



Hon. Winston Wilkinson
Chief of Staff, Governor's Office of Community Initiatives (GOCI)

Winston Wilkinson was appointed by Governor Larry Hogan to serve as Chief of Staff in the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives (GOCI) in March 2015.

Wilkinson is a native of Prince George's County, Maryland. He was raised in Cedar Heights and graduated from Fairmont Heights High School, then the only African-American high school in the County. Wilkinson joined the U.S. Navy after graduating high school and then went on to Morgan State University in Baltimore where he received his Bachelor's degree in Business Administration. Wilkinson then went on to graduate from Howard University Law School in 1974.

One of Wilkinson's first jobs in politics in the late 1970's was in the office of then Prince George's County Executive Larry Hogan, Sr. He worked alongside County Executive Hogan's son, Governor Larry Hogan.

In 1990, Wilkinson was appointed special assistant to U.S. Secretary of Education Terrel Bell and then later served as deputy secretary in the Office of Civil Rights during President George H. W. Bush's administration. Following his service in the first Bush Administration, he relocated to Utah where he was elected to serve on the Salt Lake County Council.

Wilkinson returned to Washington, D.C. during the George W. Bush Administration, where he was appointed to lead the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Civil Rights, under HHS Secretary Mike Leavitt.

After leaving the second Bush Administration, Wilkinson returned to Utah and worked in the private sector.

Wilkinson returned to Maryland in the spring of 2015 and currently resides in Annapolis. He's married to his college sweetheart, Gloria. They are the proud parents of 4 children and even prouder grandparents of 12 grandchildren.