

## **Biography for the Honorable Judge Robert (Beau) Patterson**

Judge Beau Patterson is the President and Founder of **PleaseRise**, a speaking, training and coaching company licensed in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina.

Appointed judge of the Denver County Court in 1985, Judge Patterson became the first African-American ever appointed Chief Presiding Judge in the history of that Court in 1998. In that role, Judge Patterson headed the 17 member bench as appointing authority for the nearly 300 employees of the court. He retired from his twenty year judicial career in January 2005, and moved to Hilton Head Island, South Carolina.

Beau Patterson holds a BS degree in Sociology from Colorado State University and a JD degree from the University of Colorado, School of Law. Judge Patterson was Founding Director of the Black Education Program, University of Colorado in 1969. Between 1970 and 1971 he served as Assistant Director for Project Generating Opportunities at Colorado State University. Beau was an Instructor at the Community College of Denver 1970-74. After serving as Colorado State Deputy Public Defender and Assistant United States Federal Defender, Judge Beau was Counsel for the Board of Trustees, University of Northern Colorado and in 1984 successfully represented them before Colorado District Judge Carpenter in the largest “Reduction in Force” of tenured faculty in United States history. He also served as Counsel to the Colorado State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education while serving as Assistant Colorado Attorney General between 1981 and 1985.

Judge Patterson has delivered keynote addresses, made presentations and conducted seminars and workshops in leadership and team-building training, customer service, diversity and ethics training for many associations and organizations including: Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce; The Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC); The Native Island Business and Community Affairs Association; Savannah State University; South Carolina State University; The University of South Carolina-Beaufort; The Deep Rock Water Company; Kaiser Permanente, The National Association for Court Management (NACM), The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual National Training Conference of Blacks in Government (BIG), the South Carolina Association of Government Purchasing Officials (SCAGPO), the Colorado Division of Administrative Law Judges, the Senior Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), the Municipal Judges Association of Colorado, the Judicial Council of the National Bar Association and the Rocky Mountain Symposium of the Project Management Institute (PMI).

Among his many awards, Beau Patterson received the Judicial Council of the National Bar Association Distinguished Service Award for Community Outreach in founding the Central Denver Community Court, 2001; Inducted into the “Living Senior Hall of Fame” at Clyburn Village; 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Honoree “Hands that Make a Difference” Award, August 2001; Toastmaster’s Downtown Speakeasy Club “Toastmaster of the Year” Award. 2003. Sam Cary Bar Association Distinguished Jurist Award 2003. Urban Spectrum Newspaper, “Lifetime Achievement Award” 2005; Selected by Hilton Head Monthly Magazine as one of the “Intriguing People of the Low Country” 2006, Judge Beau is featured in the December 2007 issue, “Here Comes the Judge.” He is also featured in the June 2008 issue of Bluffton Today, “Show Them the Money.”

He was the facilitator for the 2009 Savannah State University President’s Cabinet Retreat on Team-Building”. **Please Rise** is a member of the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce.