

## **Sisters Establish the Pauline Brown Scholarship at Stockton in Memory of Their Grandmother**

Stacey and Tracey Smith of Sicklerville, N.J. Give Back to Their Alma Mater to Honor Their Grandmother's Support of Their Educational Journeys

***For Immediate Release; See attached image***

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**Galloway, NJ** – Twins Stacey and Tracey Smith, of Sicklerville, N.J., established the Pauline Brown Scholarship for Stockton University students in memory of their grandmother, Pauline Brown, to honor her support of their educational journeys.

Their generous gift pledges to provide an annual \$1,000 award for at least the next five years to full-time students in good academic standing with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0. The initial award will be distributed this academic year.

Pauline Brown, a self-taught Mississippi native, came to New York and worked in nursing at Mount Sinai Hospital. A staunch promoter of education, she owned an extensive library of thousands of books, and was the foundation for her family. She passed away in January of 2009, just months before the girls graduated from Stockton.

At the gift signing, the girls each wore a piece of their grandmother's jewelry and gave testimonies to their grandmother's strength and courage. "She taught us to be respectful of everyone while remaining humble," said Tracey.

"My nana always told us, 'Everyone who looks like you is not your friend and everyone who doesn't look like you is not your enemy. You will be surprised who will help you out in life,'" Stacey added.

Stacey majored in Criminal Justice at Stockton, where she was mentored by Janice Joseph, distinguished professor of Criminal Justice, and earned her master's degree from Arizona State University.

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Currently, she is an adjunct at the Department of Law and Justice at Rowan University where she teaches an upper-level course, "Specialization in Policing." She was recognized in November 2015 by Stockton's Council of Black Faculty and Staff as the Distinguished Stockton Alumni award recipient.

Tracey majored in Biology at Stockton, and earned her master's degree from Clarion University of Pennsylvania. Currently, she is a microbiologist with RLS Logistics in Newfield, N.J. and is in the process of applying to medical school. At the invitation of Tara Luke, associate professor of Biology, she has returned to Stockton to guest lecture.

This academic year, the Stockton Foundation will award more than 400 students with financial awards totaling over \$645,000 thanks to generous support from its donors. The total fiscal year 2017 budget for student aid is 12.5 million, which covers tuition waivers, scholarships, federal aid match and tuition reimbursement.

**Photo Caption:** From the left, are Phillip T. Ellmore, chief development officer and executive director of the Stockton University Foundation, Tracey Smith '09 and Stacey Smith '09 at a gift signing on Stockton's campus. Photo: Susan Allen/ Stockton University

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