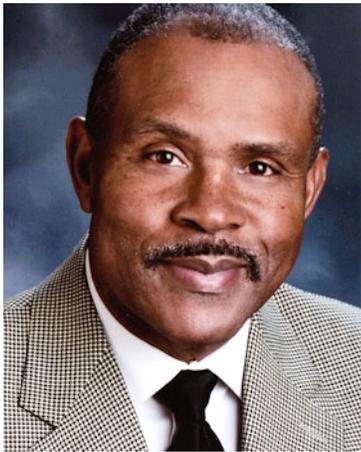


## James R. Cody

### Government



James Cody is a proud graduate of Collinwood High School. After he graduated, he attended Junior College in California on a football scholarship where he received an Associate of Arts degree. James continued his football career at Kent State University where he earned his Bachelor and Master of Arts degrees.

James began teaching and coaching track in the Cleveland Public School System in 1969. He was on the coaching staff of John Adams High School when the school won the State Championship for track and field in 1974.

James's Television Production class produced a monthly program called "Inside East Cleveland Schools", which showcased the East Cleveland School System on East Cleveland Cable station.

James R. Cody retired from the East Cleveland School District in 1996 after a successful career teaching Television Production and Electronics at Shaw High School.

James was also very active in Politics. He was the first African-American elected to the office of Council in Bedford Heights, Ohio in 1983. James has had a successful career as a public servant in Bedford Heights and was the first African-American precinct committeeman; city councilman and the first African-American council president and member of the Charter Review Commission. James has diligently promoted minority hiring, fair housing, and the building of upscale housing in Bedford Heights. As the former President of Bedford Heights City Council, he developed a Parliamentary Procedure booklet for new Council members to assist them in avoiding the pitfalls he encountered as a new member. James is passionately involved in the Homeowners of Metro Estate (H.O.M.E), which was originally organized in 1974 to stop realtors from steering certain groups to certain areas of the city. He has worked diligently with the organization to bring about positive changes which has benefited everyone. On January 25, 2001, James was elected President of the Greater Cleveland Suburban Council consisting of 194 elected suburban officials in 45 suburban communities, and in this position worked closely with other public officials. The former Mayor of the City of Bedford Heights and current Cuyahoga County Commissioner, Jimmy Dimora, credits James R. Cody with many community successes and accomplishments and for always being committed and dedicated to the issues in the City of Bedford Heights.

James shares his life with his lovely wife, Brenda and their daughter, Dana. He enjoys gardening, golfing and fishing and is a lifetime member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity.