



Name: NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc.

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Industry: Other

Corporate address: 99 Hudson Street Suite 1600, New York, New York,

Description

The NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund (LDF) is the country's first and foremost civil and human rights law firm. Founded in 1940 under the leadership of Thurgood Marshall, who subsequently became the first African-American U.S. Supreme Court Justice, LDF was launched at a time when the nation's aspirations for equality and due process of law were stifled by widespread state-sponsored racial inequality. From that era to the present, LDF's mission has always been transformative: to achieve racial justice, equality, and an inclusive society.

As the legal arm of the civil rights movement, LDF has a tradition of expert legal advocacy in the Supreme Court and other courts across the nation. LDF's victories established the foundations for the civil rights that all Americans enjoy today. In its first two decades, LDF undertook a coordinated legal assault against officially enforced public school segregation. This campaign culminated in [*Brown v. Board of Education*¹](#), the landmark Supreme Court decision in 1954 that has been described as "the most important American governmental act of any kind since the Emancipation Proclamation." The Court's unanimous decision overturned the "separate but equal" doctrine of legally sanctioned discrimination, widely known as Jim Crow.

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