

# Guide to the Billie Rayford oral history interview

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## **Summary Information**

**Repository:** University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special

Collections and Archives.

**Creator:** Rayford, Billie Knight, 1952-

**Contributor:** African Americans in Las Vegas: a Collaborative Oral History

Project

**Title:** Billie Rayford oral history interview

**ID:** OH-03429

**Date:** 2018 May 01

**Physical** 1 Digital Files (0.150 GB) MP3 **Description:** 

**Language of the** English

Material:

**Abstract:** Oral history interview with Billie Rayford conducted by Claytee

D. White on May 01, 2018 for the African Americans in Las Vegas: a Collaborative Oral History Project. In this interview, Rayford discusses her early life in Jefferson, Texas. She talks about school integration, living during the Jim Crow laws, and the discrimination she experienced at the time. Rayford remembers moving to Las Vegas, Nevada in 1979, obtaining a teaching position at Rancho High School, and teaching students with special needs. Rayford describes the implementation of empowerment schools in the Clark County School District (CCSD), and her involvement with the dual enrollment program at the College of Southern Nevada (CSN) for CCSD high school students. Later, Rayford discusses her involvement with Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, Les Femmes Douze (The Ladies Twelve), 20 Pearls Foundation, and providing civil services for the Westside community. Lastly, Rayford talks about being a charter member

of 100 Black Women.

#### **Preferred Citation**

Billie Rayford oral history interview, 2018 May 01. OH-03429. [Cite format consulted: Audio recording or Transcript.] Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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## **Scope and Contents Note**

Oral history interview with Billie Rayford conducted by Claytee D. White on May 01, 2018 for the African Americans in Las Vegas: a Collaborative Oral History Project. In this interview, Rayford discusses her early life in Jefferson, Texas. She talks about school integration, living during the Jim Crow laws, and the discrimination she experienced at the time. Rayford remembers moving to Las Vegas, Nevada in 1979, obtaining a teaching position at Rancho High School, and teaching students with special needs. Rayford describes the implementation of empowerment schools in the Clark County School District (CCSD), and her involvement with the dual enrollment program at the College of Southern Nevada (CSN) for CCSD high school students. Later, Rayford discusses her involvement with Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, Les Femmes Douze (The Ladies Twelve), 20 Pearls Foundation, and providing civil services for the Westside community. Lastly, Rayford talks about being a charter member of 100 Black Women. Digital audio available; no transcript available.

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#### **Administrative Information**

#### **Access Note**

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## **Acquisition Note**

This interview was conducted by the Oral History Research Center (OHRC) which is part of the UNLV University Libraries Special Collections and Archives Division.

### **Processing Note**

Interview materials were processed by UNLV Libraries Special Collections and Archives in 2018. Miguel Dominguez wrote the collection description. Access copies were created for born-digital audio and/or transcript files. The audio has been minimally reviewed and all readily available information has been included in the description.

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# **Names and Subjects**

- Oral histories (document genres)
- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- Westside (Las Vegas, Nev.)
- African American teachers
- Discrimination
- Community College of Southern Nevada
- Clark County School District (Nev.)