
Spotlight on Que: Brother Abel R. Coombs

By Jeffrey T. Smith

Brother Abel Coombs is an Omega man who is family first, cultured, intelligent, inquisitive, and he has a great sense of humor. Brother Coombs is also a man of several abilities and talents as well as involved in multiple honorable projects in the community. He is self-aware and modest yet possesses an impressive resume of works and achievements. The four cardinal principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance and Uplift will help frame a brief segment of Brother Coombs' story.

Manhood: Brother Coombs was born in Bronx, New York at Lincoln Hospital (60's version) and he grew up in Harlem, NY to loving parents, Ruppert and Adelba Coombs who were both from Havana, Cuba. He is the middle child for three siblings. His family visited the recreational parks of New York for relaxation and serenity of the soul as did many other families of the era. Brother Coombs is married to Letoynia, his wife of 30 years and to their union a daughter and son were born. Mr. and Mrs. Coombs recently celebrated their 30 year anniversary in May.

Brother Coombs was initiated into Chi Phi Chapter on November 11, 2021 as the 'Deuce' on a line of four named the 'Connect 4.' His line name is 'Benjamin Buttons.' He was made with Brothers Theron J. Labrie, Collin Hargrove, and Josh Jynes. Coombs' aspiration and hope for Omega Psi Phi and Chi Phi Chapter is for both organizations to continue to grow in financial, active membership as well as to build upon the service in the community.

Scholarship: Brother Coombs graduated from Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, New York in 1984 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Chemistry. He obtained a Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree with Cum Laude honors from Howard University in 1998. While at Howard, Coombs was a member of the Howard Law Journal serving as Associate Editor and responsible for vetting articles for accuracy.

Perseverance: Brother Coombs is an Attorney and Counselor at Law licensed to practice law in Colorado, California, and New York. He has practice law at the firm of Sherman & Howard L.L.C. a rocky mountain regional firm, and while in New York, Coombs practiced law at the firm of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP a national and international firm, practicing business & real estate transactions. Additionally, Brother Coombs serves as a Faculty Professor at Front Range Community College in Westminster, CO teaching business law and para legal training.

Brother Coombs is an U.S. Army veteran with years of service from 1989 to 2020. He was on active duty as an infantryman and deployed for Desert Shield and Desert Storm. He transferred later to the Army Reserves for the remainder of his military career.

Brother Coombs is the Worshiper Master of Mount Evans Masonic Lodge #7 PHA serving previously as the Junior Warden for the same lodge. He is the Grand Legal Advisor for the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Colorado and Its Jurisdiction (MWPHGL); Coombs has supported five Grand Masters over the years. He is a member in the Ira C. Meadows Commandery #1 of the Grand Commandery of Colorado Knights Templar (PHA) as well as the D.R. Butler Chapter #1 of the Most Excellent Prince Hall Grand Chapter of Colorado Holy Royal Arch Masons. Brother Coombs has been a Master Mason since 2010.

Uplift: Brother Coombs is a Catholic by faith attending Corpus Christi Catholic Church in New York City and the Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Denver. He also attends Heritage Christian Church. Brother Coombs' community service includes the Denver Lawyers Volunteer Association performing 'pro bono' legal work for people. He is a certified firearms (pistol) instructor and engages in martial arts, Kumit Ru Jujitsu. Coombs listens to all genres of music with Country Music as his favorite (Charley Pride, Hank Williams, and Johnny Cash, to name a few).

In closing, Brother Coombs espouses the fraternity's motto of Friendship is essential to the soul and he is committed to service to all mankind. May God continue to bless him, his family, and his endeavors!

