

THE LEADER WITH AN AGENDA TO

# D.R.I.V.E.

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*Candidate for*

## SUPREME GRAMMATEUS

*Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®*

# SONYA L. BOWEN

*Driven to Lead and Inspired To Serve*





# Correspondence



## Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® LAMBDA TAU OMEGA

November 1, 2021

Soror Armisha Walker-Harrison, Chairman  
International Nominating Committee  
1825 NE 55<sup>th</sup>  
Oklahoma City, OK 73111

Dear Soror Walker-Harrison:

The members of Lambda Tau Omega Chapter, Matteson, Illinois, were elated when Soror Sonya L. Bowen was re-elected for a second term as Central Regional Director, at the 86<sup>th</sup> Central Regional Conference in 2020. Her platform of "Charmed Leadership" has permeated our region during her tenure of leadership. During her administration, she shared her vision and has worked diligently to accomplish her goals; and the results have exceeded expectations. A vote was taken at our regularly scheduled chapter meeting held on Saturday, March 13, 2021, where the chapter voted unanimously to endorse Soror Sonya L. Bowen's pursuit of candidacy for the office of Supreme Grammateus.

We know that Soror Sonya is **not new to AKA, but true to AKA**. As the Regional Director, she has been confident and committed to advocating on behalf of the Central Region as a board member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®. She has done an outstanding job with active engagement across the region, providing transparency and demonstrating a loving and sisterly bond across membership levels. Her passion for chapter operations, technology, protocol, fundraising and community service efforts, and her encouragement of our chapters has resulted in participation and recognition, taking the region to new heights.

Soror Sonya was recognized with the EAF Green Diamond Award, as a result of capitalizing her endowment within one year of taking office. Because of her stellar leadership, she was selected as a 2021 Alpha Kappa Alpha Inaugural Executive Leadership Fellow. In addition to being on the Alpha Kappa Alpha board of directors, Soror Sonya served as the Directorate Liaison to the International Membership Committee. She has remained actively engaged in our chapter and continues to work with chapters across the organization to improve technology, sisterly relations, promote effective chapter operations, implement protocol practices, and provide leadership development opportunities.

A proud Life Member, Silver Soror and 34 consecutive years in Alpha Kappa Alpha, Soror Sonya has shown her support of the Central Region chapters by her presence at events across the eight states as well as the sisterhood of our organization. Her exceptional leadership skills and expertise has allowed her to serve in her current capacity with enthusiasm and excellence. During her tenure as Regional Director, although faced with unprecedented pandemic conditions, Soror Sonya remained steadfast in keeping sorors engaged in the business of Alpha Kappa Alpha, while also transforming the region into a new landscape based virtual technology. Additionally, Soror Sonya has been committed to sustaining and growing Central Region through expanding membership by way of recruitment, returning chapters to active status, membership reactivations and chapter charterings. She has proven her passion, commitment and competency leading Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority in the position of Central Regional Director and other leadership roles. She has consistently shown herself to be an intelligent, knowledgeable, and supportive leader and inspires those around her to achieve and recommit themselves to the principles of Alpha Kappa Alpha.

Professionally, Soror Sonya manages an administrative team at Northwestern University, Department of Dermatology. With over 35 years of experience in finance, accounting and technology, she has developed and enhanced internal controls, policies and procedures, as well as presented workshops on technology enhancements to streamline financial processing and to digitalize information. Her technology, management and organizational skills are exceptional. She is definitely effective, efficient and energetic. Overall, her passion, love and respect for Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® is evident. The sorors of Lambda Tau Omega Chapter have no doubt that with Soror Sonya's impeccable service record, proven experience, strong technology and leadership skills, she will continue to serve Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® with a level of excellence in the office of Supreme Grammateus.

Sisterly,

*Leah L.H. Hill*

Leah L.H. Hill  
Basileus

*Jacquelyn Young*

Jacquelyn Young  
Grammateus





# Call To Order



*My Dearest Sorors,*

I am Soror Sonya L. Bowen, a candidate for Supreme Grammateus. Supported by my chapter, Lambda Tau Omega, I sincerely seek your consideration and your vote. My service to and journey in Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority has been for 35 years uninterrupted. A Life Member, as well as a former and present chapter, regional and international leader, I understand the importance of teamwork, commitment, standards and integrity – values that have been the foundation of our great sisterhood for 114 years.

