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Delaware Historical Society Film Series Documenting the Stories of Prominent African American Leaders in Delaware Continues This Month

Voices of the Elders: Stories of African Americans in Delaware film series to feature Mayor George C. Wright, Jr.

Wilmington, DE — The Delaware Historical Society's Center for African American Heritage announces the October *Voices of the Elders* program highlighting the life and career of Mayor George C. Wright, Jr. Throughout 2015, the *Voices of the Elders* series has documented and shared the stories of a prominent African American leaders in Delaware through short films and mini-exhibitions. Past elders have included: Esthelda Parker Selby, Dr. Joseph E. Johnson, Canon Lloyd Casson, and the late James H. Gilliam, Sr. The series will conclude on December 10, 2015.

WHAT: October *Voices of the Elders* program featuring Mayor George C. Wright, Jr.

WHO: George C. Wright, Jr. has a long history of service in the State of Delaware. He became the first African American to be elected mayor when he became the Mayor of Smyrna in 1982. Mayor Wright held the office of Mayor until 1995 when he decided not to run for another term. Before becoming mayor, he served on the Smyrna Town Council for six terms, beginning in 1969. Mayor Wright also acted as the executive director of the Delaware League of Local Governments and was the chief of staffing for civilian personnel at the Dover Air Force Base from 1956-1989.

WHERE: The Copeland Room of the **Delaware History Museum**, located at 504 N. Market St., Wilmington, DE 19801. Free parking provided by Colonial Parking in the 6th and Shipley St. lot.

WHEN: Thursday, October 22, 2015. There will be a reception beginning at 5:30 p.m., followed by a film screening and program to begin at 6:30 p.m.

Reservations are required and can be made by calling (302) 655-7161 or deinfo@dehistory.org.

This program is a collaboration between the Delaware Historical Society's Center for African American Heritage, WITN22, and the Wilmington City Council.

The Delaware Historical Society owns and operates the Delaware History Museum; a nationally recognized Research Library; Old Town Hall; Willingtown Square, four 18th-century houses surrounding a picturesque urban courtyard located in Wilmington; as well as the Read House & Gardens located in historic New Castle, recognized as an "American Treasure" by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the National Park Service; and The Center for African American Heritage, which will be included as part of the expansion of the Delaware History Museum, expected to reopen in 2016.

For more information on the Delaware Historical Society, call (302) 655-7161 or visit www.dehistory.org.

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