



## The National Bar Association (NBA) is Partnering with the U.S. Census Bureau to Support the 2010 Census

### Message from 2010 Census Task Force & NBA President-Elect

I'm pleased to announce that the National Bar Association is partnering with the U.S. Census Bureau to help achieve a complete and accurate count of our population as part of the 2010 Census. The census gives us a voice and power to influence change and help to ensure the needs of our community are met - today and in the future.

I strongly encourage you to review the "Ten Things You and Your Clients Should Know About the 2010 Census" listed below. Spread the word and let others in your community know about this important effort. Watch for more information in the coming weeks. Visit [2010census.gov](http://2010census.gov) to learn more.

### EVERYONE COUNTS!

Demetrius Shelton  
President-Elect, National Bar Association  
Chair, 2010 Census Task Force

# United States<sup>®</sup> Census 2010

### BE COUNTED!

### PARTICIPATE IN THE 2010 CENSUS

For an accurate count, it's essential that everyone in the United States must be counted - both citizens and noncitizens. Completing your census form gives you a voice to shape our community today and create a brighter future for tomorrow.

In response to the 2010 Census "Take 10" challenge, the National Bar Association announces Ten Things You and Your Clients Should Know About the 2010 Census.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau <http://www.2010.census.gov>

*The 2010 Census "Take 10" challenge<sup>®</sup> was created to encourage everyone to take 10 minutes to answer the 10 simple questions on the 2010 Census form.*

*Founded in 1925, the National Bar Association is the nation's oldest and largest national network of predominately African American attorneys and judges. It represents approximately 44,000 lawyers, judges, law professors and law students and has over 80 affiliate chapters throughout the United States and around the world. The organization seeks to advance the science of jurisprudence, preserve the independence of the judiciary and to uphold the honor and integrity of the legal profession. For additional information about the National Bar Association, visit [www.nationalbar.org](http://www.nationalbar.org).*

# Join the 2010 Census "Take 10" Challenge®

## 1. Requirement

Participation in the 2010 Census is vital and required by law, (Section 221, of Title 13 of the U.S. Code). Every person and every census form matters.

## 2. The Process

Census forms will be mailed in March 2010. Every household should complete and mail back the questionnaires as soon as possible. Households that do not respond may receive a replacement questionnaire in early April.

## 3. Household Visits

Beginning in mid-April census takers will visit households that do not return questionnaires to take a count in person. Census workers may also need to visit your household to update the Census Bureau's address list, deliver a questionnaire or ask you to complete the questionnaire face-to-face. All census workers must carry official government badges marked with just their name. You also may ask them for a picture ID from another source to confirm their identity. In addition, some census workers might carry a "U. S. Census Workers" bag. If you still are not certain about a person's identity, please call the Regional Census Center toll-free number to confirm the person is employed by the Census Bureau.

## 4. Confidentiality

All census responses are **confidential**. By law, the Census Bureau cannot share an individual's responses with anyone, including the INS, IRS, FBI, CIA or any other government agency, including other federal agencies and law enforcement entities, including tribal housing authorities, other federal agencies and law enforcement entities. The Census Bureau takes extreme measures to protect the identity of individuals and businesses. All Census Bureau employees take an oath of nondisclosure and are sworn for life to protect the confidentiality of any data gathered. The penalty for unlawful disclosure of census data is a fine of up to \$250,000 or imprisonment of up to five years, or both. By law, the Census Bureau cannot share an individual's responses with anyone.

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## WHY THE CENSUS IS IMPORTANT

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## 5. Government Representation

The U.S. Constitution requires a national census once every 10 years to count our population and determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives. Census data also affect our voice in Congress by giving a community the power to influence change. Census data also determines boundaries for state and local legislative and congressional districts.

## 6. Effect on Legal Rights

Census data is used to guide all levels of government on the implementation and assessment of programs. It is also used to evaluate the enforcement of laws, such as the Equal Employment Opportunity Act, the Civil Rights Act and the Fair Housing Act.

## 7. Allocation of Funds

Every year, the federal government allocates more than \$400 billion to states and communities based, in part, on census data. Programs such as Medicaid and transportation subsidies are determined on the basis of the census. Census data is also used to determine locations for retail stores, schools, hospitals, new housing developments and other community facilities.

## 8. Identification of Services

Census data help guide local planning decisions, including where to provide additional social services, establish child-care and senior centers, build new roads, hospitals, and schools, or where to locate job training centers. That means census data can impact the quality of life for members of the community and their families by impacting health care, education, transportation, and community-based and social service programs. It helps to identify areas where residents might need services of particular importance to certain racial or ethnic groups, such as screening for heart disease, high blood pressure or diabetes.

## 9. Impact of Welfare and Future of Children

Children have been undercounted in every census since the first one in 1790. Local communities rely on census information in planning for schools, childcare, health and other critical services. Babies need to be counted today, so they can benefit tomorrow from community services.

## 10. A Voice for Positive Change

Despite varying backgrounds and experiences, members of the different ethnic audiences are largely united by a common desire to see positive change within their communities. Historically, these communities also have been undercounted in census data. Participating in the 2010 Census gives them a voice to shape their future and affect positive change for their community.