

ARKANSAS BLACK HISTORY



Clarence L. Hunter Sr. (1926-2004) joined the Little Rock Police Department in 1958. During that time, he was one of only seven black officers in the department. His time on the force was difficult; he had to purchase his own uniform and gun and was not allowed to drive a car. His beat was on West 9th street in downtown Little Rock. If he made an arrest, he had to call a white officer to transport the arrested. Hunter was a pioneer for African Americans in law enforcement. He was the first black detective, the first black sergeant, the first black lieutenant, the first black captain and the first black assistant chief. He retired from the LRPD in 1981 after 23 years on the force. To find out more about Clarence Hunter or to find more examples of black excellence, visit the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center.

