

## *Gloria Jean Sweet-Love*

*PRESIDENT, TENNESSEE STATE CONFERENCE OF NAACP BRANCHES  
Biographical Sketch*

Gloria Jean Sweet-Love was born in Fayette County Tennessee to William Henry (Bill) Bryant and Remel Peeples Bryant. She is the 7<sup>th</sup> girl of a family of 8 girls and one boy.

Gloria attended the public schools of Fayette County and graduated with honors from the Fayette-Ware High School. She holds a B.S. in Business Administration from Tennessee State University and has done further study at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville with a concentration in Business Management.

Employed by Procter & Gamble at Jackson, TN for 25 and a half years, she served in various administrative and leadership roles in manufacturing and human resources. Her last assignment was as Administrator of Industrial Health & Safety Systems for the Duncan Hines Cake Mix Business.



Ms Sweet-Love has attained a number of firsts in her life, these includes: in 1988, the first African American Woman appointed to the Haywood County School Board. In 1992, after being a major player in the lawsuit to abolish At-Large Elections, she was elected by the constituents of District 3 & 7, as their representative on the Haywood County School Board. Also in 1992, she was elected as Vice Chair of that Board and served with distinction for 14 years.

She has been equally involved in the Tennessee School Board Association (TSBA). She served as a Trustee of the Board of Risk Management, Western Regional Coordinator for the Tennessee Legislative Network, Chair of TSBA Ethic Commission, District Director of Southwest Region of TSBA, where she served the school districts of Chester, Jackson-Madison, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Henderson and McNairy counties.

She served as facilitator and workshop presenters for TSBA and the Southern Region Association of School Boards. She served on the Board of Directors for TSBA more than 8 years and represented the state of Tennessee at the National School Board Conventions in 2001 - 2006.

In November of 2005, the delegates to the TSBA Convention in Nashville, Tennessee elected Gloria as their president. This election made her the first African American woman and only the third African American to be elected as president of the State Association.

Gloria served two terms as President for the Haywood County Democratic Women. She was also a member of the West TN Title VI Executive Council.

A volunteer for the American Cancer Society, Gloria has served as Community Ambassador & Advocacy Coordinator of volunteers.

A Subscribing Golden Heritage member of the Haywood County Branch NAACP, Gloria has served as Secretary and Freedom Fund Chair of the Branch. She was Vice President of the West Tennessee Region of the State Conference for 11 years and has been a delegate to the National NAACP Convention for the past 25 years.

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In 1995 she was elected as President of the Tennessee State Conference of NAACP Branches. In 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007 & 2009 she was re-elected without opposition.

Gloria has concentrated on building capacity at the NAACP State Conference level. She has activated new branches, revived dormant branches and chartered youth councils and college chapters. Under her leadership the State Conference opened a headquarters office in Jackson, TN and has hired staff.

She currently serves Chair of the Southeast Region NAACP Leadership Caucus. In February 2008, she was elected as an at-large member to the NAACP National Board of Directors. She serves on the NAACP National Education, Election Supervisory, Religious Affairs and Resolutions Committees.

In July 2004 at its Annual Convention in Philadelphia, PA, the NAACP presented its highest award, the coveted Kelly Miller Alexander President's Award for excellence in Programs, Development, Growth of Branches, Youth & College Leadership and Membership to Gloria for exemplary service as State Conference President.

An avid and involved Community Activist and champion of Human Rights, in 2003, Gloria Jean was appointed by Governor Phil Bredesen as a Commissioner for the Tennessee Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission. She also, currently serves on the South West Human Resource Agency Policy Board & Council and on the Board of Trustees at Jackson State Community College Foundation.

A Born Again Christian, Gloria is member of the St John Missionary Baptist Church in Dancyville, Tennessee

The following quote from a newspaper editorial accurately describes Gloria Jean Sweet-Love.

*“An avid public speaker and champion of Human Rights, Gloria’s knowledge, dedication, hard work, and integrity have given her the ability to empower others through her leadership.”*

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