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CEO FOR U.S.A'S ONLY MINORITY-OWNED AIR NAVIGATION SERVICE PROVIDER TO FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TAKES ATLANTA BUSINESS LEAGUE HELM

Andrella Kenner Announces Plans for Funding ABL Capital Campaign During Her Term as Chair

(January 29, 2025, Atlanta, GA) — An enthusiastic crowd of Black business owners and professionals filled a ballroom in Southwest Atlanta, Tuesday evening as a show of support for the incoming chair of the Atlanta Business League. Fulton County State Court Judge Myra Dixon led the swearing-in ceremony for ABL board members and officers on Tuesday, January 28th. But before she made a personal statement before issuing the oath of office. Judge Dixon told the audience that she and incoming board chair, Andrella Kenner had been friends for 50 years. She described Kenner as a very caring person.

Kenner is unique because she has been very successful in a technologically difficult industry.

"I've been in the aviation industry for more than 32 years as of February 1, 2025," she told a full room at the Denard Center on the Atlanta Technical College's campus. "My company, CI² Aviation, Inc., has managed more than 55 million aircraft operations over the past 25 years and we have never had a fatality due to controller error... I am the nation's only woman and

minority to own a business engaged in providing air traffic control services to the federal government... I pledge to bring the full force of my experience as a veteran aviation professional to my role as chair of the Atlanta Business League.”

Kenner outlined five objectives that she wanted to achieve during her two-year term. They are:

- Increasing the number of dues-paying members by one-third
- Developing financial counseling sessions for members and partnering with banks
- Assertive outreach to the corporate community
- Hosting sessions between veteran Black business owners and young entrepreneurs
- Raising \$30 million to fund the organization’s capital campaign

The ABL capital campaign will turn its current headquarters into a state-of-the-art business and community meeting space, become the home of the Black business Hall of Fame and serve as an anchor to a proposed Heritage Trail that will run one-mile down Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard from Mercedes Benz stadium. Kenner wants the project completed by the time the International Federation of Association Football holds soccer finals in 2026. She challenged board members to each have ten new members join 2025 and 2026 and got the ball rolling by having four business owners she had recruited to stand. She also told the people in the room, that her management style supported the organization’s theme for the year, because she gravitates more toward solutions than controversy.

“I’m here to work toward partnerships that benefit Black business owners. I’m here to help every single member be successful and profitable. But most of all I think I have been placed in this position so more people can see what happens when you stay in it for the long haul. It’s not an easy ride. You don’t always get what you want, but the objective is to win. I’m winning and I want the Atlanta Business League to continue its winning streak, too,” she said.

The Atlanta Business League’s theme for the year is, “We Got You!”

The January installation program concluded with a special gift-giving ceremony to surprised CEO and President, Leona Barr Davenport. Radio personality Twanda Black was Mistress of Ceremonies.

ATLANTA BUSINESS LEAGUE OFFICERS

- Board Chair - Andrella Kenner, Founder & Chief Executive Officer, CI² Aviation Incorporated.
- Chair-Elect - Erick Pinckney – Principal, Commercial Real Estate Division – The Integral Group
- Treasurer – Gretchen Fuller – President Warner Fuller Consulting, LLC
- Assistant Treasurer - Michael V. Smith, Partner – Assurance Services, Ernst & Young
- Secretary – Heather Fatzinger, President & CEO, Full Circle Communications

- Assistant Secretary –Nykita Hurt – Program Manager Diversity Programs HNTB Corporation

ATLANTA BUSINESS LEAGUE BOARD MEMBERS

- Solomon Adedokun, President/Founder, Dokun Technologies, LLC
- Elaine Armstrong, VP of Marketing, Goodwill of North Georgia
- Dawn Arnold, Executive VP & COO, InvestAtlanta
- Shannon Brown, CEO, ActionLogics
- Albert G. Edwards, CEO & President, CERM
- Donna M. Ennis, Dir. Diversity Engagement & Program Development, Georgia Tech Enterprise Innovation Institute
- Tiffany Callaway Ferrell, VP of Operations, Atlanta Gas Light & Chattanooga Gas
- Dr. Georgette Fraser-Moore, President & CEO, Transformation Lead, LLC
- Chris Goode, Managing Partner, Good Van Slyke Architecture
- Kevin Gordon, System VP Supply Chain, Grady Health System
- Shawn M. Graham, CPA, EVP, Chief Administrative Officer, Russell Innovation Center for Entrepreneurship
- Michael Griffin, Dr. of Marketing, Accolades, Inc.
- Valerie Nesbitt, Dir. Of Supplier Inclusion and Sustainability, Norfolk Southern Corporation
- Dionne Moore Peasant, CEO, Meat Masters, Inc.
- Lawrence Sharp, Broker Owner, Lawrence Sharp Realtors, LLC
- Milton Jones, Jr, Chair ABL Foundation, Founding Member Peachtree Providence Partners, LLC
- Tashwanda Pinchback Dixon, ABL General Counsel, Partner, Balch & Bingham LLP
- Leona Barr Davenport, President/CEO, The Atlanta Business League

ABOUT THE ATLANTA BUSINESS LEAGUE

The Atlanta Business League is the premier organization for African American business owners and professionals. It is the last continuously operating affiliate of the National Business League, founded by Dr. Booker T. Washington in 1900. The ABL is dedicated to fostering effective and profitable business leadership. It has been recognized for doing so

since 1933., The organization aims to equip minority, female, and aspiring businesses in Atlanta with the necessary tools for success.