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David F. Garrison

David F. Garrison is a Senior Fellow and Deputy Director of Greater Washington Research at the Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program. At Brookings, Garrison helps guide a program of policy research on urban issues in the Washington metropolitan area, especially as concerns the District of Columbia. The program focuses on issues of schools, housing, neighborhood development, poverty, health care, workforce development, and local government finance.

Garrison came to Brookings from the National Academy of Public Administration where he served as Vice President. Garrison was elected a Fellow of the Academy in 1998.

Prior to joining the Academy, Garrison was a member of the senior staff in the Office of the Secretary at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services during the Clinton Administration. He held four positions: Counselor to the Deputy Secretary; Acting Director, Office for Civil Rights; Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation; and Deputy Director, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs.

Garrison returned to Washington in 1993 after a dozen years in Cleveland, Ohio where he directed the Urban Center, the former research and outreach unit of the Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University. Prior to his work in Cleveland, Garrison served as Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Policy Development and Research, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington DC during the Carter Administration. For the final six months of that period, Garrison was the General Deputy Assistant Secretary for that office, carrying out the responsibilities of the Assistant Secretary during a vacancy in that position.

Before joining HUD, Garrison was a Budget Analyst with the Budget Committee of the House of Representatives. Prior to that, Garrison was a Legislative Counsel with the National League of Cities and the U.S. Conference of Mayors, during which time he was closely involved in the creation of the Community Development Block Grant program, a part of the 1974 Housing Act. He also served as Assistant Director of an OEO-CAP funded Neighborhood Development Center, as a VISTA Volunteer assigned to the Neighborhood Legal Services Program in Washington, DC, and as a Staff Assistant to Congressman F. Bradford Morse (5th Mass.).

Garrison holds degrees from Amherst College (B.A., 1965) and George Washington University National Law Center (J.D., 1968, and L.L.M., 1970). He is on the board of the Museum of African American History in Boston. He is an elected Commissioner on the Advisory Neighborhood Commission that covers his Capitol Hill neighborhood. He serves on the Trustee Nominating Committee for Amherst College. He was a member of the Board of the

Wellfleet (MA) Non-Resident Taxpayers Association and the chair of the William Lloyd Garrison Bicentennial Family Reunion. In Cleveland, he was active in the local community, serving for ten years on the Board of a non-profit housing corporation and seven years as a member (including two years as chairperson) of the Cleveland Heights City Planning Commission. For ten years, he was an active volunteer with the Federation for Community Planning, serving as chairperson of its Government Relations Committee as well as serving two terms on the Federation's Board of Trustees.

Married since 1969, he lives on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC with his wife, Loretta. Mrs. Garrison is an attorney with the Federal Trade Commission. The Garrisons have two grown children.

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