

WASHINGTON BAR ASSOCIATION, INC.

AND

WASHINGTON BAR ASSOCIATION EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC.



LAW DAY  
2022

*“Embracing A Legacy of Black Legal Excellence”*

SATURDAY, THE SEVENTH OF MAY  
IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-TWO  
AT HALF PAST SEVEN O’CLOCK IN THE EVENING  
CONRAD, WASHINGTON, DC  
WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



April 22, 2022

**GREETINGS to The Washington Bar Association Incorporated.**

I am pleased to extend greetings to the **Washington Bar Association Incorporated's** as you host your **Annual Law Day Celebration on May 7, 2022.**

I applaud the **Washington Bar Association Inc.** as one of the oldest and largest affiliates of the National Bar Association, with a long history of achievements in civil rights. This year you will confer your highest award, the Charles Hamilton Houston Medallion of Merit, on Paulette Brown, a past president of both the American Bar Association and National Bar Association, and Dr. Genna Rae McNeil, official biographer of Charles Hamilton Houston and retired professor of History at the University of North Carolina. Congratulations to all of the honorees.

The District of Columbia is grateful for legal organizations like the Washington Bar Association as you highlight the achievements of women lawyers. You have my best wishes for a remarkable occasion and continued future success in your important work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eleanor H. Norton".

Eleanor Holmes Norton



*Greetings*

*Washington Bar Association*



May 7, 2022

Greetings Washington Bar Association members! Welcome to the Annual Law Day Celebration. For more than 90 years, the WBA has stood out for upholding the principles of equal justice and freedom under the law.

I want to extend congratulations to the 2022 awardees of the Charles Hamilton Houston Medallion of Merit: Paulette Brown and Dr. Genna Rae McNeil. You join a long list of distinguished honorees who exemplify what it means to lead in the area of civil rights. Charles Hamilton Houston spoke of the highly skilled and sensitive lawyer who solves “problems of local communities and in bettering conditions of the underprivileged citizens.” I encourage you to continue the fight for the same ideals that he embodied in his quest for social change.

You have my best wishes for continued success and, once again, I congratulate this year’s honorees for excellence in the legal profession.

Sincerely,

Phil Mendelson



**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT OF APPEALS**

430 E STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001

CHAMBERS OF  
ANNA BLACKBURNE-RIGSBY  
CHIEF JUDGE

(202) 879-2730

May 7, 2022

Dear Washington Bar Association,

I am excited for the return of this in-person 2022 Law Day Dinner at the beautiful Conrad Hotel here in Washington DC. This important tradition brings together the legal community and honors the Washington Bar Association’s mission of promoting “Equal Justice Under Law” by advancing a fair and racially-inclusive legal system. These are values that were instilled in me by my parents at a young age, and values that I have sought to embody in my personal life and my career as a judge.

I wish to congratulate this year’s recipients of the prestigious Charles Hamilton Houston Medallion of Merit: Paulette Brown, Esquire, the first African-American woman elected as the president of the American Bar Association, and Genna Rae McNeil, Ph.D., the first African-American tenure-track faculty member at the University of North Carolina’s History Department. They are both trailblazers.

The theme for this year’s Law Day is: **“Toward a More Perfect Union: The Constitution in Times of Change.”** This is a fitting theme, because over the past two years, we have faced unprecedented challenges – a global pandemic and renewed national protests about racial injustice. As we celebrate Law Day tonight, we must continue to be mindful that as members of the WBA, we all share the responsibility to work together to ensure equal justice under the law, for all.

I hope everyone enjoys tonight’s reception and dinner, which will conclude with what I am sure will be a fantastic jazz reception.

Sincerely,

Chief Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby

*Open to All ♦ Trusted by All ♦ Justice for All*



Kendra Perkins Norwood  
President, Washington Bar Association

VIA EMAIL

April 12, 2022

Dear President Norwood,

I was delighted to learn that the Washington Bar Association (WBA) will once again hold its annual Law Day Celebration in person. After so much time spent isolated and apart during the pandemic, I am confident that your members are thrilled to come together in the spirit of friendship, public service, and justice. I certainly know that all of us at the District of Columbia Bar look forward to sharing such fellowship ourselves.

While I've never had the pleasure of attending the WBA's celebration, I was not surprised to learn that it has always proved both a marvelous social event and a deeply meaningful opportunity to recognize some of our very best proponents for progress in the area of civil rights. There can be no doubt that you will replicate such success again this year.

That's been made especially clear by the deserving recipients of the 2022 Charles Hamilton Houston Medallion of Merit, the WBA's highest award. The D.C. Bar offers its heartfelt congratulations and deepest respect to **Paulette Brown, past president of both the American Bar Association and the National Bar Association**, and to **Dr. Genna Rae McNeil, biographer of Charles Hamilton Houston and retired professor of history at the University of North Carolina**. I've read a bit about Ms. Brown's and Dr. McNeil's impressive professional achievements and incredible personal qualities. Their efforts to represent and advance the interests of people of color and women, among others — and to pursue the broad, noble goals of diversity, equity, and inclusion — serve to humble and inspire all of us. They are models for our profession, our country, and our world.

