

# LAW & JUSTICE

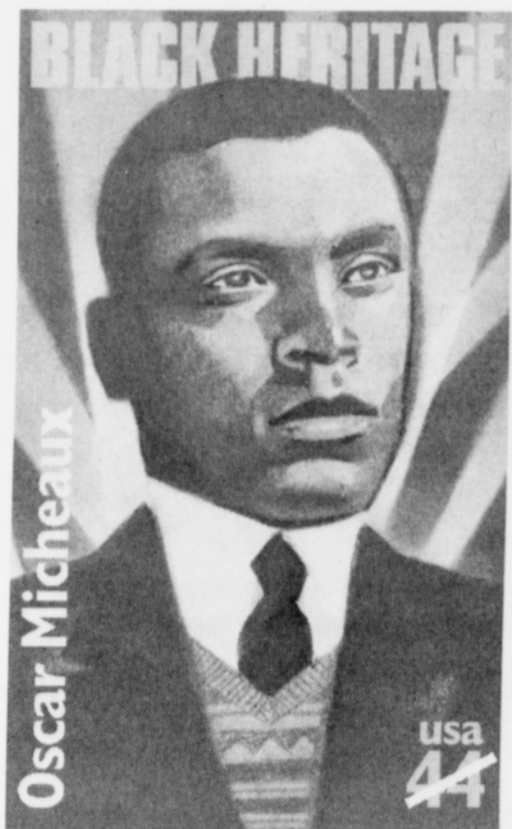
## Stamp Immortalizes Filmmaker

### Inspires new generations

The 33rd stamp in the Black Heritage series honors pioneering filmmaker Oscar Micheaux.

Micheaux, who lived from 1884 to 1951, wrote, directed, produced, and distributed more than 40 movies during the first half of the 20th century. An ambitious, larger-than-life figure, he thrived at a time when African-American filmmakers were rare, venues for their work were scarce, and support from the industry did not exist.

His entrepreneurial spirit and independent vision continue to inspire new generations of film-



makers and artists.

Forgotten after his death, Micheaux was rediscovered in the late 1960s by South Dakota historians and in the 1970s by film historians interested in early black cinema. Although only 15 of his movies are known to have survived in whole or in part, he has become a cinematic icon.

In 1986, Micheaux was posthumously awarded a special Directors Guild of America award. In 1995, the Producers Guild of America established the Oscar Micheaux Award to honor "an individual or individuals whose achievements in film and television have been accomplished despite difficult odds."



A video surveillance camera shows a man accused of robbing the downtown branch of West Coast Bank.

## Robbery Suspect Wanted

The Portland Police Bureau, in cooperation with Crime Stoppers, is asking for your help in identifying a bank robbery suspect caught on a surveillance camera.

On Thursday, April 22 at 10:30 a.m., the West Coast Bank at 100 S.W. Broadway was robbed by a lone male. He entered the bank, approached the teller with a note

that demanded money, and then fled the scene on foot.

The suspect is a white, in his late 20s, approximately 5'7" tall, with a thin to medium build. He is described as having black short hair, clean shaven and was last seen wearing a dark blue baseball cap and a blue sweatshirt with a hood.

Crime Stoppers is offering a cash reward of up to \$1,000 for information, reported to Crime Stoppers, that leads to an arrest in this case, or any unsolved felony, and you remain anonymous. Contact Crime Stoppers at 503-823-HELP (4357), or at [crimestoppersoforegon.com](http://crimestoppersoforegon.com)

## ACLU Fights Harsh Sentences Urges abolition of mandatory minimums

The American Civil Liberties Union has asked the U.S. Sentencing Commission to abolish or reform mandatory minimums because they generate unnecessarily harsh sentences, tie judges' hands in considering circumstances, create racial disparities and empower prosecutors to force defendants to bargain away their constitutional rights.

Congress has mandated that the commission provide a report on mandatory minimums by October.

ACLU Drug Law Reform Project Director Jay Rorty recently urged the commission to reaffirm its long stated position that mandatory minimums should be abolished and asked the commission to take steps independent of Congress to mitigate the harms of existing mandatory minimum sentences.

"Mandatory minimum sentences defeat the purposes of sentencing, create unwarranted racial disparity" said Rorty in his testimony.

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