I bring to this office strong administrative skills, creativity, time management skills, financial acumen and effective leadership, as demonstrated by my appointment to serve under multiple administrations. I previously served as a member of the International Protocol Committee, and currently the Directorate Liaison to the Membership Committee. Through my continued service at the chapter, regional and international level, currently as Regional Director, I understand the importance of teamwork, fiscal accountability, operational performance and change, all while driving the agenda of inspiring and maintaining strong bonds of sisterhood and transparency. My experience, service, dedication and exceptional record, both at the professional level and within our beloved sorority, have prepared me to provide exemplary service as your Supreme Grammateus.

My vision for Alpha Kappa Alpha is to remain steadfast in promoting the principles of our organization and protecting the sanctity of our brand. If elected as Supreme Grammateus, I commit to documenting and preparing accurate recordings of board meetings and ensuring timely submissions. I will advance an atmosphere of accountability, transparency, integrity, and inclusivity.

My goals are to drive technology to enhance digitalization, which will increase security, effectiveness, and efficiencies in meetings, reporting and storage. Finally, I wish to develop standard electronic templates, comprehensive procedures, and create workshops/training which can be offered at the local, regional and international levels.

My passion for all levels of the organization and dedication to Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® through my years of service have prepared me to meet your expectations for *Supreme Grammateus*. I have remained ever true to our Founders' traditions of supreme service to all mankind, organizational leadership and lifelong commitment to our ideals.

Sorors, I am confident that together we can elevate our organization in the coming years. I ask for your continued and unwavering support as you cast your vote in July 2022 to **Elect Soror Sonya L. Bowen as your next Supreme Grammateus.**

Yours in Sisterhood and Service,

*Sonya L. Bowen*

Accessible at (708) 819-1908







# Officers Report

## CHAPTER LEVEL LEADERSHIP

### EPSILON RHO CHAPTER

- Membership, Chairman, 1988
- Membership, Co-Chairman, 1989
- Philacter, 1990

### LAMBDA TAU OMEGA CHAPTER

#### Offices

- Basileus, 2000 – 2001
- Anti-Basileus, 1998 – 1999
- Tamiouchos, 1992, 2006 – 2008
- Pecunious Grammateus, 1997
- Parliamentarian, 2002 – 2003
- Certified Graduate Advisor, 2003 – 2009, 2013-2018
- Treasurer, Twenty Pearls Foundation, Inc., 2006 – 2008
- EAF Captain, 2006 – 2008

#### Committee Chairmanship

- Executive Committee, 2000 - 2001
- Budget and Finance, 1992, 2006 – 2008
- Strands of Pearls Teen Mentoring, 2006 – 2007
- Standards, 1996, 2004 – 2005
- Bylaws, 2002 – 2003
- Program, 1998 – 1999
- Audit, 1995
- Technology, 2016





# Officers Report



## REGIONAL LEVEL LEADERSHIP

- 30th Central Regional Director
- Chairman, Regional Protocol Committee, 2010 - 2014
- Chairman, Regional Recommendations Committee, 2006 – 2010
- Chairman, 75th Central Regional Conference Luncheon Committee, 2009
- Co-Chairman, Central Region Graduate Advisors' Training Institute, July 2002 – 2004
- General Chairman, 68th Central Regional Conference, 2002
- Chairman, Time & Place Regional Conference Committee, 2001
- Workshop Presenter, Kappa Mu Omega Chapter, Joliet, IL, 2013
- Basilei Institute Presenter, 79th Central Regional Conference, Indianapolis, IN, 2013
- Workshop Presenter, Mu Delta Omega Chapter, Ft. Knox, KY, 2012
- Workshop Presenter, Phi Kappa Omega Chapter, Evergreen Park, IL 2012
- Workshop Presenter, Tau Gamma Omega Chapter, Oak Park, IL, 2012
- Workshop Presenter, Lambda Alpha Omega Chapter, Aurora, IL, 2010
- Workshop Presenter, Cluster VI & VII Retreat, Lexington, KY, 2009
- Workshop Presenter, Protocol, Chi Sigma Omega Chapter, Bolingbrook, IL, 2009