Again, on behalf of the D.C. Bar, I congratulate Ms. Brown and Dr. McNeil for their well-earned recognition, and convey our warmest wishes and best regards to the WBA's leaders and members alike.

Sincerely,

Chad Sarchio  
President, D.C. Bar

District of Columbia Bar  
901 4th Street NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
202.737.4700  
www.dcbbar.org

PROGRAM  
“Embracing A Legacy of Black Legal Excellence”

KENDRA PERKINS NORWOOD, ESQ., PRESIDING  
PRESIDENT, WASHINGTON BAR ASSOCIATION, INC.

INVOCATION .....	REV. ADEMUYIWA BAMIDURO Senior Pastor, Walker Memorial Baptist Church, Washington, D.C. Director & Associate General Counsel for Security, Facebook/Meta
AFRICAN AMERICAN NATIONAL ANTHEM.....	BENJAMIN GATES, CELLIST CEO, Asteroid Titanium Musical Productions and Entertainment
CALL TO COMMEMORATION .....	KENDRA PERKINS NORWOOD, ESQ.
RECOGNITION OF DAIS GUESTS.....	JOSHUAH R. TURNER, ESQ. Vice President, Washington Bar Association, Inc.
GREETINGS.....	HONORABLE JOHN P. HOWARD, III Associate Judge, District of Columbia Court of Appeals Chair, Washington Bar Association, Inc. Judicial Council Division

THE HONORABLE ANNA BLACKBURNE-RIGSBY Chief Judge, District of Columbia Court of Appeals	MURIEL E. BOWSER Mayor of the District of Columbia
THE HONORABLE BERYL A. HOWELL Chief Judge, United States District Court for the District of Columbia	KARL A. RACINE, ESQ. Attorney General of the District of Columbia
THE HONORABLE ANITA JOSEY-HERRING Chief Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia	LONITA K. BAKER, ESQ. President-Elect, National Bar Association

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR MEDALLION RECIPIENTS .....	KENDRA PERKINS NORWOOD, ESQ.
CALL TO DINNER	
SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATIONS.....	CHARLYN M. STANBERRY, ESQ. & HENRY E. FLOYD, JR., ESQ. President, Washington Bar Association Educational Foundation, Inc. Scholarship Chair, Washington Bar Association Educational Foundation, Inc.

CONFERMENT OF THE CHARLES HAMILTON HOUSTON MEDALLION OF MERIT	
TRIBUTE TO DR. GENNA RAE MCNEIL.....	HONORABLE ANNICE M. WAGNER
CONFERMENT OF MEDALLION .....	HONORABLE ANNA BLACKBURNE-RIGSBY
REMARKS .....	DR. GENNA RAE MCNEIL
TRIBUTE TO PAULETTE BROWN, ESQ.....	JOSEPH M. DRAYTON, ESQ.
CONFERMENT OF MEDALLION .....	GRACE E. SPEIGHTS, ESQ.
REMARKS .....	PAULETTE BROWN, ESQ.
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS & SPECIAL PRESENTATION.....	HENRY E. FLOYD, JR., ESQ.
CLOSING REMARKS.....	KENDRA PERKINS NORWOOD, ESQ.
BENEDICTION .....	REV. ADEMUYIWA BAMIDURO



**CALL TO COMMEMORATION**  
**LAW DAY 2022**  
*Embracing a Legacy of Black Legal Excellence*

*“African-American lawyers have played a unique role in American history. Imbued with respect for the rule of law and the responsibility that such belief engenders, these lawyers have used their legal training not only to become masterful technicians but to force the legal system to live up to its creed: the promise of ‘equal justice under law.’”*

—Justice Thurgood Marshall  
Foreword. Emancipation: The Making of the Black Lawyer  
by J. Clay Smith Jr., University of Pennsylvania Press, 1993.

The legacy of Black legal excellence in America is undeniable. During some of this nation’s darkest moments, Black lawyers have been on the front lines in the battle against racial and social injustice. Before and during the Civil War, Black lawyers in the North worked as abolitionists to help free enslaved Blacks in the South. In the post-Reconstruction era, Black lawyers fought for Black Americans’ rights to equal citizenship under the Constitution. During the Civil Rights Movement, Black lawyers crafted the legal strategies and litigated the cases that ultimately abolished segregation under the “separate but equal” doctrine. Black lawyers were chief among the community organizers, activists and leaders of the civil rights movement. They were also the law school professors, law school deans and other legal scholars who helped educate, train, mentor and motivate future Black lawyers to become social engineers for justice. Through their advocacy, agitation, activism, resistance, sacrifice and struggle, they birthed a lineage of Black lawyers who set the standard of excellence that we should all aspire to attain.

For many Black American lawyers, the legacy of legal excellence we celebrate on this occasion can be traced back to the resiliency of African ancestors who were enslaved for generations under the laws of this land. Even after emancipation, the formerly enslaved were still denied many of the rights and privileges guaranteed to American citizens by the United States Constitution. This, along with white supremacist and state-sanctioned anti-Black terrorism, Black Codes, Jim Crow, and countless other forms of disenfranchisement and marginalization under the law, makes it almost unthinkable that future generations would eventually rise up to confront these injustices with the force of law. But that is precisely what Black lawyers have done throughout history, and continue to do today.

