

At the 104th Annual Convention in Orlando in 2013, the NAACP honored **Rev. Mark A. Thompson** “for 25 years of crusading journalism and outstanding leadership in furthering the work of civil and human rights.”

Reverend Mark has spent most of his life in public ministry as a political, civil rights, and human rights activist and organizer. Over the past 40 years, he has been involved in every significant social justice movement and event, including every March on Washington, the Million Man March and their anniversaries, each of which he also emceed.

Rev. Mark has been a radio broadcaster and journalist for over three decades and has spent over 10 years as a television commentator. He hosts *Make It Plain (MIP)*, a political, human rights and breaking news podcast, named among Best Civil Rights Podcasts, Best Human Rights Podcasts, Best Podcasts About Social Justice and Best Broadcast Television Podcasts in 2021.

Rev. Mark chaired the NAACP Metropolitan Police and Criminal Justice Review Task Force for the DC Branch in the 1990s.. In that capacity, he co-authored legislation establishing the Board and Office of Police Complaints, and facilitated the beginning of an unprecedented study on racial profiling. He also taught courses in diversity awareness and cultural sensitivity at the DC Police Academy.

In 2023, Rev. Mark was instrumental in the Justice for Jayland Walker Movement, and organized the national demonstration at the Justice Department in Washington, D.C.

Rev. Mark has served on the Selma Bridge Crossing Jubilee Board for 25 years, and is currently on the National Governing Board of Common Cause. He is the Global Digital Transformation Director of the National Newspaper Publishers Association. He is also a close advisor to the AFL-CIO, the Workers Circle, the Poor People’s Campaign and Black Voters Matter.

Rev. Mark is currently pursuing the nation’s first-ever PhD in Public Theology and Public Witness at the United Lutheran Seminary. In 2023, Rev. Mark was inducted into the Morehouse College Martin Luther King, Jr. Board of Preachers.