



February 13, 2022  
Mid-Year Report from District 4  
Honorable Gwenlynn D'Souza

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**District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia**

A virtual District Meeting was held on January 6, 2022, by Zoom. Thank you to the members who volunteered to assist with upcoming programming, especially **Judith Wheat** who is the new President of the Virginia Chapter.



The District continues to partner with the District of Columbia Department of Corrections to create a series of podcasts.

Date	Podcast Topic	Host/Speakers
July 2021	Domestic Violence	Tanya Jones Bosier
October 21, 2021 3:00 p.m.	Accessing Food Stamps/Medicaid	Sharon Goodie Aida Fitzgerald
November 8, 2021 5:00 p.m.	Your rights: Equal Pay/Fair Criminal Record Screening Amendment Act	Gwen D'Souza Erika Pierson
December 9, 2021 4:30 p.m.	Rent subsidies, homeless shelters, and evictions	Sharon Goodie Todd Edelman Mel Zahnd
December 14, 2021 4:30 p.m.	Housing Conditions	Sharon Goodie Anthony Epstein Yewande Aderoju
January 3, 2022 5:30 p.m.	Reentry Job Search and Expungement	Kenia Seoane-Lopez Kaitlyn Mason

Planning for future podcasts on mental health, wellness, and other subjects is underway. A podcast planning meeting is scheduled for February 10, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.

The Mid-Year Conference is scheduled for March 10-12, 2022, at the Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel in Crystal City, Virginia. District Four has selected the Honorable **Irma S. Raker**, retired judge of the Maryland Court of the Appeals, as the recipient of its Edna G. Parker Award in recognition of her dedication and service. The award will be presented at a reception on Saturday, **March 12, 2022**, at 9:00 a.m. during the Mid-Year Conference. The cost to attend the reception is \$50.00. Registrants may attend a breakfast beforehand and a complimentary Racial Bias CLE that follows.

District 4 members are organizing many upcoming educational programs. On Friday, **March 11, 2022**, during the Mid-Year Conference, District 4 member **Katherine R. Alteneider** of the Self-Represented Litigation Network will be moderating a panel about best practices for conducting hearings with self-represented litigants. On Thursday, **April 21, 2022**, District 4 will co-sponsor a Bench to Bar webinar with the Administrative Judge Committee on how to join the administrative bench. **Joan Churchill** is planning an Immigration webinar, and **Bobbie McCartney** is planning a Human Trafficking CLE, all to be scheduled later this year. Stay tuned for more details.

A special thank you to District 4 members **Lili Khozeimeh** and **Dania Ayoubi** for welcoming and mentoring two Afghani judges who are refugees in our area. As a District, we will support you in your efforts.

Congratulations to members **Rupa Ranga Puttagunta** and **Kenia Seoane-Lopez** for their confirmation by the United States Senate to the Superior Court for the District of Columbia!

Welcome to our newest members! Congratulations to new member **Kathleen Dumais**, recently appointed to the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland who has attended many NAWJ events in the past! Congratulations and welcome to **Tiffany Cruz Oates**, a recently appointed administrative law judge of the District of Columbia Department of Employment Services, Administrative Hearings Division, and **Nicole Opkins**, a recently appointed judge of the District of Columbia Office of Administrative Hearings! A warm welcome to **Jill Dash** of the American Constitution Society who served as a past bar president of the Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia!