

Written by Forward Times Staff  
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(Houston, TX) Public service and commitment to serving one's community is a notable characteristic which few people are able to maintain. Fortunately for the Houston community, "commitment" is not a new concept for one of Houston's prominently well-known families, the Edwards Family. Having come from a lineage of family members who are pioneers and entrepreneurs in both the public service and corporate sectors, David L. Edwards has successfully carried on the Edwards legacy. He has remained committed while working as a business owner focusing on the financial services industry and continuing to "give back" to the community by initiating and being involved with several community outreach programs and organizations.

David L. Edwards, a native Houstonian and graduate of the Houston public schools, is also a business accounting graduate of the University of Houston and has excelled in his career as a Systems Financial Planner. Following his career in corporate America, Edwards continued in his family's footsteps and became an entrepreneur specializing and providing financial services. In 1981, he became the Founder/CEO of the United National Insurance Agency (UNIA) which is one of the first African American independently owned, full-service insurance agencies providing both commercial and personal lines in Texas. UNIA has consistently been a premiere financial and insurance services agency throughout the Greater Houston area as well as Texas for over 31 years and continues to provide services to many non-profit organization including churches throughout the state of Texas. While broadening his business acumen, he also founded and became the principal manager of Access Development & Consulting, LLC. As a continuation of his commitment to community service and education, he also is the Founder of the Texas Prostate Cancer Coalition which offers much needed information about early detection and prevention of prostate cancer within minority communities.

## MIDTOWN REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY HONORS FOUNDING BOARD MEMBER

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One of his passionate commitments has been his tireless service for over 18 years as a founding Board Member of the Midtown Redevelopment Authority (MRA), where he previously served as Vice Chairman while focusing on urban redevelopment and revitalization in the Midtown community. In 2003, former Mayor Lee P. Brown proclaimed David L. Edwards Day in the City of Houston honoring him for his outstanding commitment of public service to the Houston community as well as his achievements and accomplishments.

Recently, Edwards was honored at a special reception for his outstanding and dedicated service to the Midtown Redevelopment Authority and the community as he retires from the Midtown Board. The reception will be held at the Black Finn Restaurant at 1910 Bagby Street.