

Terry Alexis Cummings, J.D. - BIO

Attorney and retired federal law enforcement officer Terry Alexis Cummings lives in Mableton with her husband John, a Marine veteran. They have one son. She is a proud Pebblebrook Band Auntie and doggie mom. Terry grew up with her two sisters, in a loving home in Teaneck, New Jersey. Her father was a jazz drummer and her mother a professor of pediatric clinical nursing. Terry grew up with a love of learning and was greatly influenced by her grandfather, Dr. Chancellor Williams, a Professor of African Studies at Howard University, and author of *The Destruction of the Black Civilization*.

Terry received her B.A. in Political Science from Douglass College of Rutgers University where she was President of the Black Student Congress and initiated into Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. During her senior year, Terry worked with former U.S. Congressman Bill Bradley. Terry attended Georgetown University Law Center at night while working full time. Following graduation, Terry was accepted into the highly competitive United States Department of Justice Honors Attorney Program. Terry worked for the Federal Bureau of Prisons where she represented the agency and staff in cases involving complex constitutional and prisoner rights issues. Terry was the first attorney to work at the Metropolitan Correctional Center in Chicago. She held positions of increasing responsibility as Supervisory Attorney at the United States Penitentiary in Atlanta, Senior Litigation Counsel, and federal Mediator. Career highlights include representing the agency during post-trial hearings of the infamous El Rukn gang (the largest gang trial in Chicago's history), and representing the agency in Georgia's first federal death penalty case for the murder of a correctional officer at USP Atlanta. Terry has received numerous honors, awards, and recognitions including Attorney of the Year and the Chairman's Award for her community service.

Prior to retirement, Terry started coordinating job fairs for ex-offenders because she believes we all win when everyone is a contributing member of society. Terry was in the inaugural class of Cobb 101 Citizens Government Academy. Terry recently worked with Cobb D.A. Joyette Holmes and Cobb County Commission Chair Mike Boyce by coordinating the job fair portion of Cobb Restore 360, the first record restriction and job fair event in Cobb County. Terry is a member of her HOA Board, MIC, ACT, NAACP, Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys, and National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice.