



# Team Leader

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"In all these days of promise and days of reckoning, we can be confident. In a whirlwind of change and hope and peril, our faith is sure, our resolve is firm, and our union is strong."  
— President George W. Bush

## **I am a Republican Because...**

*I BELIEVE* the strength of our nation lies with the individual and that each person's dignity, freedom, ability and responsibility must be honored.

*I BELIEVE* in equal rights, equal justice and equal opportunity for all, regardless of race, creed, sex, age or disability.

*I BELIEVE* free enterprise and encouraging individual initiative have brought this nation opportunity, economic growth and prosperity.

*I BELIEVE* government must practice fiscal responsibility and allow individuals to keep more of the money they earn.

*I BELIEVE* the proper role of government is to provide for the people only those critical functions that cannot be performed by individuals or private organizations and that the best government is that which governs least.

*I BELIEVE* the most effective, responsible and responsive government is government closest to the people.

*I BELIEVE* Americans must retain the principles that have made us strong while developing new and innovative ideas to meet the challenges of changing times.

*I BELIEVE* Americans value and should preserve our national strength and pride while working to extend peace, freedom and human rights throughout the world.

*FINALLY*, I believe the Republican Party is the best vehicle for translating these ideals into positive and successful principles of government.

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## Timeline of African-American Republican History

1862

Lincoln is the first president to meet with a group of Black leaders

1864

The Republican National Convention makes the abolition of slavery a plank in its platform

1868

Oscar J. Dunn becomes Lieutenant Governor in Louisiana

1870

Hiram R Revels becomes the first African American Senator; elected to fill US Senate seat formerly held by Jefferson Davis

Joseph H. Rainey, South Carolina, becomes the first African-American congressman

Alonzo J Ransier is elected Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina before being elected to the US Congress in '72

1875

Blanche K. Bruce of Mississippi becomes the first African-American elected to a full term in US Senate

1884

John R Lynch is the first African-American to preside over the Republican National Convention; gives the keynote address

1954

President Eisenhower appoints J. Ernest Wilkins as Assistant Secretary of Labor

1960

Jackie Robinson, the first back Major League Baseball player, endorses Nixon for President

1966

Edward W Brooke (MA) is the first African-American elected to US Senate by popular vote

1968

Arthur A Fletcher is appointed Assistant Secretary of Labor; he will be a candidate for Chairman of the Republican National Committee in '76 and appointed Chairman of the US Commission on Civil Rights in '90

1975

President Ford appoints William T Coleman Secretary of Transportation

1981

President Reagan appoints Clarence Pendleton Jr. as Chairman of the US Civil Rights Commission

1982

President Reagan appoints Clarence Thomas as Chairman of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

1989

President Bush appoints Louis Sullivan as Secretary of Health and Human Services

President Bush appoints General Colin L. Powell as Chair of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff

President Bush appoints Condoleezza Rice as Director of Soviet and Eastern European affairs with the National Security Council

1991

President Bush appoints Clarence Thomas to US Supreme Court

1993

US House of Representatives elects J.C. Watts (OK) to be Chairman of the House of Representatives

2001

President George W. Bush appoints General Colin L. Powell as the Secretary of State; Roderick R Paige as the Secretary of Education; Condoleezza Rice as Advisor of the National Security Council; Claude Allen as the Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services

2002

For the first time in history, Black Republicans hold the Lieutenant Governor position in two states at the same time, Lt. Gov. Michael Steele (MD) and Lt. Gov. Jennette Bradley (OH); six African Americans were elected to state-wide offices

2004

President George W. Bush appoints Alphonso Jackson as the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.