

Jul 18, 2013, 2:03pm EDT | UPDATED: Jul 22, 2013, 9:39am EDT

The Delta Sigma Theta convention, by the numbers



Rebecca Cooper Staff Reporter-Washington Business Journal Email | Twitter

the past week, it was hard to miss the hordes of crimson-and-cream-clad Delta Sigma Theta sorority members in town for the sorority's 51st National Convention. Nearly 40,000 members of the group, which is the largest African-American women's

If you were anywhere in or around D.C. for

organization in the U.S., descended on the District for the convention, which was held at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center. Their sheer numbers yielded some

impressive stats, according to Events D.C., the city's convention and sports authority. The Deltas sold out the approximately 20,000-seat Verizon Center for the

convention gala on Saturday night, which



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turned more somber when one of the gala performers revealed the not-guilty verdict in the

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in Florida. Throughout the week, pulling off the convention required a lot of resources, including:

murder trial of George Zimmerman, who killed Trayvon Martin, an unarmed black teenager

9.000 feet of truss

Between July 15-17, the convention center's catering partner, Centerplate/NBSE, served:

23,250 lbs of chicken breasts;

49,780 meals, including:

60 digital video screens

45.000 chairs

- 8 tons of vegetables;
- 4,800 gallons of iced tea; and

6,300 lbs of cheese.

14,400 liters of water;

The meal service required 3,100 servers and 42 refrigerated trucks for the food.

"Every facet of the hospitality community benefited from the attendees and their profound

Tourism officials touted the benefits to the city's hospitality sector.

and CEO of Destination DC, said in a statement. "The economic impact was, as expected, far reaching." Rebecca Cooper covers retail, restaurants, tourism and the arts.

presence in our city over the past seven days, making them feel welcome and comfortable

as they dined, shopped and experienced the nation's capital," Elliott Ferguson, president

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Thanks for sharing the positive impact our conference had on the economy hopefully our next convention we will have more support from businesses. Reply • 🖒 3 • Like • Follow Post • July 19 at 10:23am

The dates are not June 15-17 but should be July 15-17.

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Toya M. Jones · * Top Commenter · Illinois State



You had to be there because it was totally awesome! Thank you Lord that I was there! Reply · 🖒 2 · Like · Follow Post · July 20 at 9:26pm

What is the economic impact of Howard Homecoming on Washington, DC?



Most hc's -at least from a big and/or perennially popular HBCU perspective- are one day, two night events. I'm wagering that the recent DST much like the AKA convention several

Dale Burley · Works at NYC Media

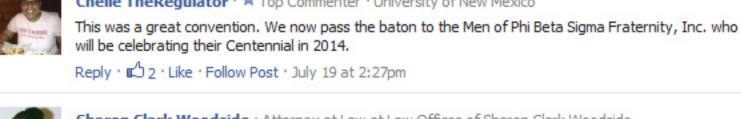
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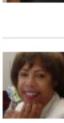
While I wouldn't refer to my Soror as "hordes of crimson-and-cream," she got it right that Delta Sigma Theta "the largest African-American women's organization in the U.S., descended on the District" and no doubt " "The economic impact was, as expected, far reaching." Reply · Like · Follow Post · Monday at 7:57pm

It was really great to see so many sorors in one great city. I was surprised that there were not more welcoming signs around the District in view of there being so many sorority sisters there. I'm sure a lot

years ago were far more financially significant, they're truly five night events.



Sandra Foster · Consultant at Communities In Schools of Philadelphia So proud of my sorors contribution to the DC economy and most important a continued commitment to our founders' vision.



Reply · Like · Follow Post · 19 hours ago Pat Heath · Tollow · Fayetteville, North Carolina



Wanted to share the article, but the dates are wrong...really, wow... Reply · Like · Follow Post · Sunday at 5:35pm Robyn Lawrence · USF



I emailed the author.

Reply · Like · Sunday at 9:04pm

of money was pumped into the local economy. Reply · Like · Follow Post · Sunday at 3:54pm

Nikki Nicole Triplett MA · Savannah State Extraordinary women Reply · Like · Follow Post · Monday at 10:35am