

Contact: Chelsea Cunningham
ccunnin5@xula.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

US Attorney and Xavier Alum Ronald C. Gathe, Jr. to speak at Xavier University of Louisiana's annual Black History Month Convocation

New Orleans, La. - [Xavier University of Louisiana's](#) annual Black History Month Convocation will take place on Tuesday, February 15, 2022, at 12:15 p.m. at Xavier's Convocation Center.

The event, which is free and open to the public, is the university's official celebration of Black History Month. Each year, Xavier University honors the achievements of African Americans to recognize the vital role Blacks have played throughout history. Xavier's Black History Convocation ceremony is a celebration of Black excellence and the success of Xavierites who have and continue to make history while striving to bring about a more just and humane society.

This year's national Black History month theme is *Black Health and Wellness*, celebrating Black trailblazers' contributions to medicine. The theme also celebrates Black communities by commemorating cultural practices that have been used to improve health and wellness. This event will pay tribute to African American advancements that have left a lasting impact on society and the institution's continuance of its vibrant mission to create a more just and humane society.

This year's guest speaker is Xavier University alumnus Ronald C. Gathe Jr. (91), who was sworn in as the United States Attorney for the Middle District of Louisiana in December 2021 after being nominated by President Biden.

"During Black History Month, we celebrate the success of our Xavierites, old and new," said **Xavier University President Reynold C. Verret**. "We are honored to share in the success of Ronald C. Gathe Jr., and we hope that his words can inspire current Xavierites who hope to make a difference in the world someday."

Gathe has more than two decades of experience as a prosecutor. He served for 19 years as an Assistant District Attorney and Section Chief in the Office of the District Attorney for the 19th Judicial District Court, where he was the first Black Section Chief responsible for prosecuting a wide range of criminal matters, including crimes of violence, theft, and various drug charges. He also served as the Chief of Trails for the 18th Judicial District Office of the District Attorney, where he was responsible for training assistant district attorneys and supervising all trials.

"I'm really looking forward to this part of this chapter of my life and look forward to serving the people of Louisiana," Gathe stated to

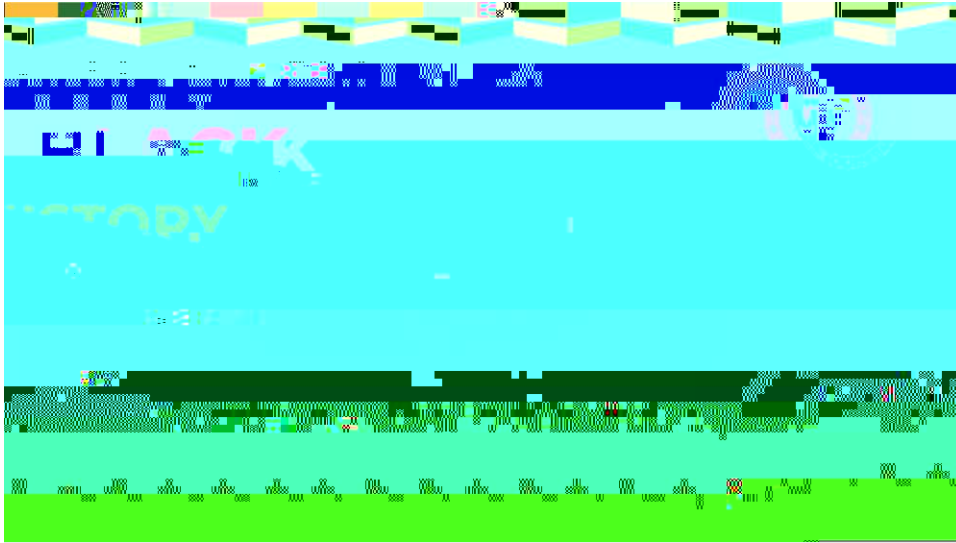


Photo to include in press release submission:

BLACK HISTORY



... District of Louisiana on December 13, 2021, being
...nated by President Joseph R. Biden. As the distr... chief federal
... law enforcement, Mr. Gathe is responsible for enforcing the federal
... criminal laws, representing the U.S. government in civil proceedings,
... and managing programs for the community and state and local law

enforced...
... for the Director of Disaster Fraud. The mission of
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