

Dr. Lawrence J. Pijeaux, Jr.

AAAM Board President: 2006–2008

Lawrence J. Pijeaux, Jr., Ed.D. began his tenure at the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute (BCRI) in July 1995 and retired in June 2014. A native of New Orleans, Louisiana, Pijeaux received his Bachelor of Science Degree from Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana; a Master of Arts in Teaching Degree from Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana; and a Doctor of Education Degree from the University of Southern Mississippi in



Hattiesburg. He has completed postgraduate work at The Getty Leadership Institute for Museum Management on the campus of the University of California in Berkeley.

Under his leadership, BCRI achieved accreditation from the American Association of Museums (now the American Alliance of Museums) in July 2005 and received two consecutive national awards presented at the White House by First Lady Laura Bush for community service, the Coming Up Taller Award in 2007 and the inaugural National Medal for Museum Service in 2008.

Pijeaux has received several awards including BCRI's President and Chairman's Award, the Association of African American Museums' (AAAM) Service and Achievement Award, as well as its Dr. John E. Fleming Award, the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc., Award for Civic Service, the Honorable Bob Riley, former Governor of Alabama, appointed Pijeaux to the boards of the Alabama School of Mathematics and Science and the Alabama Bureau of Tourism and Travel. He was named Alabama Tourism Executive of the Year in 2006 and was inducted into the Tourism Hall of Fame in 2014.

On March 8, 2010, Pijeaux was nominated by President Barack Obama to serve on the National Museum and Library Services Board. The United States Senate confirmed his nomination on June 22, 2010. His board service includes the Association of African American Museums, American Association for State and Local History, American Alliance of Museums, Alabama Museums Association, Institute of Museum and Library Services, and the Southeastern Museums Conference. Pijeaux is a past president of the Association of African American Museums.