



## ***Darnell Z. Blackburn*** ***Bio***

Darnell was born and raised in the City of Detroit and attended Cass Technical High School. Upon graduating from Cass Tech he enrolled at Michigan State University. From there he received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology. He later earned a master's degree in business administration from the University of Phoenix.

Darnell worked in law enforcement for twenty-eight years. Serving as a police officer working as an undercover narcotics investigator and community police officer as well as with the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (referred to as MCOLES). MCOLES is the regulatory agency who sets licensing standards, oversees training for police agencies, as well as develops curriculum for basic police training in the State of Michigan.

Darnell is an adjunct professor who has taught business and criminal justice classes at the community college level. Recently, Darnell committed full-time to running his company PRAT International LLC ([www.pratintl.org](http://www.pratintl.org)). PRAT International is a human resources management consulting company that specializes in Inspirational Speaking engagements and soft skills trainings for organizations in Cultural Competency, Workplace Violence, Verbal De-Escalation, Implicit and Unconscious Bias, Stress Management, Respecting Differences and other training programs.

Darnell is a nationally recognized and highly sought-after speaker and trainer. He's been featured as a speaker for Ted x Detroit, the University Phoenix, National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE), Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. and many conferences, graduations, and forums. He is the co-author of the new book "Tales from Fatherhood", as well as several articles and is recognized as a subject matter expert in the area of Unconscious and Implicit Bias.

Darnell has been featured on Fox 2 News, The Detroit News, The Michigan Chronicle, The Detroit Free Press, The Holland Sentinel, MLive, C&G Newspapers, Great Lakes Banker Magazine and a host of other articles and newscasts.



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Darnell has acted as a Facilitator with the U.S. Department of Justice alongside the previous Attorney Generals Loretta Lynch and Jeff Sessions on police and community relations. He serves on the Macomb County Ethics Board, Leadership Macomb Board and several other committees. He is also a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Incorporated.

Darnell was recently hired as an on-air personality for WDIV/Local 4 Detroit. He serves as the station's very first Crime and Safety Expert. He is often called on to address all issues related to crime and safety in the Southeastern Michigan Community. Darnell can also be found weekday mornings from 4:30am-7:00am on Local 4 offering safety tips and delivering daily traffic reports.

Darnell is most proud of being a husband to his wife Ronda and the father of six awesome children ranging in age from 29 to 2 years old.