## INTERNATIONAL LEVEL LEADERSHIP

- 30th Central Regional Director
- Chairman, Regional Protocol Committee, 2010 - 2014
- Chairman, Regional Recommendations Committee, 2006 – 2010
- Chairman, 75th Central Regional Conference Luncheon Committee, 2009
- Co-Chairman, Central Region Graduate Advisors' Training Institute, July 2002 – 2004
- General Chairman, 68th Central Regional Conference, 2002
- Chairman, Time & Place Regional Conference Committee, 2001
- Workshop Presenter, Kappa Mu Omega Chapter, Joliet, IL, 2013
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- Workshop Presenter, Tau Gamma Omega Chapter, Oak Park, IL, 2012
- Workshop Presenter, Lambda Alpha Omega Chapter, Aurora, IL, 2010
- Workshop Presenter, Cluster VI & VII Retreat, Lexington, KY, 2009
- Workshop Presenter, Protocol, Chi Sigma Omega Chapter, Bolingbrook, IL, 2009







# Committees Report

## SORORITY EXPERIENCE

- Initiated Epsilon Rho Chapter (1987)
- Current Member of Lambda Tau Omega
- 31 years of Continuous Active Membership
- Silver Soror
- Life Member
- Heritage Club Member

## CHAPTER LEVEL SERVICE

### *Epsilon Rho Chapter (Purdue University – West Lafayette, IN)*

- Membership Committee 1988-1990
- Program Committee 1987 - 1990
- Step Show Committee 1987 - 1990

### *Lambda Tau Omega Chapter (Matteson, Illinois)*

- Executive Committee, 1992 - present
- Program Committee, 1997 – 2001, 2006 - 2007
- Budget and Finance Committee, 1992 - 2018
- Standards Committee, 1996 – 2007, 2017
- Bylaws Committee, 1991 – 2018
- Graduate Advisory Committee, 2013 – present
- Nominating Committee, 1995 and 2017
- Leadership Development Committee, 2000 - present
- Membership Committee, 1991 - 2016
- Audit Committee, 1995, 2007 – 2008, 2012 - 2017
- Fundraising Committee 2000 – 2008, 2016 - 2017
- Scholarship Committee, 2011 - 2018
- Protocol Committee, 2006 - 2018
- Technology Committee, 2013, 2015 – 2017
- Strands of Pearls Teen Mentoring Committee, 2005 - 2007
- Environmental Ownership, 2016
- June Luncheon, 2000 – 2004, 2013 – 2014
- December Luncheon, 2005 – 2007, 2011 - 2013
- Representative, Chicago Metropolitan Area Joint Founders' Day Committee, 2000
- Representative, National Pan-Hellenic Council of Chicago, 2002





# Committees Report



## REGIONAL LEVEL SERVICE

- Boule Luncheon and Hospitality Committee, 2012 - 2014
- Cluster Retreat Committee, 1998
- Philacter Committee, 1991
- Chairman, Time and Place Regional Conference and Area Retreat, 2001
- Assisted 28th Regional Director with planning and implementation of 4 Regional Conferences, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014
- Regional Conference Steering Committee 2012 - 2014



## INTERNATIONAL LEVEL SERVICE

- Central Regional Director, 2018 – 2022
- Directorate Liaison, International Membership Committee 2018-2022
- Member, International Protocol Committee, 2014-2018
- Leadership Seminar Protocol Committee, 2013
- Boule Hodegos Committee, 2012 and 2014
- Boule Protocol Committee, 2012
- Boule Time Monitoring Committee, 2010
- EAF Scholarship Judge, 2011, 2013



## CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

- Attended 13 Boules, 1996 - 2020
- Attended 12 Leadership Seminars, 1991 - 2021
- Attended 4 National Founders' Day Celebrations, 2011 - 2022
- Attended 54 Regional Conferences, 1988 - 2021
- Attended 8 Undergraduate Roundups, 2010 - 2021
- Attended 8 AKA Day at the State Capitol – Illinois
- Attended 11 AKA Day at the State Capitol
- Attended 72 Cluster Retreats, 1989 – 2021
- Attended 100% Chapter Retreats







