

7-20-71



New Housing Authority Member Sworn In

Marion Thomas, the first black member of the Marietta Housing Authority since the agency was formed in 1939, takes his oath of office. He was

appointed by Mayor Dick Hunter and sworn in Monday to succeed Dr. Lou Fortson. Thomas' term is five years.

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problems for the disadvantaged in Marietta.

The new member is a Marietta native. He said that, although he lived in Smyrna for 10 years, "I never disassociated myself from this community." He has been an active member of Cole Street Baptist Church for many years and is the newly-named chairman of the board of deacons there.

At Dobbins, he is supplies management officer. His division provides support to base activities.

Thomas lives with his wife and five children at 466 Henry Dr., S.W.

Dr. Fortson had served one term of his own on the authority, and a month of the unexpired term of T. E. Baskin, who resigned in April 1966.

First Black To Serve On Housing Authority

The first black to serve on the Marietta Housing Authority since the authority was founded in 1939 was to be appointed Monday afternoon.

Marion Thomas, a civil service employe at Dobbins Air Force Base, was to be named to succeed Dr. Lou Fortson. Thomas' appointment is for five years.

Thomas' appointment to the authority was the second made by Mayor Dick Hunter. The first was that of

James W. (Bill) Hames, an official at Cobb Exchange Bank. Thomas told The Daily Journal Monday morning that he considers his being chosen to the board "an opportunity to serve all Mariettans.

"Opportunities like this present themselves only once, and I felt I should accept the opportunity," Thomas added. He said he looks forward to seeing what can be done about housing

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