

John E. Harmon, Sr., IOM

Founder, President & CEO

John E. Harmon Sr., IOM, has served as the founder, president and CEO of the African American Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey (AACCNJ) since 2007. Harmon is the former president and CEO of the Metropolitan Trenton African American Chamber of Commerce (MTAACC). Under his guidance, MTAACC grew its membership substantially, forged alliances with business associations/organizations and government, and forged strategic partnerships in the public and private sectors to benefit African American businesses throughout New Jersey.

Harmon is also the former board chair for the National Black Chamber of Commerce, which has 150 affiliate chapters and over 15 international affiliates. He is the founder and chair of the New York State Black Chamber of Commerce (NYSBCC). Additionally, Harmon is a board member of the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce (NJCC), New Jersey BPU, Supplier Diversity Development Council (SDDC), Opportunity New Jersey, Better Choices, Better Care NJ and chair of Crime Stoppers of Greater Trenton. He is a former board member of the American Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE), First Book and Minding Our Business (MOB), a youth entrepreneurial initiative in affiliation with Rider University. Lastly, he is a member of The U.S. Chamber of Commerce Committee of 100.

Harmon was recently acknowledged in South Jersey Journal's inaugural list of the "25 Most Influential African Americans in New Jersey" for the second consecutive year. Harmon is also recognized as a center of influence (COI) for the United States Army. He was also the first individual selected as a member of the host committee for NFL Super Bowl XLVII held in New Jersey, 2014.

Harmon holds an associate degree in business administration from Mercer County Community College and Rowan College at Burlington County and a bachelor's degree in business management from Fairleigh Dickinson University in 1983.

Harmon successfully completed a one-year fellowship on regionalism and sustainability sponsored by The Ford Foundation. He also completed the Minority Business Management seminar at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2009. Additionally, Mr. Harmon completed a four-year chamber executive management program at Villanova University, sponsored by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in 2014.

Prior to his 20 year career as a chamber executive, Harmon was previously employed at The Bowery Savings Bank in New York City, where he managed the bank's Residential Real Estate department and overlooked major mortgage loan transactions. He also worked for Chemical Bank where he managed third-party loan originations for New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut. While working at Chemical Bank, Harmon established The Affordable Housing Loan Program. Following his banking career, Harmon founded a transportation company in 1989 called Harmon Transfer Corp. The company transported food stuff, perishable commodities, and produce throughout the northeast United States and Canada. Harmon has three sons: John Jr., Joshua, and Justin.