# Special Recognition

## SORORITY SERVICE AWARDS

- Outstanding Leadership Award (Lambda Tau Omega), 2015
- Central Region Outstanding Soror Through the Years (Runner Up), 2005
- Soror Through the Years (Lambda Tau Omega), 2003, 2004, 2006
- Soror of the Year (Lambda Tau Omega), 1999 & 2012
- Outstanding Basileus (Lambda Tau Omega), 2000-2001



## COMMUNITY AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- Outstanding Service Award, National Pan-Hellenic Council, Inc., 2005
- Outstanding Service Award, National Pan-Hellenic Council of Chicago, Inc., 2002 - 2004





# *Sisterly Relations Membership Report*







# Candidate's Report

*At the 66<sup>th</sup> Boule in Houston Texas, Sonya L. Bowen was installed as the Central Regional Director of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®. During her 2 term as Central Regional Director, she has lead with Charm and achieved numerous accomplishments.*

## LEADERSHIP

- ✓ 30<sup>th</sup> Soror elected to the office of Central Regional Director – Director member 2018 - 2022
- ✓ Directorate Liaison to the International Membership Committee
- ✓ Chartered two graduate chapters in Chicago, Illinois and St. Claire County, Illinois with 37 and 31 charter members respectively. These graduate chapters were historical milestones as they are the first four letter chapters in the Central region. Additionally, chartered an undergraduate chapter at Illinois State University in Bloomington, Illinois with 26 charter members.
- ✓ Appointed members to the Charmed Leadership Team to serve as regional stewards for achieving the goals & objectives of my administration. Hosted annual Charmed Leader planning retreats and monthly calls with the regional team members.
- ✓ Hosted monthly leadership meetings with the chapter Basilei and Graduate Advisors, including updates from the international committee representatives.
- ✓ Pivoted the region to transform from in person to virtual meetings & activities in order to sustain the business of Alpha Kappa Alpha during the pandemic.
- ✓ Represented the Supreme Basileus at events within the region.

*Charismatic and Charmed*





# Candidate's Report



## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Central Region membership increased by over 2,500 sorors due to MIP and reclamation activities
- ✓ Guest speaker at Founders' Days and Chapter anniversaries through out the Region
- ✓ Visited 100% of all candidates or new initiates pre or post MIP
- ✓ Implemented the Leadership Institute at the Regional Conference to provide training to new, aspiring and sitting Basilei as a supplement to the Chapter Basileus Certification
- ✓ Instituted the Leadership series for Basilei "Pink Table Talks" 2021-2022
- ✓ Instituted the Leadership series for Graduate Advisors "Green Table Talks 2021-2022
- ✓ Implemented fall and winter "Lead & Order" Series of sorority related workshops which allowed for Sorors to get trained virtually due to the pandemic and partial deferment of 2020 Boule
- ✓ Appointed Regional Cluster Chaplains to provide support and prayer for those in need
- ✓ Implemented a Centralized Conference Planning & Logistics Team
- ✓ Hosted virtual Cluster Chats and Vendor Day in 2020
- ✓ Conducted training workshops in the North Atlantic and International Regions and at the Boule and Leadership Conferences
- ✓ Hosted 4 Regional Conferences, 4 Undergraduate Round ups, 12 Cluster Retreats and 2 Boule/Leadership Seminar Regional Gatherings and 22 AKA Days at the Capitol
- ✓ Enhanced Technology utilization by incorporating the following tools
  - Group me for Chapter Basilei and Graduate Advisors for urgent updates
  - Utilization of Jotform to collect data more efficiently
  - Updated regional website to new standard set forth by corporate office
  - Accessibility to website for conference updates, team contact information, regional history leadership, regional pictures and milestone presentations for Diamond, Pearl, Golden and Silver Sorors
  - Hosted all meetings and activities via zoom since 2020



*Confident Central Region*  
Soror Sonya L. Bowen  
Central Regional Director



Dr. Cheryl Green  
President  
Governors State University

## RECOGNITIONS

- ✓ The Sonya L. Bowen Endowment was fully capitalized
- ✓ Inaugural member of the AKA Executive Leadership Academy
- ✓ Presented the key to the City of Hopkinsville, Kentucky



Pictured with: (L) Soror Kendra Brown, ELA Fellow  
and (R) Willis L. Lonzer, III, Ph.D.

