

GLADNEY

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"I manage the EOP Program with a highly qualified team of assistants, and I am implementing a mentoring program at the MGM Grand similar to what I had at UNLV — that would target "at-risk" individuals. We want

to make sure that at-risk employees, as well as employees in general, come into an employee nurturing environment here. Usually, in a corporate environment, there are many African-Americans and people-of-color who don't know how to

move from point A to point B or from point C to point D, in case they want a promotion. Thus, in Corporate America, there exists a lack of guidance on how to progress from one position to another and to be able to acquire the necessary skills and experience necessary to be a Vice-President to be a manger, or move to a better paying job. So the MGM is attempting to take a pro-active approach to addressing these needs. Certainly, every one will not be qualified for upper level management or supervising positions, however, the MGM is attempting to pre-screen all applicants to make sure that whatever talents or skills they have, will receive maximum benefit."

"We are reaching out to agencies and organizations such as NBS, Nevada Partners, the Las Vegas, Latin, N.L.V., Phillipine, Black, Pacific/Asian Chambers of Commerce, and others to assist us in identifying individuals who are willing to work and ready to meet our requirements. Other agencies and services that my staff and I are reaching out to include American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), Equal Opportunity

Board of Clark County, Clark County Housing Authority, Disabled American Veterans, Jewish Family Services, HELP of Southern Nevada, Martin Luther King Jr. Committee, Las Vegas Indian Center, Nevada Association for the Handicapped, Nevada State Bureaus of Services to the Blind, Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada State Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation, Nevada State Welfare of Henderson and Boulder City, Opportunity Village, Salvation Army, The Shade Tree, St. Judes Ranch for Children, SIRS, Vietnam Veterans Outreach Center, WEST-CARE, Teamsters, Bartenders, and Culinary Unions and the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, just to name a few," he added.

Gladney stated that the MGM was committed to seeing that the most intensive effort ever, in the history of Las Vegas, would be made to bring individuals into the workplace who have, for the most part, given up hope.

The MGM Corporation, according to Gladney, would like to set the standard in hiring in the state of Nevada, particularly in light of the aftermath of the Rodney King riots that occurred locally. Gladney was emphatic in making it known that the MGM owners and Vice President are aware of the need to provide more jobs. They are aware of the impact that joblessness and

idleness has on the self-esteem of individuals and the upsurge of crime, violence and drug abuse that it creates.

The list of agencies and organizations provided, as a part of the EOP Program, left virtually no stone unturned.

Gladney heralds the program as multi-ethnic in scope and stated that the response from groups such as Community Peace, All Of Us Together, NAACP and other social and church groups have been overwhelming. He praised his supervisors as being extremely supportive. As far as the youth in the community are concerned, Gladney said that the MGM Theme Park has opened its eligibility list to include individuals as young as 17 years of age.

"We estimate that there will be at least 300-350 at-risk youth that will be hired at the Theme Park, and there will be some positions available in the hotel as well. We hope that these youth will receive the guidance and direction necessary to hold a job, and even if they don't stay in the gaming industry, get those skills necessary while they are here to maintain a consistent work ethic on the job," he said.

"I am in the community daily informing the public of the plans at the MGM. I have been lecturing in the high schools conducting speaking engagements at public and private clubs such as

the Rotary Club, Optimist, Black Chamber and others, on behalf of the MGM relative to what we are doing here."

"I am gratified that the upper management gave me full latitude to reach every component of the community. Although we are targeting African-Americans and other people of color, my position entails reaching out to all ethnic groups with emphasis on the at-risk segment of the community," he said.

The community is urged to drop by the MGM Grand Visitor Center located between the MGM Grand Hotel and the Polo Towers, where there is a miniature replica on display of the planned development. Brochures are available as well, and attendants are available to answer your questions.

Cindy Kaiser, Vice-President of Operations said that, there is a lot of wrong information getting out to the public concerning the hiring process. She said she hoped that stories such as this would help the public to better understand that certain procedures must be initiated before an individual can be employed. "They must go through certain steps first," she said.

Gladney said that the actual hiring process won't take place until early 1994. For more information concerning the Employment Outreach Program call (702) 891-2122.

TASK FORCE

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Springer's petition creating the Task Force indicated that he has received a petition signed by approximately 275 citizens urging the court to create a Task Force to study racial and economic bias in the justice system. Justice Springer said particular attention has been called to the problems of economic and racial injustice as they are manifested "in the Las Vegas inner city." Endorsements for the creation of the Task Force were received from lawyers in the state, past presidents of the Nevada Attorney's for Criminal Justice, and Community Peace of Las Vegas.

The members of the Task Force are: Karen P. Bennett, Attorney at Law; Don Chairez, Clark County Deputy District Attorney; Thomas Gholson,

Executive Deputy Director, Las Vegas Housing Authority; Kevin M. Kelly, Attorney at Law; Otto Kelly, Gang Specialist, Washoe County Juvenile Probation Office; Randolph Prillaman, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation; Dan Rotunno, Business Development Officer, Bank of America; Carlos D. Romo, Ph.D., Assistant Director, Nevada Equal Rights Commission; Richard Segerblom, Attorney at Law; Elgin Simpson, Operations Manager, Ray & Ross Transport, Inc. and Arthur Williams, Attorney at Law, REECO.

The first meeting of the Task Force was scheduled for Wednesday, July 7, 1993, at 9:00 a.m., Room 102, Cashman Field. The meeting was opened to the public.

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NELSON MANDELA

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difficult struggle to end white-only rule.

In this struggle, Mr. Mandela has been the pivotal figure, despite his long imprisonment by the South African government. More than any other person, he has symbolized the freedom movement of black south Africans.

Mr. Mandela's appearance serves as the prelude to the opening of the NAACP's 1993 Annual Convention which this year has the theme "Passing The Torch... Preparing For A Better Tomorrow".

On the opening day, Sunday, July 11th, the newly elected Executive Directors of the NAACP, Dr. Chavis, will deliver his first address to the national group that evening at the Indianapolis Convention Center.

The Center will be site for most of the convention activities which includes a number of plenary sessions and legislature sessions, workshops, special

forums, the finals of the Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics (ACT-SO), and the concluding event, the Freedom Fund/Springam Awards Dinner on Thursday, July 15th, at which the Springam Medal—the NAACP's highest award, will be presented to Dr. Dorothy I. Height, President of the National Council of Negro women.

On Monday morning, July 12th, the speaker for the convention's first plenary session will be Congressman Kweisi Mfume (D. MD), Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Dr. William P. Gibson, NAACP National Board of Directors, will deliver the keynote address that evening at a public mass meeting.

Three members of the President's Cabinet will also make major addresses at the Convention. Ronald H. Brown, Secretary of the Department of Commerce will be the speaker

on Tuesday morning. Hazel O'Leary, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Energy, will speak on Wednesday morning, July 14th, and Henry Cisneros, Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development will be the Thursday morning speaker.

Among the more than 20 convention workshops are those dealing with such critical areas as "The Fair Housing Agenda", "Prevention of Injury and Violence", "African-Americans: Impacting The Criminal Justice System", and "Blacks in Sports".

The Commerce and Industry Show — always one of the highlights of the Convention — will open on Monday morning, July 12th, with over 200 exhibitors, as well as more than 100 minority vendors.

Information on the convention may be secured by contacting the NAACP Conference Department, (410) 358-8900, or by writing NAACP Conference Department, 4805 Mt. Hope Drive, Baltimore, MD 21215.