



**Julius Chambers**

Julius Chambers is a Clinical Professor of Law and Director of the Center for Civil Rights at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill School of Law and practices law with the firm he started in 1967, Ferguson, Stein, Chambers, Gresham & Sumter, P.A. Mr. Chambers graduated summa cum laude from North Carolina Central University (then North Carolina College) with a degree in history; he subsequently earned a M.A. in history from the University of Michigan, a J.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and a LL.M. from Columbia University School of Law. In 1963, Mr. Chambers was the first legal intern in an exciting new program of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. In 1964, he opened his law practice in Charlotte, NC. This one-person practice eventually became the first integrated law firm in North Carolina history. In its first decade, this law firm did more to influence evolving federal civil rights law than any other private law practice in the U.S. In 1984, Mr. Chambers left the law firm to become Director-General of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund in New York City, where he was the field marshal for 24 staff attorneys and approximately 400 cooperating attorneys around the nation. Mr. Chambers returned to NC in 1993 to become Chancellor of his alma mater, North Carolina Central University. Under his leadership, the university launched a \$50 million capital fundraising campaign and established its first ten endowed chairs. He retired as Chancellor in 2001 and re-entered private law practice with the firm he started in 1967.