The legacy of Black legal excellence we celebrate tonight is a legacy of triumph over adversity: breaking barriers, defying odds and overcoming obstacles. History has no shortage of examples of how the law and legal institutions have been instruments of discrimination and oppression. But despite this—to paraphrase Maya Angelou—still we rise.

As Nikole Hannah-Jones observed in her Pulitzer Prize-winning work, The 1619 Project, Black Americans are the only group of people in the history of the United States for whom it was ever against the law to learn to read or write. Today, Black lawyers hold law degrees from some of the most prestigious educational institutions in the country, including the nation’s six Historically Black Law Schools. In 1938, U.S. Supreme Court Justice James McReynolds physically turned his back on Charles Hamilton Houston—the esteemed WBA founder and legal giant known as “The Man Who Killed Jim Crow,” who was the first General Counsel of the NAACP and Dean of the Howard University School of Law—as he argued a law school integration case. Less than thirty years after Justice McReynolds’ insult, Houston’s protégé, Thurgood Marshall, had the honor of becoming the first Black U.S. Supreme Court Justice. In 1857, when the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, Roger B. Taney, issued the majority opinion in the Dred Scott case, he reasoned that Black people were “so far inferior that they had no rights which the white man was bound to respect.” Last month, we witnessed history as Ketanji Brown Jackson was confirmed as the first Black woman Justice on the U.S. Supreme Court, 165 years after Chief Justice Taney issued his odious opinion. And lest we forget that it

was two Black lawyers who became the first Black President and First Lady of the United States, followed by another Black lawyer who became the first woman and the first person of color to serve as Vice President of the United States. The legacy of Black legal excellence continues.

But we know that the struggle for racial equity, equal rights and equal justice under law also continues. Black political power is still being suppressed in states nationwide through new voting laws and redistricting. We are still litigating the issue of affirmative action in higher education. Meanwhile, the percentage of Black students attending law schools continues to decrease annually. Only about 5% of the lawyers in the United States are Black, and this percentage remains unchanged from 10 years ago. In big law firms, only about 3% of lawyers are Black. Black partners in big law firms account for only 2% of big law partners nationwide, and Black women partners in big law firms represent less than 1% of all partners nationally. Contrary to what many claim, there is an abundance of Black legal talent. But no doubt, institutional, systemic and structural racism, compounded by a variety of racial and other biases, contribute to these abysmal statistics.

We also know that racial disparity is pervasive in the nation’s criminal justice system—from the over-policing of Black youth, to the mass incarceration of Black bodies in prisons that profit from their presence, not to mention, a severely flawed reentry process that more often than not leads to recidivism. While recent advances in judicial diversity are a source of hope, we cannot ignore that the nation’s courts still do not reflect the racial diversity of the communities they serve. And as we have recently seen, even the most brilliant Black women jurists in America at the highest levels of the judiciary are still considered by some to be “lesser” nominees, as compared to others. The struggle continues.

Bravery, brilliance and boldness are what define the legacy of Black legal excellence. We must be brave enough to speak truth to power. We must be the brilliant voices in the room bringing our diverse experiences and perspectives to the table. We must be bold enough to stand on our principles and advocate for bold changes to the status quo, even in the face of opposition. This year, we honor two brave, brilliant and bold Black women who are part of the legacy we celebrate.

As a retired Partner and the Chief Diversity Officer in a global law firm, Paulette Brown has shown us how Black lawyers can not only survive, but also thrive and effect meaningful change within legal institutions. Paulette has been a longstanding champion of diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI). As President of the National Bar Association and as the first Black woman to serve as President of the American Bar Association (ABA), her bold leadership paved the way for groundbreaking changes in the American legal profession and justice system because of the many DEI initiatives she spearheaded. She also courageously gave voice to the myriad issues that Black lawyers—especially Black women—confront in the legal workplace, particularly in big law firms. Dr. Genna Rae McNeil, Professor Emerita at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC), is an activist-scholar who has dedicated her career to the study of African American History with an emphasis on race, law and social movements, including the essential role of the Black lawyer in American history. She is the author of the ABA prize-winning biography of Charles Hamilton Houston, Groundwork: Charles Hamilton Houston and the Struggle for Civil Rights, and was the historian of record for amicus curiae briefs filed in the landmark Bakke case. Besides a stellar 36-year career as the first Black tenure-track history professor at UNC, Dr. McNeil also spent significant time as a visiting professor at the Howard University School of Law. Through their respective lives and work, both Paulette Brown and Genna Rae McNeil have exemplified the principles of Houstonian jurisprudence, which makes them both highly deserving of the Charles Hamilton Houston Medallion of Merit.

The legacy of Black legal excellence we embrace and celebrate this Law Day was built by trailblazing Black lawyers who mounted direct challenges to racial injustice through legal advocacy and paved the way for those of us who follow in their footsteps. Their vision and courage must serve as our inspiration, as we continue the fight. We must embrace the legacy left to us by our predecessors in the law and keep it alive for the generations of Black lawyers yet to come. We embrace our legacy of Black legal excellence because we know it will serve as a guide for charting our illustrious future.



