

Mr. Hopkins is a retired businessman with over 45 years of wholesale/retail merchandising experience. He was the founder, C.E.O./President of Merchandise Sales Corporation a Consumer Products Sales and Marketing firm. He has served as an executive at the former Best Products Company, Inc. here in Richmond, VA and the Sam Solomon Company, Inc. in Charleston, SC. He has served as a Board member for Applica, Inc. a NYSE small appliance manufacturer and Black & Decker franchisee located in Miramar, FL. And, he has operated the Virginia ARC Thrift Stores, Inc. as the Principal Executive Managing Director.

Since his retirement he continues to focus his attention on being a community advocate. He was instrumentally involved with the erection of the Maggie L. Walker Statue Plaza in downtown Richmond, an involved advocate for the Boulevard name change to Arthur Ashe, Jr. and has continued to be engaged with the Lumpkin's Jail Project in Shockoe Bottom and the Confederate Statues on Monument Avenue here in our Capital City.

He serves as a Director on the Oliver White Hill Foundation Board, a VIA Heritage Association member and is the CEO/President of the Maggie L. Walker High School ALUMNI "Mass Classes" Association. He is further engaged with several other Richmond community-based organizations.