

## **Business & Economic Development Award - Howard K. Hill**

Howard K. Hill is the founder of Howard K. Hill Funeral Services serving in New Haven, Hartford, and Bloomfield, CT. Since 2011, Howard K. Hill Funeral Services has been recognized by the National Funeral Directors Association "Pursuit of Excellence" program, which recognizes funeral homes dedicated to achieving the highest professional and ethical standards.

Mr. Hill's business is exemplified by his slogan "We're Honored to Serve You." His dedication and commitment to the community has been recognized by many churches, civic, and professional organizations. Raising the standard of the funeral industry is his mission and the underlying message to his staff. In 2012, Mr. Hill launched another division of the business called, "Zola". Zola is a series of group counseling sessions, facilitated by a team of licensed psychologists helping to ensure that families grieve in a healthy manner.

Mr. Hill believes one of the best gifts he can offer to those in need is to provide a blueprint for change. He is the founder of The Prosperity Foundation ([www.tpfct.org](http://www.tpfct.org)) which is an emerging philanthropic and educational initiative designed to strengthen Connecticut's African American communities in critical areas such as health, education, and economic development. TPF will become a permanent and endowed vehicle for addressing the needs of CT based African Americans and bringing the community together around common interests.

Mr. Hill currently serves as President of the Connecticut Funeral Directors Association and advisory board member for the National Funeral Directors Association. He is on the boards of Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, Hannah Gray Home, Hartford Communities That Care, the Community Action Agency of New Haven and The Beloved Community, New Haven.

He received his Mortuary Science degree from the American Academy McAllister Institute of New York in 1991. He is a Licensed Funeral Director/Embalmer in the states of CT and NY. Howard has been married to his wife Nancy for over 15 years. He has three children, DeShaun Davis, Matthew and Kendra Hill.