

Distinguished Service Award to Sterling A. Washington

Rick Rosendall, GLAA President
GLAA 45th Anniversary Reception
Policy Restaurant and Lounge
April 21, 2016

Sterling A. Washington served as director of what was then called the Mayor's Office of GLBT Affairs for two years ending in January 2015. Before that he was Resource and Grant Development Manager for the Center for Black Equity. He worked on grants, newsletter, and community relations at Us Helping Us, People into Living, Inc. And he led the Bisexual, Lesbian and Gay Organization of Students at Howard (BLAGOSAH, later renamed to the more euphonious CASCADE). During his tenure there, GLAA was invited to take part in a rally protesting the university's inadequate response to an anti-gay assault on campus. The violent incident inspired a play by past GLAA honoree Alan Sharpe.

As head of the Office of GLBT Affairs, Sterling chased down answers to a dozen status questions I asked him on various matters for a previous edition of our policy brief as I was finishing it between Christmas and New Year's. He got me the answers, and the brief was fully updated and published on schedule on January 3. That's an example of his responsiveness and diligence.

Sterling has a bachelor's degree in political science from The George Washington University, and another in music history from Howard University. Speaking of euphony, he is a tenor soloist and section leader at National City Christian Church.

It is my honor to present Sterling A. Washington with GLAA's Distinguished Service Award.