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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## MEDIA ADVISORY—PHOTO OP

### **Ret. Capt. Gail Harris, highest-ranking female African American in the U.S. Navy, to speak at PBSC's 26th annual MLK celebration Jan. 23**

**What:** Ret. Naval Capt. Gail Harris will be the keynote speaker at Palm Beach State College's 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration. The event is **free and open to the public**, but attendees are asked to RSVP at [www.palmbeachstate.edu/MLK](http://www.palmbeachstate.edu/MLK).

**Who:** Capt. Gail Harris served as the first woman intelligence officer in a Navy aviation squadron in 1973. Her 28-year career included hands on leadership in the intelligence community during every major conflict from the Cold War to Desert Storm to Kosovo, and most recently at the forefront of one of the Department of Defense's newest challenges: Cyber Warfare. At her retirement, she was the highest ranking African American female in the Navy. Harris will share her life experiences and thoughts on the legacy of Dr. King in a conversational-style presentation, moderated by Tania Rogers, anchor and reporter for WPTV NewsChannel 5.

President Ava L. Parker, J.D. will present Palm Beach State's MLK Leadership Awards to five honorees for their community service: Executive Director of Kingdom Charitable Trust Clara Acero; President of the Northside Kiwanis Club Lynne L. Hubbard; the organization Path to College Fellowship, whose mission is to secure the acceptance of as many high-achieving, low-income students into top-tier universities as possible; PBSC faculty member Dr. Winsome E. Vassell, an accomplished Registered Nurse (RN); and PBSC