General President, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.®





# Unfinished Business

## PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC SERVICE

### Education

- M.S., Management (Finance & Accounting), Purdue University, 1994
- B.S., Computer Technology, Purdue University, 1990

### Profession

- Associate Department Administrator, Department of Dermatology, Northwestern University, Chicago, Illinois

### Affiliations

- Member, Faith Movers Church, University Park, IL
- Member, Purdue Alumni Association
- Member, Purdue Black Alumni Association

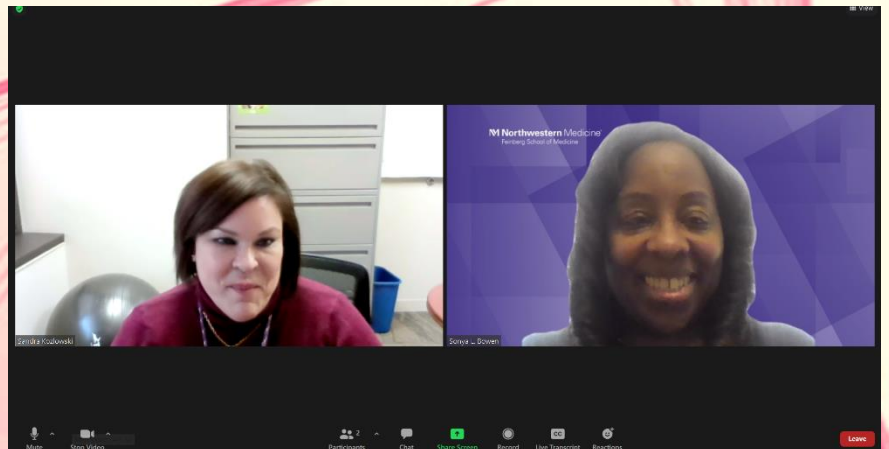


### Community Leadership

- Treasurer, Bronzeville Children's Museum Women's Board, 2017-present
- 1st President, Twenty Pearls Foundation, Incorporated, 2001
- Treasurer, Twenty Pearls Foundation, Incorporated, 2006-2008
- Assistant Financial Secretary, Twenty Pearls Foundation, Incorporated, 2017
- Board of Directors, Twenty Pearls Foundation, Incorporated, 2001, 2006-2008, 2015-2017
- Chairman, Fundraising Committee, 2016-2017
- Chairman, Bylaws Committee, Twenty Pearls Foundation, Incorporated, 2006-2007
- Co-Chairman, National Convention, National Pan Hellenic Council, Incorporated, 2005
- Treasurer, National Pan-Hellenic Council of Chicago, Incorporated, 2002-2004



*Attending Bronzeville Children's Museum Women's Board, Kwanzaa in July Fundraiser.*



*Soror Sonya strategizing over department budget with Sandra Kozlowski, Dermatology, Department Administrator*



# *New Business*



My vision for Alpha Kappa Alpha is to remain steadfast in promoting the principles of our organization and protecting the sanctity of our brand with effective communication, ensure transparency, accountability, while fostering integrity and inclusivity.

## *As Supreme Grammateus, my goals are to:*

- D** Drive technology to enhance digitalization, while increasing security and effectiveness in meetings
- R** Drive the development of standard electronic templates and comprehensive procedures to assist with preparing and maintaining of reliable minutes
- I** Drive the opportunity to create innovative workshops at the local, regional and international level that will help train future Grammatei on the importance of minutes and their proper storage.
- V** Support the vision of our founders, leadership and membership as a whole.
- E** Ensure minutes are efficient and are an asset to maintaining our history, policy And procedures of relevance to the service of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®.

*Driven To Lead, Inspired To Serve*







# Announcements



"Soror Sonya's leadership is respected because she keeps an open mind and is tactful and responsive in executing all regional events and activities. More importantly she loves her Sorors, both the graduates' and undergraduates".