CHARLES HAMILTON HOUSTON  
ESQUIRE

THE CHARLES HAMILTON HOUSTON  
MEDALLION OF MERIT

The Houston Medallion of Merit is presented in honor of Charles Hamilton Houston, one of the founders of the Washington Bar Association. Houston was born in Washington, D.C. in 1895. He attended public schools in Washington, D.C. and after graduating from M Street High School, he attended Amherst College in Amherst, Massachusetts. At Amherst, Houston was elected to *Phi Beta Kappa*. Houston graduated from Amherst in 1915 and later served as an officer in World War I.

In 1919, Houston entered Harvard Law School. He graduated from Harvard in 1922, after serving as the first Black member of the Harvard Law Review. After his graduation from law school, Houston studied international law in Spain for one year and later returned to Washington, D.C. to practice law with his father.

Houston was later appointed Vice Dean of Howard Law School. His efforts transformed Howard from a small, unaccredited night school to a fully-accredited institution which served as the law school for a generation of civil rights lawyers. Working with protégés such as Thurgood Marshall and Spottswood Robinson, Houston developed the strategy to use law and litigation to effectuate social change.

Houston amplified his efforts during his tenure as General Counsel to the NAACP. He first challenged the separate but equal doctrine by demonstrating that educational facilities for Black students were, in fact, far inferior to the facilities provided for white students. After years of litigation in several states, the Supreme Court ultimately discarded the separate but equal myth by holding in *Brown v. Board of Education*, that racial segregation in public schools is, by definition, unequal and therefore, violated the Constitutional guarantee of equal protection under the law. Charles Hamilton Houston died in 1950, four years prior to the issuance of the *Brown* decision.

The Washington Bar Association established the tradition of awarding the Houston Medallion of Merit in 1975. The award is presented annually to an individual who demonstrates a commitment to Charles Hamilton Houston’s ideals and jurisprudence:

- ▼ A jurisprudence which observes and recognizes law as an organism for social justice through social engineering;
- ▼ A jurisprudence which espouses and demands scholarship, discipline, perseverance, vigilance and dedication in the totality of the legal, social and governmental framework;
- ▼ A jurisprudence which impels and challenges man to leadership and service for the betterment of the human race; and
- ▼ A jurisprudence which serves and operates through the instrumentality of law to disrobe and destroy the many perceived encumbrances and trappings of birth, origin, color, creed, or religion.

It is in the character and measure of Houstonian Jurisprudence that a recipient of the Medallion of Merit must stand.





PAULETTE BROWN, ESQUIRE

2022 RECIPIENT  
CHARLES HAMILTON HOUSTON MEDALLION OF MERIT

TRIBUTE TO  
**PAULETTE BROWN, ESQUIRE**  
ON THE OCCASION OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE  
CHARLES HAMILTON HOUSTON MEDALLION OF MERIT FOR 2022  
BY THE WASHINGTON BAR ASSOCIATION, INC.  
AND THE WASHINGTON BAR ASSOCIATION EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC.  
WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
MAY 7, 2022

Paulette Brown is the first woman of color to lead the American Bar Association (ABA), as its president in its history. As the leader of this 400,000 voluntary member organization, Brown was responsible for governance, advocacy and serving as the voice and face of the ABA. Her presidential initiatives, through her Diversity & Inclusion 360 Commission, resulted in an unprecedented number of policies developed and approved by the ABA, having a long-lasting impact on diversity and inclusion in the legal profession and the justice system. Brown also made history by simultaneously serving as the first person of color to Chair the Labor & Employment Section of the New Jersey State Bar Association.

Brown is a past president of the National Bar Association (NBA). Brown and a retired Partner and Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer at an AmLaw law firm. She Chairs the Board of the New Jersey Institute of Social Justice and is nationally recognized for her dedication and efforts relating to diversity, equity & inclusion, including the impact of implicit bias and is a frequent speaker and educator on both. Since the onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic and the murder of George Floyd, she was called upon to speak as a keynote or as a panelist more than 200 times. Brown is the co-author of two ground-breaking Reports, “Visible Invisibility: Women of Color in Law Firms” and “Left Out and Left Behind: The Hurdles, Hassles and Heartaches of Achieving Long-Term Legal Careers for Women of Color.” She has also authored several articles relating to diversity, equity and inclusion.

Brown is a graduate of Howard University and Seton Hall University School of Law where she has been honored with their alumni awards and has received numerous other awards and honors, including the Margaret Brent Woman of Achievement Award from the ABA and the C. Francis Stradford Award, highest award conferred by the NBA. Brown holds three honorary doctorate degrees.



GENNA RAE MCNEIL, PH.D.

