



Carl O. Sherman Biography

Carl O. Sherman, has been identified as a transformational leader in faith, government and business. A man of strong religious faith, Sherman presently serves in the role of Senior Pastor in the Church of Christ. He was elected in November 2018 to serve as a Member of the Texas House of Representatives. In the 87th Texas Legislature, Representative Sherman requested and was once again appointed to serve on the House Committees for Appropriations and Corrections by Speaker Dade Phelan.

His work in the 86th session include being appointed to serve on The Texas Commission on Judicial Selection (TCJS) which was created in 2019 by the 86th Texas Legislature to study and review the method by which statutory county court judges, including probate court judges; district judges; and appellate justices and judges are selected for office in Texas. Additionally, he was selected as a Texas Legislative Black Caucus (TLBC) Freshman of the Year. He proudly represents District 109 in Southern Dallas County, which includes the citizens of Cedar Hill, Dallas, DeSoto, Ferris, Glenn Heights, Grand Prairie, Hutchins, Lancaster, Ovilla, Seagoville, Wilmer.

Representative Sherman has a long track record of advocating for his community and his service in the House is an extension of that for District 109 as well as all Texans. His legislative priorities are in the areas of education, including higher education, economic development, and helping families prosper. This also includes social justice reform, legislation benefitting senior citizens, as well as, advocating for quality of life for all Texans

Sherman is a trailblazer in both local politics and public administration. He was elected as the first African-American Mayor of DeSoto, Texas in 2010, and was re-elected in 2013. Under his leadership, the city launched an aggressive new focus on generating economic development centered on attracting quality jobs to DeSoto. Sherman's smart growth philosophy included securing funds to ensure that access to quality, affordable housing and safe neighborhoods for every citizen remains at the forefront of economic development decisions. Under his watch, DeSoto became one of the first cities in Texas to provide body cameras for all police officers. The city experienced a 40% increase in sales tax revenue and unemployment went from 9.7% to 5%. Sherman's career experience also included serving as City Manager in both the cities of Ferris and Hutchins, Texas.

Sherman's dedication and commitment to public service reach beyond the citizens of the Best Southwest area and include the North Texas region. In 2016, Sherman was appointed to the North Texas Tollway Authority (NTTA) Board of Directors by Dallas

County Commissioners Court to develop and maintain high-quality roadways in North Texas. In addition, he has been an executive member of the Dallas Regional Mobility Coalition Board and the River of Trade Corridor Coalition.

A successful entrepreneur and businessman, Sherman previously served as Chair and Chief Executive Officer of eTelcharge.com, an electronic payment processing company, and earned the AT&T Alex Award for a patent application. He strategically navigated the company onto Wall Street, where it traded on both the U.S. NASDAQ and the Frankfurt exchange in Europe. His studies of Business Management at Northwood University has made a significant impact to his successful career. Sherman was recognized by the Dallas Urban League as one of the Most Promising Leaders of the 21st Century as well being recognized by TLBC as an Outstanding Texan in 2017.

Sherman has served in the community as the first African-American in many capacities, including being the President of the DeSoto Rotary Club, Board Chairman of the DeSoto Chamber of Commerce, Chairman of the business and government affairs committee, and Board Chairman of the Best Southwest Chamber of Commerce which is comprised of the mayors for the four partner cities – Cedar Hill, DeSoto, Duncanville and Lancaster – and the associate cities of Balch Springs, Ferris, Glenn Heights, Hutchins, Midlothian, Ovilla, Red Oak and Wilmer.

Carl lives in DeSoto, TX, where he and his wife of over 34 years, Michelle, raised their three sons and two daughters. His greatest joy comes from spending quality time with his family which also includes seven adorable grandchildren.