

**Request for
Media Coverage**

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Equitable Resources Chairman, President & CEO

Named As New Chairman of the

African American Chamber of Commerce Presidential Roundtable

(Pittsburgh, PA - November 9, 2005) Murry S. Gerber was recently named as new Chairman of the African American Chamber of Commerce of Western PA Presidential Roundtable. He follows Thomas J. Usher, Ph.D., Chairman, USS Corporation. Mr. Usher, the first Chairman of the African American Chamber's Presidential Roundtable, served in that position for 7 years. Thomas J. Usher helped launch the African American Chamber in its engagement with the business community.

According to Mr. Gerber: "I am pleased with the development and progress that the African American Chamber has made over the last 7 years, and it is an honor to take the baton from Tom Usher who worked diligently to galvanize the support of the corporate community in support of the African American Chamber. The next step will be to work with Chamber President Doris Carson Williams to close the minority hiring gap in Pittsburgh and help our corporate sponsors fulfill their strong commitment to minority businesses within the region."

Mr. Gerber will be the Keynote Speaker at the African American Chamber of Commerce Seventh Annual Business Luncheon Meeting on December 1st at the Omni William Penn Hotel.

Murry S. Gerber has been President and Chief Executive Officer of Equitable Resources, Inc. since 1998, and elected Chairman of the Board in May 2000. A Chicago native, Mr. Gerber holds a Master's Degree in Geology from the University of Illinois and a Bachelor's Degree in Geology from Augustana College.

Thirteen Executives from Southwestern Pennsylvania currently serve as members of the African American Chamber's Presidential Roundtable.

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