First Civil Rights Sit-in

Samuel Wilbert Tucker

The Story of a Civil Rights Trailblazer and the 1939 Alexandria Library Sit-in

Biography of African American civil rights lawyer Samuel W. Tucker (1913-1990) who organized a sit-in at the Alexandria (Virginia) Public Library in 1939 to protest its “whites-only” policy. Tucker spent several decades challenging public school segregation in Virginia courts and the U.S. Supreme Court. He faced down Virginia’s massive resistance to desegregation, and didn’t give up.

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