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## **NAAIA Announces National Board Elections Results**

*Pierce and Powell elected to first term; Lamarre wins second board term.*



**Washington, DC** – The National African American Insurance Association (NAAIA) is excited to announce the results of its 2024 National Board elections, welcoming three professionals to its National Board of Directors. Michele Lamarre returns to the board for her second term, and the board welcomes two new additions: Alisha Pierce and Jarrard "Rod" Powell, Sr. Members also approved updates to the national and chapter bylaws.

National Board Member and Nominations & Elections Committee Chair Sherita Hardy shared the results during this year's National Conference Gala and Awards.

"We are delighted to welcome Michele back to the board and to have Rod and Alisha join us," said Hardy. "Their industry expertise and innovative thinking will be instrumental to NAAIA's growth and advancing our impact on the industry."

Omari Aarons-Martin, NAAIA's Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer, added: "This year's board election included an impressive lineup of candidates, each bringing unique strengths. My team and I look forward to working with Michele, Rod, and Alisha as we navigate the evolving landscape of the insurance sector."

### **Meet the Class of 2025 Board Members**

**Michele Lamarre** returns to the NAAIA board where she served as the Marketing Committee Chair, overseeing deployment of NAAIA's updated brand, public relations and social media efforts. Most recently, Lamarre was the Vice President and Head of Diversity, Inclusion & Belonging at QBE North America. Prior to joining QBE, Lamarre led marketing and communications teams at AIG, and held Chief of Staff and strategic planning roles with Moody's, UBS Financial Services and JPMorgan Chase. Lamarre earned an MBA from the University of Miami Herbert School of Business and her B.A. from Hofstra University.

**Alisha Pierce** joins the NAAIA board with over 20 years of experience in the Property and Casualty sector, specializing in Auto, Property, and General Liability Claims Management. Pierce has been a NAAIA member since 2008 and previously served as the Program Chair for the Greater Hartford chapter. She has held key roles in leading teams, developing talent, and driving business performance through analytics and process improvements. Pierce earned her bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Old Dominion University.

**Jarrard "Rod" Powell Sr.** is the Agency Principal at Encore Insurance Group, LLC, a Black-owned independent insurance and financial services firm in Chesterfield County, Virginia. He is the inaugural President of the NAAIA Central Virginia Chapter, promoting industry growth and diversity. With over a decade in risk management and consulting, Powell enhances client relationships and optimizes operations. He earned a Bachelor's in Business Administration from Strayer University and studied at Virginia State University and Virginia Commonwealth University. He holds certifications in Small Business Management, Entrepreneurship, and designations as a Registered Employee Benefits Consultant and Commercial Lines Coverage Specialist.

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### **ABOUT NAAIA**

The National African American Insurance Association (NAAIA) was founded to create a network among people of color and others in the insurance industry. With over 2,700 members and 24 chapters nationwide, NAAIA represents every sector of the industry. The association is dedicated to the professional development and empowerment of its members, serving as a conduit for new ideas and diverse talent at every level.

Visit [www.naaia.org](http://www.naaia.org) to learn more.