

## ***Hilton Kelley***

### Biography

Hilton Kelley, Founder and CEO, Community In-power & Development Association Inc., Coordinator of the Southeast Texas Bucket Brigade, And Mobile Community Outreach Director for Coming Clean Collaborative. Mr. Kelley is originally from and currently lives in the refinery and chemical manufacturing town of Port Arthur, Texas. In addition to being a community organizer, Mr. Kelley is an electrician and former member of the US Navy, second class petty officer. After the navy, Mr. Kelley remained in California while there he worked as a youth activist where he was recognized for his youth anti-gang violence efforts and acting ability. He was admitted to the Screen Actor's Guild in 1991. Mr. Kelley moved back to Port Arthur in order to help rebuild and save the community from which he came.

Pollution, neglect and deep despair had taken a heavy toll on Port Arthur TX. In response, Mr. Kelley organized the "Community In-power and Development Association"(C.I.D.A.) and began to challenge the regulatory agencies and there policies and environmental violations of the plants that loom over the community. CIDA collects scientific data about the sources, types, and amounts of pollution emitted by polluting neighbors and educates residents of Port Arthur (who are overwhelmingly low-income individuals and people of color) about the toxic burden they shoulder. While fighting locally, Mr. Kelley also arranged for CIDA to join the international Shell Global Accountability Campaign and spoke at three Shell Annual Meetings in London and the Hague Netherlands. Mr. Kelley is trained to take air samples using the "buckets" (of the Bucket Brigade) as well as the high-tech CEREX real time air monitor. He is also qualified to train others on these devices. In 2002 Mr. Kelley testified before the US. Senate on behalf of impoverished communities across the nation and in 2003 received the Environmental Justice Award from Sierra Club Lone Star Chapter. In 2004 he received the Ben & Jerry Award for Environmental Activism.

### **Awards & Accomplishments**

2007: **Keynote speaker at Rice University for the Environmental Club's Conference entitled**

**who's Earth is it People, Petrochemicals and Environmental Justice March /24**

2007: **Nominate for the "Sri Sri Ravi Shankar Award" for Uplifting Human Values. March/21**

2006: **Won 3.5 million dollars and other amenities for the underserved communities that boarder the Fence line of the Motiva refinery in the City of Port Arthur TX.**

2006: **"Houston Hero" Award by Citizen League for Environmental Action Now (CLEAN)**

2005: **Instrumental in helping to stop HB-1711 and the Joe Barton Bill in Washington DC that would of allowed polluting industry to scale back the clean air laws and regulation**

2005: **Instrumental in having violation charges brought against Premcor refinery by the EPA**

2005: **Woodmen of The World Life Insurance Society "Conservation Award "**

2004: **Freed Family Support Group Award for Innovative Community Advocacy**

2002: **Environmental Justice Award** / Sierra Club Lone Star Chapter

2001: Blocked a permit that would of allowed a refinery to dump 525 tons of toxins into the air

2000: **Keynote Speaker: Future Leaders of America Summit/ High School Students** / Port Arthur TX.

**Testified** before U.S. Senate regarding environmental health effects of changes in Clean Air Act

**Testified** before Texas Legislature in support of school air monitoring bill

**Presenter** at Shell International Shareholder's meeting London / U.K.

**Co-Authoring** reports on pollution from petrochemical flaring with Eric Schaffer / Environmental Integrity Project (in process)

1995: Started the first anti gang anti drug theater outreach program in a housing project for at risk youth.

Lock wood Gardens Housing project Oakland CA.

1996: received Certificate of appreciation from the City of Oakland CA. for out standing work in the community with the "anti gang violence program"

## **Mission**

The Community In-Power and Development Association (CIDA) is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization that empowers residents of the low-income Port Arthur, Texas communities to take action against the neighboring chemical manufacturers, Refineries and incinerators to keep them from polluting our air, land, and water. CIDA was founded in 2000 with the belief that chemical polluters should be held accountable for the chronic, systematic poisoning of low-income communities living along the "fence line" of their operations. In keeping with this belief, CIDA Inc. has created a grassroots initiative that:

1. Collects scientific data about the sources, types, and amounts of pollution emitted by our polluting neighbors.
2. Educates residents of our community (who are overwhelmingly low-income individuals and people of color) about the toxic burden we shoulder.
3. Unites Port Arthur residents to take action against major chemical polluters, advocating for socially responsible refineries and chemical plants and the reduction of toxic emissions.
4. Works with other low-income, communities of color in the United States via the Coming Clean Campaign and internationally in South Africa via the Global Community Monitor.
5. With our national and international partners, approach polluters (such as Shell Oil) at their annual share holder general meetings.