a U.S. senator from Illinois from 2005 to 2008.
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