***Soror Carol Dixon, Rho Delta Omega  
25th Far Western Regional Director***



"Soror Sonya Bowen and I originate from the same undergraduate chapter, Epsilon Rho. Even though we were initiated at different times, we have come to respect the commitment that we both have to Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.®. When Soror Sonya says "She is not new to this; she is true to this", it comes from a deep place of commitment and reverence for this great sisterhood. I am confident that any task she takes on will be executed with the deepest respect for the organization and for all Sorors"

***Soror Stacy L. Grooms, Rho Zeta Omega Chapter; Marietta, GA  
Member, Leadership Fellows Committee (2018-2022)***



"Soror Sonya has consistently shown herself to be an intelligent, knowledgeable, and supportive leader in Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® at the chapter, regional and international levels. She is extremely helpful, motivated and a well-respected leader in our chapter, region, her church, and Chicago's Southland communities."

***Soror Rose Butler Hayes, Lambda Tau Omega Chapter; Matteson, IL  
Chairman, International Human Resources Committee (2018-2022)***



"Soror Sonya is a "go to" person, because she is very knowledgeable about the organization at all levels and she leads by example. She is a "Soror of all Sorors." Her ability to listen to all views has garnered the respect of sorors throughout the sorority. She is definitely equipped to serve as Supreme Grammateus."

***Soror Sharon M. Bowman, Alpha Sigma Omega Chapter; Columbus, OH  
Chairman, International Protocol Committee (2014-2018)***



"Soror Sonya Bowen exemplifies the highest ideals and standards of a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®. She is a soror of tested ability, sound judgment, and keen perception, who has proven leadership capability."

***Soror Velena L. McRae, Alpha Xi Omega Chapter; Dallas, TX Former Basileus, (2021-2022)***



"Soror Sonya L. Bowen is passionate about the ideals of Alpha Kappa Alpha. She is a respected voice in our illustrious sisterhood and her community. Soror Bowen is a woman of integrity and steadfast in her opinions and actions. My experience with Soror Bowen is that she is warm, knowledgeable, compassionate, tenacious, and trusted leader."

***Soror Billie Rayford, Theta Theta Omega Chapter; Las Vegas, NV Member, Graduate Advisors Certification Committee (2018-2022)***



"Soror Sonya Bowen's commitment to this sisterhood is abundantly evident in the work she continues to do to move our organization forward. She places value on others, their ideas and potential to contribute to our overall shared vision for the sorority and genuinely represents our sisterhood with the same grace, integrity, tenacity and fortitude I imagine our Founders' had in mind for members more than 114 years ago.

***Soror Katina Semien Smothers, Gamma Eta Omega Chapter  
25th South Central Regional Director***



"Our dedicated Central Regional Director, Soror Sonya L. Bowen, is the epitome of Sisterhood and Service, gracious to all, fair and thoughtful in her relationships with sorors of every generation, and knowledgeable in her adherence to and administration of Sorority governance and protocol. Her skillset includes so many of the qualities we seek in electing members to our highest offices: sound judgment, impartiality, timeliness, energy and a willingness to work together. Central Region always offers its best and in supporting Soror Sonya Bowen for the office of Supreme Grammateus, I can personally attest that we are continuing in that tradition."

***Soror Alana Broady, Theta Omega Chapter; Chicago, IL Chairman, International Diamond/Pearl/Golden/Silver Soror Committee (2018-2022)***





# Acknowledgements



WITH PARENTS  
MR. AND MRS. CHARLES I. BOWEN, JR.



WITH GODCHILDREN  
AMONI AND AMERE HARRIS



*Soror Sonya L. Bowen*  
Central Regional Director



WITH MOTHER  
MRS. SHEILA J. BOWEN



WITH GODCHILD  
SOROR VICTORIA LEWIS AND  
SOROR SARAH LEWIS WEAVER



WITH COUSIN  
SOROR SHARI A. JOHNSON



*The Minutes Of The Candidate's Leadership Agenda Have Been Presented  
For Review And Approval.*

# VOTE FOR

*A Leader With Drive*

## SONYA L. BOWEN



The meeting  
adjourned with  
Sonya L. Bowen  
being a candidate  
for the office of  
Supreme  
Grammateus

*Candidate for*  
**SUPREME GRAMMATEUS**  
ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INCORPORATED®