

**Rick Kittles** received a Ph.D. in Biological Sciences from George Washington University in 1998. Dr. Kittles is well known for his research on prostate cancer and health disparities among African Americans. He has also been at the forefront of the development of ancestry-informative genetic markers, and the use of genetic ancestry to map genes for common traits and disease.

In 2003, Dr. Kittles co-founded **African Ancestry, Inc.**, a private company that provides DNA testing services for tracing African genetic lineages to genealogists and the general public around the world. His work on tracing the genetic ancestry of African Americans has brought light to many issues, new and old, which relate to race, ancestry, identity, and group membership. Dr. Kittles' high profile research and his strong ability to communicate genetic concepts and issues eloquently and understandably to the lay public has been featured over the past decade in five PBS and BBC network documentaries related to human biological diversity, race and disease. His work has been featured on CNN and the CBS show '**60 Minutes**' where he was interviewed by Leslie Stahl.

Dr. Kittles was named in *Ebony* magazine's "**The Ebony Power 100.**" *Ebony* selected the nation's top 100 African-American "power players" in sports, academia, religion, business, environment, science & tech, entertainment, arts and letters, fashion, politics, media, activism and health.

In March of 2012 Dr. Kittles presented the Keynote Address to the **United Nations General Assembly**, "International Day of Remembrance of Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade."

Dr. Kittles has published over 100 research articles on prostate cancer genetics, Race and Genetics, and health disparities. Currently, Dr. Kittles is an Associate Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Associate Director of the Cancer Center, and Director of the Institute of Human Genetics at the **University of Illinois at Chicago**.