



54th Annual
CHICAGO BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY FAIR

CBOF54

June 15th, 23-24, 2021

THE FIRST & LARGEST LOCAL
PROCUREMENT CONFERENCE

Connecting the Dots:

Business



Synergies!
Opportunities!
Solutions!



Melody Spann Cooper

Chairman,
Midway Broadcasting Corporation

Melody Spann Cooper is a second-generation owner of Midway Broadcasting Corporation, a best-in-class African-American & female owned media company whose properties include radio and digital platforms. The company provides niche programming and content to Chicago's thriving Black and Latinx populations. Midway Broadcasting properties include WVON 1690, the oldest Black-oriented radio station in Chicago. With its urban talk format, the station has been a leading source of information and community empowerment for nearly 60 years. In 2007, Spann Cooper expanded the company's assets, with the development of WRLL Radio, Chicago's Home for Hispanic Independent Broadcasters. And in October 2020, she oversaw the launch of Midway Broadcasting's new OTT Digital Streaming Platform, VON-tv, (*pronounced Vaughn*) which can be seen in more than 100 million households on ROKU, Apple TV+, Amazon Prime and at V-O-N DOT TV.

Spann Cooper serves on many professional and civic boards including as Commissioner of the Illinois Liquor Control Commission; as Vice Chair of the Illinois Broadcasting Association; as executive committee member of the National Association of Black Owned Broadcasters and as Co-Chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Council for the Obama Presidential Center.

In 2019, she added "author" to her list of accomplishments with the release of her first book, *The Girlfriend's Guide to Closing the Deal*, It's a business book for women about people, power and purpose.

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