



A MESSAGE FROM  
**JERRY GAHLHOFF**  
 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER & PRESIDENT



**Rollins Employees**

February 2, 2023

## A Message from the CEO Rollins Celebrates Black History Month

*Weekly feature highlighting team members begins Feb. 8*

The start of 2023 brought about some very exciting changes for me, and one of the greatest aspects of my new role will be serving as the executive sponsor for Workplace Inclusion (WPI). On behalf of Rollins and the WPI team, I'm excited to kick-off our observance of Black History Month.

Black History Month is a celebration of the history and achievements of African Americans. Created by historian Carter G. Woodson and fellow scholars, this annual observance dates back 97 years, with just one week of remembrance early on. Woodson, whose studies focused on Africans around the world and African American history, was the second black person to receive a Ph.D. from Harvard University.

Rollins aspires to cultivate an inclusive culture where our people can show up as their authentic selves and do their best work. In honor of Black History Month, the Workplace Inclusion team has developed a series highlighting Rollins African American team members and related historical figures. Starting next week, I encourage you to read about our colleagues and learn something new about important people in America's history.

In my decades of experience working within the pest control industry, I have witnessed considerable changes in the makeup of our workforce. I've seen a greater commitment to diversity across demographics, and how companies in our industry see the benefits of diverse thoughts and ideas. Rollins is one of these companies, and that is why I'm committed to seeing greater diversification throughout our ranks; this is something WPI will be intentional about going forward.

As we move through this month, I encourage you to share your reflections about Black History Month, how you and your family celebrate, or something you've learned by sending an email to [workplaceinclusion@rollins.com](mailto:workplaceinclusion@rollins.com). I was fascinated to learn that in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century African American inventor, A.C. Richardson created the "insect destroyer gun," developed to eliminate crop-eating bugs. He later revised his design, packaged it in a bottle and labeled it as a pesticide.

As a global leader in pest control services across many brands, we are especially pleased to acknowledge and share the contributions of this prolific inventor.

Sincerely,

**Jerry Gahlhoff**