2022 RECIPIENT  
CHARLES HAMILTON HOUSTON MEDALLION OF MERIT

TRIBUTE TO  
**GENNA RAE MCNEIL, PH.D.**  
ON THE OCCASION OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE  
CHARLES HAMILTON HOUSTON MEDALLION OF MERIT FOR 2022  
BY THE WASHINGTON BAR ASSOCIATION, INC.  
AND THE WASHINGTON BAR ASSOCIATION EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC.  
WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
MAY 7, 2022

Genna Rae McNeil is Professor Emerita of History at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill and a scholar of African-American and U.S. Constitutional history. She is widely known for her American Bar Association prize-winning Groundwork: Charles Hamilton Houston and the Struggle for Civil Rights, recognized as the definitive biography of Houston, Thurgood Marshall’s forerunner, law school dean, and mentor. Professor McNeil has served as a visiting professor at Brooklyn College and Howard University School of Law. As Professor of History and Law at Howard, she was honored to be the junior colleague of the inimitable J. Clay Smith, Jr., and she taught jurisprudence as well as constitutional history. As historian of record, she submitted with Professor Smith, Professor Herbert O. Reid, and other law school faculty to the Supreme Court of the United States two amicus curiae briefs in the landmark case of the Regents of the University of California v. Allan Bakke. With particular interest in public history pertaining to African American attorneys, Professor McNeil has served as a consultant to the Damon J. Keith Collection of Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan and she was the historian of record for “Marching Toward Justice,” the inaugural exhibition of the Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building in Washington, D.C., an exhibit curated by Robert Smith.

Professor McNeil is lead author of Witness: Two Centuries of African American Faith and Practice at the Abyssinian Baptist Church of Harlem, New York, 1808-2008 with co-authors Houston B. Robeson, Quinton Dixie, and Kevin McGruder. She is, as well, co-editor of three volumes: with John Hope Franklin, African Americans and the Living Constitution; with Howard University’s Professor Emeritus Michael R. Winston, Historical Judgments Reconsidered and with University of California’s Professor Emeritus V. P. Franklin, African Americans and Jews in the Twentieth Century. Her publications also include numerous articles, book chapters and essays. Professor McNeil is currently completing a book-length study of State [of North Carolina] vs. Joan Little and the “free Joan Little” Movement.

Dr. McNeil attended John Muir High School and was graduated from The Westridge School for Girls in Pasadena, California. She is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Kalamazoo College in Michigan, and she earned her Master of Arts and Ph.D. degrees in United States and African-American History at the University of Chicago, where her adviser was the eminent John Hope Franklin. She has worked as an archivist at the New York Public Library’s Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, served as the national Ecumenical Officer and Deputy General Secretary of the American Baptist Churches in the USA (then a multi-racial denomination of more than 1.3 million), and chaired the Howard University Department of History.

Professor McNeil was born in Texas and is one of four children of Jesse Jai McNeil, Sr., Ed.D., formerly a pastor, author, and professor, and of Pearl Lee Walker McNeil, Ph.D., formerly a community activist, ecumenist, professor and author.

Honoring the sacrifices of the ancestors on whose shoulders she stands and following in the vocational footsteps of her educator-parents, Professor McNeil has devoted her life to telling the truths of African American history, doing justice, and working for transformation by encouraging all under her tutelage to be history-makers who, as an ancient proverb states, “plant trees under the shade of which they do not expect to sit.”



