

*"George McGill was elected Mayor of Fort Smith in August of 2018. As the first African American to ever be elected as Fort Smith Mayor, McGill is a trailblazer who has used his dedication to public service to advance the common good at the federal, state, and local levels. Prior to serving as Mayor, McGill represented Fort Smith, his hometown, in the Arkansas House of Representatives for three terms. As a State Representative for District 78, McGill earned the respect of his legislative peers on both sides of the political aisle and was elected to key leadership positions even though he was in the legislative minority.*

*Deputy Speaker Pro-Tempore of the Arkansas House of Representatives; Chair of the Aging, Children, Youth Legislative & Military Affairs Committee; and Co-Chair of Policy-Making Subcommittee for the Legislative Governing Board of the Council of State Governments are some of the leadership positions that allowed McGill to focus on issues that he deeply cares for, such as hunger relief, higher education, the protection of the elderly, children and families, and veterans, etc. As state representative, McGill embraced a servant leadership that prompted him to constantly stay connected to his constituents to better serve them. To that end, he innovated by opening a local office for constituent services, which is rarely done in part-time legislatures such as the Arkansas legislature.*

*Ever so gung-ho about promoting his hometown, McGill spared no effort or time to help secure more than one million Dollars for the Fort Smith-based U.S. Marshals Museum. Besides, among his other numerous services rendered to his Fort Smith, McGill (has) served as Chair of the Fort Smith Planning Commission, as a member of the River Front Task Force Committee, as a board member of the Fort Smith Boys and Girls Club, as a board member of the Fort Smith Chamber of Commerce, as a board member of the Fort Smith Historical Society, as a Deacon at King Solomon Missionary Baptist Church.*

*McGill's leadership experience as a U.S. army veteran, as a former small business owner, and as a community leader has been recognized through the many awards that he has received, such as The National Guard Association of Arkansas Joseph T. Robinson Award, the Arkansas Municipal League Distinguished Legislator Award in 2013, 2015, and 2017, the UA Fayetteville School of Business Trailblazer Award, the Spirit of Frontier Award - City of Fort Smith, the Outstanding Community Service Award - Lincoln Alumni Association, the invitation to be a Keynote Speaker at the 30th Anniversary for the Fall of the Berlin Wall in Berlin, Germany, and his election as Best of the Best Elected Officials by Times.*

*McGill earned his Bachelor of Science in education and a Master of Business administration from the University of Arkansas."*