

At 1101 South Boulevard

North Carolina Mutual Office Is Located In Inner City

The Charlotte district office for the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Co. (NCM) is housed in the Miller building, a two-story brick office complex at 1101 South Blvd.

The building, owned by Charlotte businessman Newton Miller, is conveniently located in Char-

lotte's inner city, just south of downtown near the YMCA on East Morehead Street.

The Charlotte district operation moved to its present location in 1983 from 100 Beatties Ford Road, where it rented space for many years in the Mechanics & Farmers Bank build-

ing. The move to South Boulevard was necessary because the bank needed additional space for expansion, said Charlotte district manager Willie Nowlin Jr.

When the district office opened in the early 1900s, it was located in Charlotte's old Second Ward neighborhood near downtown. It occupied space in the black-owned MIC building on Brevard Street and at locations on First and

Second Streets. The district office moved into Mechanics & Farmers bank in the early 1960s and remained there for about 22 years.

North Carolina Mutual pays about \$1,500 a month to lease 2,600 square feet of space at its South Boulevard location. The suite includes three major offices and a training room for about 25 sales managers and agents who work out of the Charlotte

district.

The district office is managed by Donna Ellis and two staff assistants. Nowlin said the company may later buy property for the Charlotte operation. Many of the some 20,000 policyholders in the immediate Charlotte area are likely to stop by the office to handle insurance business. The office is open to clients between 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

To get to the convenient

location from downtown, clients can take Charlotte Transit buses No. 4 and No. 12 from The Square. No. 4 serves Park Road and Beverly Woods and No. 12 serves South Boulevard, Wind Song and Linford. At night, No. 12 becomes No. 16, which serves the South Boulevard area after 6:30 p.m.

Or, clients can call the Charlotte district office at 375-5594 between 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

The Heritage Of America's Largest Black Business

Although the company has about \$200 million in assets and more than \$6.5 billion of insurance in force, the figures are only indicators of the real stuff of which its story is made.

The North Carolina Mutual story is really about the remarkable traits which have enabled black Americans to survive and progress in this nation. Against the current backdrop of poor economic conditions for blacks and other Americans, it is a story whose roots are grounded in the adversities of another time. As such, it is an inspiring story whose lessons apply equally to the lives of individuals who seek business success, social progress or

personal fulfillment.

It's a story about planning, sticking together during adversity, and sacrifice. Equally important, it's about vision, innovation and staying current with changing times.

The story began at the very birth of the American republic. In 1787 while the Constitutional Convention was under way in Philadelphia, another historic meeting was taking place in that city. Methodist ministers Richard Allen and Absalom Jones urged free blacks to organize "a society...in order to support one another in sickness and for the benefit of widows and fatherless children."

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