



**Nelson G. Mitchell III.** I was born in Phoenix, Arizona July 15, 1953. Having lived in metropolitan Phoenix all my life, I spent my first 24 years growing up in the Okemah community.

I attended 40<sup>th</sup> Street Elementary School through the sixth grade, Palmdale Elementary School for grades 7-8, and graduated from South Mountain High School. I received a B.A. in Education-

Communication Arts from Arizona State University and an M.A. in Organizational Management from the University of Phoenix. I am also a graduate of Valley Leadership.

Now retired, I spent most of my work life in various communication roles as a writer and editor, public information officer, community relations professional, educational outreach supervisor, and volunteer program manager. During this time of formal employment, I enjoyed 24 years at Salt River Project, 10 years at Maricopa County, and a couple of years at the Phoenix Zoo.

I believe that the values I have were instilled in me by my parents during my formative years, and they are manifested in the organizations I have aligned myself with over the years. It gives me great pleasure to have served on the Arizona Cactus-Pine Girl Scout Council board, the Salt River Project-South Mountain High School Business-Education Partnership board, the Valley Leadership board, the Phoenix Youth and Education Commission, the Anytown Leadership Camp board, and the United States Academic Decathlon board.

In my spare time, my recreational activities include photography, hiking, traveling and gardening.

I am married to Barbara (maiden name Williams) who hails from St. Lucia in the Caribbean Islands. We have three grown children.