PAST RECIPIENTS OF THE  
CHARLES HAMILTON HOUSTON

*Medallion* OF MERIT

*\* Medallion conferred posthumously*



The Honorable  
Thurgood Marshall  
1976



The Honorable  
Spottswood W. Robinson  
1976



The Honorable  
Joseph C. Waddy, Jr.  
1976



Dr. James Madison Nabrit, Jr.  
1976



Oliver W. Hill  
Esquire  
1976



The Honorable  
William J. Hastie  
1976\*



George E. C. Hayes  
Esquire  
1976\*



The Honorable  
William Benson Bryant  
1977



Wiley Austin Branton  
Esquire  
1978



Herbert Odre Reid  
Esquire  
1979



The Honorable  
Margaret Austin Haywood  
1980



The Honorable  
A. Leon Higginbotham, Jr.  
1981



The Honorable  
H. Carl Moutrie, I  
1982



The Honorable  
William Sylvester Thompson  
1983



The Honorable  
Ruth E. Hankins-Nesbitt  
1984



Louis Rothschild Mehlinger  
Esquire  
1985



Fred D. Gray  
Esquire  
1986



The Honorable  
William J. Brennan, Jr.  
1987



The Honorable  
Juanita Kidd Stout  
1988



The Reverend  
Martin Luther King, Jr.  
1988\*



The Honorable  
Aubrey E. Robinson  
1989



The Honorable  
Julia Cooper Mack  
1990



The Honorable  
Lawrence Douglas Wilder  
1991



Dr. J. Clay Smith, Jr.  
1992



Thomas Adams Duckenfield  
Esquire  
1993\*



Elaine Ruth Jones  
Esquire  
1994



The Honorable  
Dennis W. Archer  
1995



The Honorable  
John Garrett Penn  
1996



Mabel D. Haden  
Esquire  
1997



The Honorable  
Eugene Hamilton  
1998



The Honorable  
Annice Wagner  
1999



The Honorable  
Norma Holloway Johnson  
2000



Professor  
Charles J. Ogletree, Jr.  
2001



The Honorable  
Wilhelmina J. Rolark  
2002



Joseph H. Hairston  
Esquire  
2003



The Honorable  
William T. Coleman  
2004



Jack H. Olender  
Esquire  
2005



Johnnie L. Cochran, Jr.  
Esquire  
2005\*



Congressman  
John R. Lewis  
2006



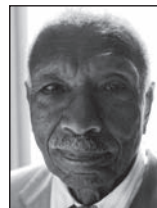
Dr. John Hope Franklin  
2006



The Honorable  
Constance Baker Motley  
2007\*



Dr. Dorothy I. Height  
2007



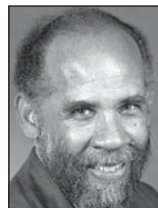
The Honorable  
Robert L. Carter  
2008



Vernon E. Jordan  
Esquire  
2008



The Honorable  
Eric H. Holder  
2009



John Payton  
Esquire  
2010



The Honorable  
Nathaniel R. Jones  
2011



The Honorable  
Inez Smith Reid  
2012



Wade Henderson  
Esquire  
2012



The Honorable  
Damon J. Keith  
2013



Marian Wright Edelman  
Esquire  
2013



Allie B. Latimer  
Esquire  
2014



The Honorable  
Ruth Bader Ginsburg  
2015



Barbara Arnwine  
Esquire  
2015



Benjamin F. Wilson  
Esquire  
2016



The Honorable  
Loretta E. Lynch  
2016



The Honorable  
Emmet G. Sullivan  
2017



Diane Nash  
2017



The Honorable  
Roger L. Gregory  
2018



Grace E. Speights  
2018



The Honorable  
Robert L. Wilkins  
2019



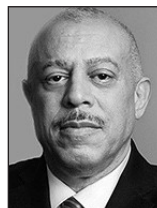
The Honorable  
Anna Blackburne-Rigsby  
2020



Congressman  
Elijah Cummings  
2020



Everett Bellamy, Esquire  
2021



Donald M. Temple  
2021



# ANNUAL LAW DAY DINNER

WASHINGTON BAR ASSOCIATION, INC.

and

WASHINGTON BAR ASSOCIATION EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC.

## MENU

### *Salad*

MIXED GREENS WITH TOMATOES, ANCIENT GRAINS,  
SHALLOTS, SHAVED CARROTS AND WHITE BALSAMIC

### *Entree*

GRASS FED BEEF TENDERLOIN BORDELAISE, CHARRED GIPOLLINI  
ONION, RUSSET POTATO PUREE, ROASTED BROCCOLINI

GRILLED AMISH CHICKEN WITH SORGHUM YUZU JUS, MUSTARD  
FRILL BORDELAISE, CHARRED GIPOLLINI ONION, RUSSET POTATO PUREE,  
ROASTED BROCCOLINI

### *Vegetarian Entree*

PAPPARDELLE PASTA, SMOKED TOMATO, CHANTERELLE  
MUSHROOM, BROCCOLINI

### *Dessert*

SEASONAL FRUIT WITH CITRUS CREME, THIN SABLE COOKIE  
WITH FRESHLY BREWED REGULAR COFFEE AND DECAF COFFEE  
WITH A SELECTION OF ASSORTED TEAS AND HERBAL INFUSIONS

# Locke Lord

## The Colors of Success.

We know that diversity and inclusion within Locke Lord make us a better Firm, thereby enabling us to bring a wide range of perspectives and life experiences to the work we do.

**Locke Lord is proud to support the Washington Bar Association's Annual Law Day Dinner.** Thank you for your continued commitment to social justice and advocacy efforts for Black lawyers in the District of Columbia.

Congratulations to our former Senior Partner and Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer  
**Paulette Brown, Esq.**  
2022 WBA Charles Hamilton Houston Medallion of Merit Award Recipient.



We are proud of Paulette's many accomplishments, and we are honored to call her a friend and former colleague.

