



# Jesse White

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## SECRETARY OF STATE

# NEWS

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### **Jesse White Hosts Celebration for African-American Heritage Month *Legendary Blues Artist Buddy Guy and Bears Great Otis Wilson Honored***

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White hosted an African-American Heritage Month celebration today featuring legendary blues artist, recent Grammy winner and entrepreneur Buddy Guy, Chicago Bears great Otis Wilson and Ariel Investment chairman John W. Rogers, Jr.

White also honored local African-American entrepreneurs, which was held at the James R. Thompson Center.

“It’s an honor to have Buddy Guy participate in this meaningful event,” White said. “Buddy’s music and guitar expertise has influenced musicians like Jimi Hendrix, Keith Richards of the Rolling Stones and Eric Clapton. He has earned six Grammys and been recognized as one of the greatest guitar players alive. His accomplishments and contributions are awe-inspiring,” said White. “In addition, he is a successful entrepreneur with his South Loop club Buddy Guy’s Legends.”

“People like Buddy, Otis Wilson, and John Rogers, Jr. as well as the other entrepreneurs here today have made an impact on African-American history,” White said. “They have used their talents to assist, educate, challenge, entertain, employ and encourage others across the city, state and world.”

White honored Bobbie J. Stokes of Angelica’s Bakery, Stephanie Hart of Brown Sugar Bakery, Mazie A. Harris of Chicago’s Legal Café, Burnerdean Evans (late) of Evans Funeral Home, Jory Luster of Luster Products, Inc., MacArthur Alexander of MacArthur’s Restaurant, Howard Medley of Medley’s Moving and Storage, James Cole of Shine King, Laurene Hynson of Sweet Maple Café and Thomas Brown of the Black McDonald’s Operators Association of Chicago.

Marion Brooks from NBC 5 and Ramonski Luv from V103-FM emceed the event.

The event also included performances by the King College Prep Concert Choir, Studio One Dancers, Phoenix Military Academy Color Guard, and The Jesse White Tumbling Team.

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