

Cynthia R. Jennings Esq.

UNBOUGHT, UNBOSSED AND UNAFRAID

Cynthia Jennings is a civil rights and environmental attorney who served as a Hartford Councilwoman for six years. In 2023, Jennings worked with Journalist Bridgitte Prince, the Legislature, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP); Governor Ned Lamont and Speaker of the House, Comptroller Scanlon, and Speaker of the House, Matt Ritter, to provide more than \$228 million dollars to ensure that North Hartford residents receive relief from flooding and raw sewage back-ups into basements of North Hartford residents.

Jennings was instrumental in the clean-up and closure of a polluting landfill located in North Hartford and the closing of a trash incinerator in South Hartford, championed by Sharon Lewis, Executive Director of the Connecticut Coalition of Energy and Enviornmental Justice (CCEJ), and Larry Charles, Sr. Executive Director of then North Hartford's major community organization, ONE/CHANE, representing North Hartford and Clay Hill. At the time of this environmental shake-up, under the leadership of Dr. Mark Mitchell, Director of the Hartford Health Department, Dr. Mitchell discovered that asthma rates for Black and Brown children in Hartford, were some of the highest in the country.

Much work was spearheaded under North Hartford coalitions, designed to deal with the environmental racism and environmental justice issues facing predominantly Black and Brown people of color living in Hartford.

Jennings was mentored by the first Connecticut African American female Mayor, Carrie Saxon Perry. Jennings made phenomenal improvements in North Hartford where she has lived most of her life. Jennings ran for office under the banner of New York Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, the first African American woman to run for President of the United States. Jennings is a fearless fighter for justice, and is unbought, unbossed and unafraid...