

# Frank Ikechukwu Igwealor Launches The Black Republican, a Sweeping History of Faith, Enterprise, and Black America

*The Black Republican recounts the tradition of Black self-reliance, institution-building, and conservative statecraft from Frederick Douglass to the present day*

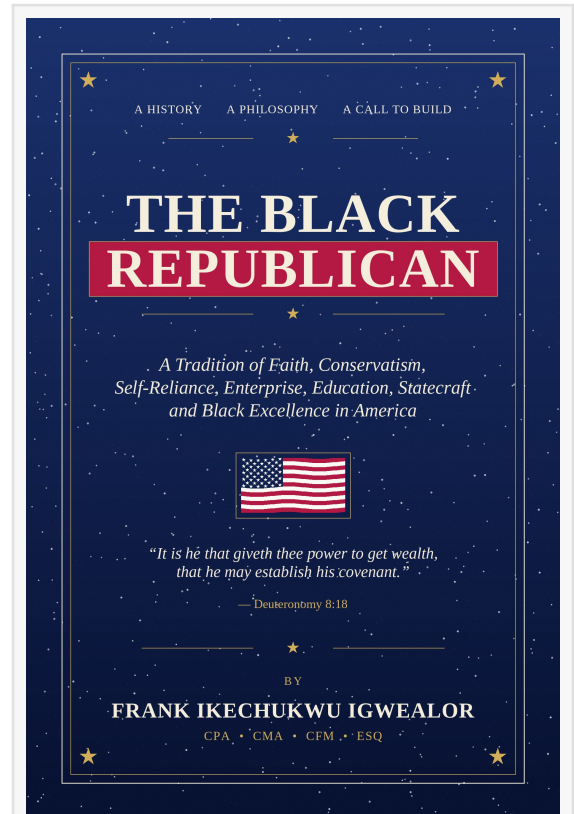
LOS ANGELES, CA, UNITED STATES, October 8, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Attorney, economist, and certified public accountant Frank Ikechukwu Igwealor today announced the publication of *The Black Republican: A Tradition of Faith, Conservatism, Self-Reliance, Enterprise, Education, Statecraft, and Black Excellence in America* (ISBN 979-8-9961136-2-0). The book is now available in ebook and print through Amazon and other major retailers.

Spanning more than 150 years of American history, *The Black Republican* tells the story of the generations of African Americans who, for nearly seven decades after the Civil War, made the Republican Party their political home. It follows them as they built churches, schools, banks, newspapers, insurance companies, and entire business districts, often with little outside help and under the constant threat of violence. Igwealor argues that this tradition is one of the great untold stories of American achievement, and that its lessons remain urgently relevant today.

## A Forgotten Tradition, Recovered

At the heart of the book is one insight that the early Black Republican leaders returned to again and again: legal freedom, by itself, is not enough. Emancipation declared the enslaved free, but it did not supply literacy, property, credit, institutions, or family stability. Those things had to be built, and the freedmen built them.

Igwealor shows how quickly that building happened. By 1900, when Booker T. Washington convened the first National Negro Business League, there were thousands of Black-owned businesses across the country. There were dozens of Black newspapers and more than two



The Black Republican

hundred Black colleges and academies, most founded after the Civil War.

The book also asks why so little of this history is taught. Igwealor identifies three causes. Twentieth-century political realignment left the story claimed by neither party. The dominant narrative focused on what was done to Black Americans rather than what was built by them. And intellectual fashion came to treat self-help, family stability, and enterprise as narrowly partisan values rather than a shared human inheritance.

The author is clear that the book is not a campaign document. It is, in his words, a work of history written in a spirit of gratitude, with arguments and political implications the reader is invited to weigh.

### Inside the Book

The Black Republican is organized into 40 chapters across six parts, with four appendices including a decade-by-decade record of Black members of Congress by party from 1869 to 2025.

- Part I, Foundations: free Black communities before the Civil War, the founding of the Republican Party as an anti-slavery coalition, Black Union soldiers, and the first Black officeholders of Reconstruction.
- Part II, Institution-Building in the Washingtonian Era: education as liberation, the rise of Black entrepreneurship, Booker T. Washington and Tuskegee, George Washington Carver, and the Washington–Du Bois debate.
- Part III, Jim Crow and the Interwar Years: Black Wall Street in Tulsa, entrepreneurship as resistance, Ida B. Wells, and the Great Migration.
- Part IV, Civil Rights and Realignment: Eisenhower-era civil rights Republicans, the 1964 watershed, Senator Edward Brooke, and the Black conservative intellectual tradition.
- Part V, The Contemporary Black Republican: Justice Clarence Thomas, Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice, new conservative voices, and the modern debate over wealth and ownership.
- Part VI, Reflections and the Future: the danger of dependency without ownership, rebuilding a culture of enterprise, and the future of Black political and economic power.

Four themes carry the whole work: character, discipline, ownership, and strategic empowerment. Many chapters close with leadership and empowerment lessons that readers can apply to their own families, careers, and businesses.

From the Author

"There was a time when the words 'Black Republican' were spoken with pride from church pulpits, from the steps of Reconstruction schoolhouses, and from the offices of Black bankers in Durham, Tulsa, and Chicago," said Igwealor. "That phrase carried a whole philosophy of freedom. It held that liberty is not only a legal status but a capacity: the capacity to feed your family, educate your children, own property, build institutions, and govern your own community."

"I wrote this book because a young person who has never heard of A. G. Gaston, Madam C. J. Walker, or the founders of the Mechanics and Farmers Bank is missing models that could change the course of their life," he continued. "These men and women did not wait for permission. They saved when others spent and built when others despaired. Their story belongs to every American, and it deserves to be told as a curriculum, not a curiosity."

### Who Should Read It

The Black Republican is written for a broad audience. It suits readers of American and African American history, students and educators looking for a fuller account of the post-Emancipation era, and pastors and church leaders interested in the Black church's role as an engine of community-building. It also speaks to entrepreneurs, investors, and parents seeking practical models of ownership and enterprise.

Readers across the political spectrum will find a richly sourced account of a chapter in American history that is too often skipped. The book draws on speeches, biographies, historical records, and academic scholarship, and closes with a full bibliography.

### Book Details

Title: The Black Republican: A Tradition of Faith, Conservatism, Self-Reliance, Enterprise, Education, Statecraft, and Black Excellence in America

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Review copies and interview requests are available to members of the media, educators, and book clubs on request.

### About the Author

Frank Ikechukwu Igwealor is a California-licensed attorney, Certified Public Accountant, Certified Management Accountant, and Certified Financial Manager. He has been a California-licensed real estate broker since 2005. His education includes degrees in accounting, economics, business administration, finance, risk management, and law.

Based in Los Angeles, Igwealor has served as an officer and director of public and private companies in the United States, Europe, Asia, the Middle East, and Africa. He is the managing member of Alpharidge Capital LLC, a firm focused on real estate, mortgage lending, affordable

housing, and entrepreneurship development. He is the author of numerous books on investing, personal finance, political economy, and African and African American history.

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