



# ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY, INCORPORATED

MARY BREAUX WRIGHT  
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

STACYE MONTEZ  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: JULY 28, 2014

CONTACT: Stacye Montez [executivedirectorsm@zetaphibetasororityhq.org](mailto:executivedirectorsm@zetaphibetasororityhq.org)

## **ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY GRANTS HONORARY MEMBERSHIP TO**

### **U.S. REP. DONNA EDWARDS AND ELISABETH OMILAMI**

**WASHINGTON – July 28, 2014** – Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., a 94-year old service organization, awarded honorary membership to two trailblazers, U.S. Rep. Donna Edwards (D-MD, 4<sup>th</sup> District) and Elisabeth Omilami, human rights activist and CEO of Hosea Feed the Hungry and Homeless. The ceremony took place on Friday, July 18, 2014 during the Sorority's biannual international leadership conference, held in Washington.

“At this time in our nation, when our civil rights are being challenged, it is more important than ever to join forces with those who can help us restore our basic liberties,” said Zeta International President Mary B. Wright. “We are delighted to welcome these distinguished leaders into our organization.”

U.S. Rep. Edwards represents Maryland's 4th Congressional District where she has secured a number of legislative accomplishments to improve the lives of working families in her congressional district and around the country. In 2008, she became the first African American woman to represent Maryland in Congress.

“Thank you for the honor of being able to serve our churches, our neighborhoods, our country together. It is an honor to call each of you sister,” remarked Edwards. She added that she is frequently asked to join various organizations, but chose Zeta based upon her shared values with the sorority, and its track record of community action.

As the CEO of Atlanta-based Hosea Feed the Hungry and Homeless, Elisabeth Omilami leads an organization that provides human services to more than 50,000 families and individuals each year. Omilami, the daughter of civil rights activist Hosea Williams and State Rep. Juanita T. Williams, has

(more)

SCHOLARSHIP • SERVICE • SISTERHOOD • FINER WOMANHOOD



# ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY, INCORPORATED

MARY BREAUX WRIGHT  
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

STACYE MONTEZ  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

participated in numerous civil and human rights demonstrations, and has spoken before countless religious, educational, civic and human rights groups.

Omilami referenced her personal connection to Erma Killings, a longstanding department leader with Hosea Feed the Hungry and a Zeta member, who she described as embodying the spirit of sisterhood, service and finer womanhood. "Whatever she's got, I want," exclaimed Omilami, "Both my mother and father, a longtime member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, would be honored. I am honored, too."



**Washington – July 18, 2014** – Members of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. executive leadership welcome new honorary members Elizabeth Omilami and U.S. Rep. Donna Edwards. (From left to right – Sheryl P. Underwood, Dr. Barbara West Carpenter, Dr. Jylla Tearte, Elizabeth Omilami, U.S. Rep Donna Edwards, International President Mary B. Wright, Scarlet H. Black, Janet Y. Bivins, Esq., Dr. Felicia Scott-Strickland, Danielle Green, Shaneesa Ashford, and Natalie Brannon)

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. was founded in 1920 by five co-ed students at Howard University that envisioned a sorority that would promote the highest standard of scholastic achievement and Finer Womanhood. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. has a diverse membership of more than 120,000 college-educated women with over 800 chapters in North America, Europe, Asia, The Caribbean, Africa and the Middle East. For more information about Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. visit [www.zphib1920.org](http://www.zphib1920.org).

###

SCHOLARSHIP • SERVICE • SISTERHOOD • FINER WOMANHOOD