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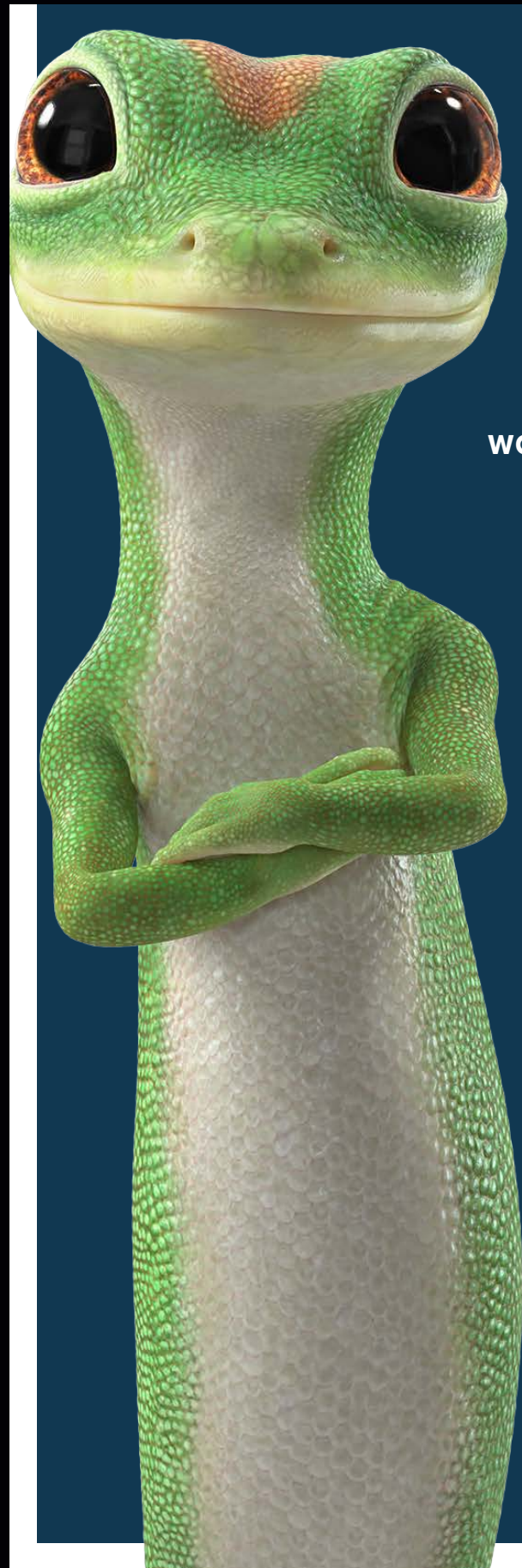
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Scholar  
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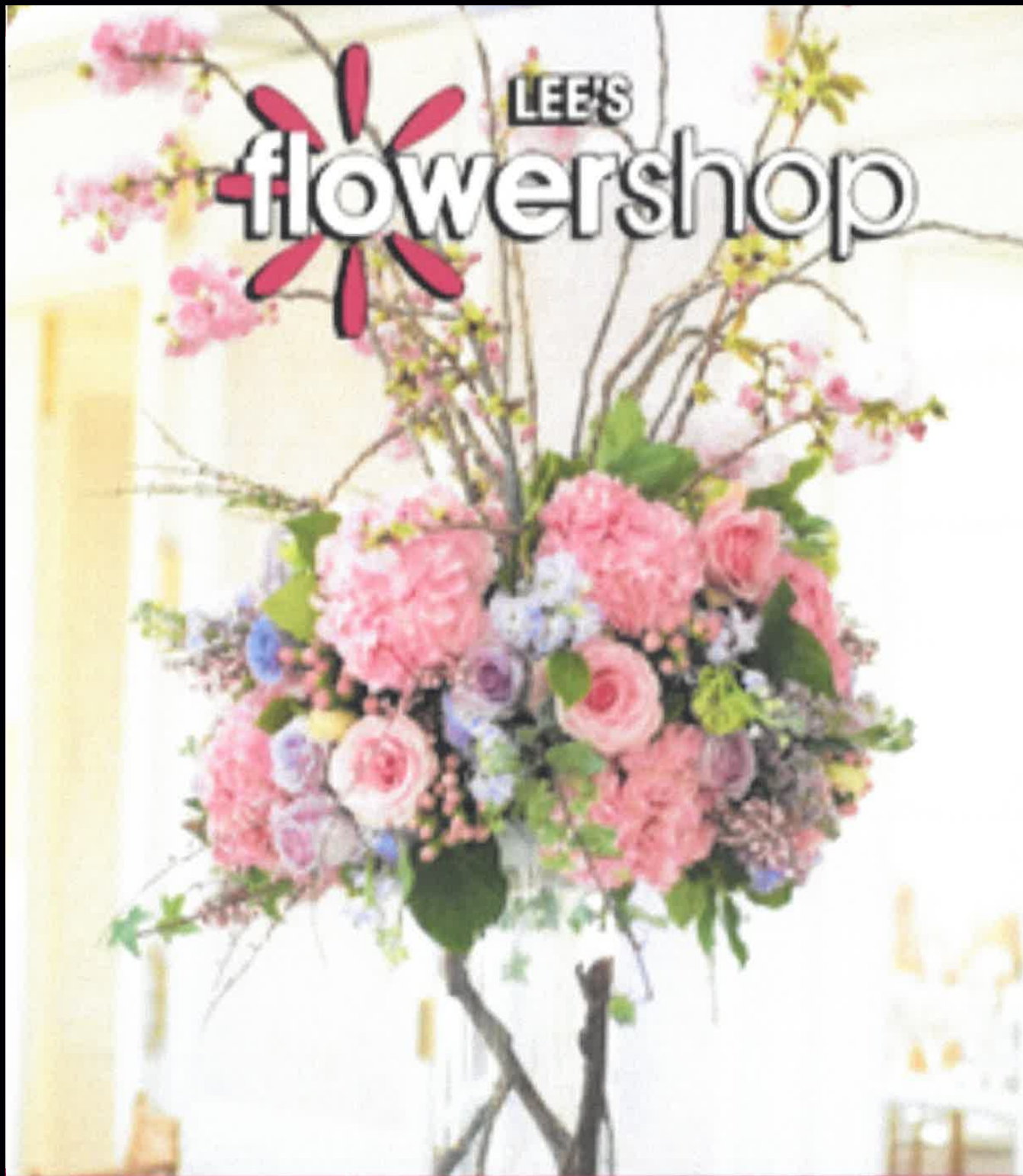
to Paulette Brown, Esq. and Genna Rae McNeil, PhD  
on being named the 2022 recipients of the  
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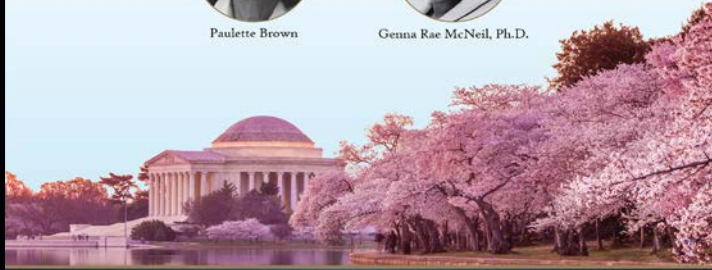
on receiving the 2022 Charles Hamilton  
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July 2021	
July 10, 2021	WBA Board Orientation and Training Session
July 23-27, 2021	National Bar Association 96th Annual Convention
August 2021	
August 7, 2021	WBA Board Retreat
September 2021	
September 1, 2021	WBA Regular Board Meeting
September 9, 2021	Official Launch of Member365
September 11, 2021	WBA Membership Meetup: Coffee & Beignets with the WBA
September 17, 2021	Constitution Day
September 18, 2021	Stay DC Eviction Crisis Pro Bono Clinic
September 25, 2021	Region XII Cookout and Membership Drive
September 29, 2021	Virtual Open House for Federal Government Attorneys
September 30, 2021	WBA “Legacy Series” Podcast Episode 1: The Excellence of WBA Membership: The Seven Founders
October 2021	
October 12, 2021	Self Advocacy in Wellness: A Meditation and Mindfulness Event
October 13, 2021	Pivoting Practice Areas as a Public Sector Lawyer (Co-Sponsored with NoVA Black Bar Association)
October 21, 2021	Excellence in Legislative Advocacy: A Fireside chat with DC Council Member Kenyan McDuffie
October 21, 2021	WBA Executive Committee Meeting
October 27, 2021	WBA “Legacy Series” Podcast Episode 2: The Life and Legacy of Ollie May Cooper
October 28, 2021	43rd Ollie May Cooper Award Ceremony and 41st Annual Founders’ Lecture
November 2021	
November 3, 2021	WBA Regular Board Meeting
November 3, 2021	Racial Justice Series: Serving Clients in Crisis (Co-sponsored with Washington Council of Lawyers)
November 18, 2021	A Conversation with Harvard Law School Professor Randall Kennedy (Co-sponsored with GWU)
November 19, 2021	Thanksgiving Community Service Event
November 30, 2021	Juvenile Justice Fireside Chat featuring Professor Kristen Henning



