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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 7, 2016

Black Belt Community Foundation launches the England-Hardaway Endowed Scholarship Fund. June 13th Kickoff Reception to be held in the Hayes Conference Room - School of Law at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa.

Selma, AL: The **Black Belt Community Foundation** cordially invites all interested parties to attend a very special kickoff event celebrating the formation of the England-Hardaway Endowed Scholarship Fund. The event will happen on Monday June 13 from 5:30pm until 7pm.

The Black Belt Community Foundation was able to establish this scholarship through the kind funding of Greenetrack Inc. Greenetrack's Board of Directors and President and CEO Luther "Nat" Winn were instrumental in establishing this support.

Concerning this very special kickoff event, BBCF President Felecia Lucky says: "We are so excited that on Monday evening, June 13th from 5:30pm until 7:00pm we will launch the England-Hardaway Endowed Scholarship Fund. A reception will be held in the Hayes Conference Room at the School of Law on the University of Alabama's campus. A little more formal invitation will be distributed over the next day or so. Hopefully you can mark your calendars and attend to join in our very first endowed scholarship celebration!"

MORE INFO on the Scholarship Fund:

The scholarship is being established to support those students from the Black Belt Region of Alabama pursuing a degree in law to carry on the tradition of excellence and service in this field portrayed by Judge John H. England, Jr. and Judge Eddie Hardaway, Jr. The fund will apply to supporting qualifying Black Belt resident students who are pursuing a law degree at the University of Alabama School of Law.

John H. England, Jr., a Perry County native, graduated from Tuskegee Institute with a B.S. degree in Chemistry in 1969 and graduated from the University of Alabama Law School in 1974. He received an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Tuskegee University in October 1999.

He began practicing law in Tuscaloosa, Alabama in 1974 and was elected to the Tuscaloosa City Council in 1985. He was appointed by Governor Jim Folsom to the Tuscaloosa County Circuit Court in June 1993 and was elected to a full term in November 1994, where he served until he was appointed by Governor Don Siegelman to the Alabama Supreme Court in September 1999. Judge England served on the Alabama Supreme Court from September 1999 until January 2001. He returned to the Circuit Court of Tuscaloosa County, Alabama in January 2001 and was re-elected to the Circuit Court in November 2002 and November 2008.

Judge England serves on the Board of Trustees for the University of Alabama Systems. He is a graduate of the 1996 Leadership Alabama Class. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Alabama Circuit Judges Association and is a past president (2013-2014).

Eddie Hardaway, Jr., a Sumter County native and resident, is the judge for [Circuit 17](#) in [Alabama](#). He is the first black judge to serve on the [17th Judicial Circuit](#). Judge Hardaway received his law degree from the University of Alabama in 1977. He was admitted to the Alabama bar on April 28, 1978. Hardaway was a judge for the Sumter County District Court from 1980 to 1995. In 1995, he began working as a judge for [Circuit 17](#). Judge Hardaway's current term expires in 2018.

For more information about BBCF, please be sure to visit <http://www.blackbeltfound.org> or visit us on Facebook at "Black Belt Community Foundation."

For more information, you can call BBCF offices at (334) 874-1126

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