**December 2021**

December 11, 2021	WBA President's Members-Only Holiday Reception
December 15, 2021	WBA Executive Committee Meeting
December 17, 2021	Holiday Toy Drive and Giveaway

**January 2022**

January 5, 2022	WBA Regular Board Meeting
January 17, 2022	MLK Peace Walk for Voting Rights and Virtual Day of Service Project
January 19, 2022	WBA Special Board Meeting
January 24, 2022	Official Launch of New and Improved WBA Website
January 26, 2022	WBAEF Charles Hamilton Houston Scholarship Essay Competition Announcement

**February 2022**

February 8, 2022	Health & Wellness Committee On Purpose Podcast Club
February 17, 2022	Mid-Year General Body Meeting and Law Student Networking Reception
February 22, 2022	Black History Month Program: Excellence Exemplified: Reflections on Charles Hamilton Houston

**March 2022**

March 2, 2022	WBA Regular Board Meeting
March 3, 2022	WBA Health & Wellness Committee Bonfire & Hot Chocolate Pop-Up Event
March 10, 2022	Women's History Month Program: Black Women: The Backbone of the Democratic Political Process
March 12, 2022	High Tea with Chief Judge Anita Josey-Herring (Co-Sponsored with GWAC)
March 28, 2022	Celebrating Representation: The First Black Woman on SCOTUS (Co-Sponsored with DC Women's Bar)

**April 2022**

April 20, 2022	The Ins and Outs of Attorney Discipline in DC
April 20, 2022	WBA Executive Committee Meeting
April 21, 2022	WBA Judicial Council Symposium

**May 2022**

May 4, 2022	WBA Regular Board Meeting
May 5, 2022	DC Attorney General Candidates Forum (Co-Sponsored with Washington Council of Lawyers)
May 7, 2022	Annual Law Day Dinner
May 14, 2022	Returning Citizens Expungement Event (Co-Sponsored with Mt. Moriah Baptist Church)
May 16, 2022	Members-Only U.S. Supreme Court Group Swearing-In Ceremony and Luncheon
May 21, 2022	Career Success Bootcamp for Law Students and Young Lawyers

*Save the Date*

**Wednesday, June 1, 2022**

**WASHINGTON BAR ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE**

*Dr. J. Clay Smith Memorial Equal Justice Lecture and Scholarship Presentation • Hall of Fame Ceremony • Inaugural Joseph H. Hairston Vanguard Award Presentation • Presidential Awards • Induction of Officers*

**AMERICAN UNIVERSITY WASHINGTON COLLEGE OF LAW**

Grossman Hall Conference Center  
4300 Nebraska Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20016

**Annual Meeting**

5:30 p.m.  
*(Members Only)*

**Annual Conference**

6:00 p.m.  
*(Open to the Public)*

Reception to Follow

**GENEROUSLY CO-SPONSORED BY:**



*Tax-deductible donations in support of the Dr. J. Clay Smith Memorial Scholarship may be made at [washingtonbar.org](http://washingtonbar.org)*





