

Washington, the Government and the People

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Washington, the Government

After a period of little or no economic growth and declining population that plagued the District of Columbia in the latter half of the twentieth century, events since 2000 have transformed the District into a place befitting its position as the nation's capital and one of the great cities of the world. Yes, this is the nation's capital, a global center of knowledge and power, and the central city of one of America's largest and most prosperous metropolitan areas. It is also a city of great neighborhoods, a vibrant downtown, historic buildings, diverse shopping, renowned institutions, and magnificent parks and natural areas.

Each year over 20 million visitors from around the world come to Washington, D.C. to see one of the world's greatest democracies, its majestic museums and monuments, cultural events, and its eclectic international ambiance. Washington, D.C. is also home to over 672,228 people, a population number larger than the states of Wyoming and Vermont, according to U.S. Census Bureau's estimates. Its median household income of \$71,648 from the American Community Survey (ACS 2014), was the fifth highest in the nation among states and equivalents. The 2014 population was 49 percent African American, 43.6 percent white, and 7.4 percent other races. Hispanics (a category that includes various races) comprised 10.4 percent of the population.

Since 2000, Washington, D.C. (also referred to as the District of Columbia, the District, the city, and DC, in this publication) has experienced a renaissance in many ways. With billions of new investments downtown, along its waterfronts and in its neighborhoods, bringing new residential and commercial developments, the city is being transformed. As Mayor Bowser outlined in her six month progress report (August 2015), 'Our economy is thriving, our schools are improving, and our finances are in good shape'. She further states that the District continues to make critical investments in education, health and wellness, public safety, affordable housing and jobs with the focus on creating economic opportunity for every resident. In addition, she acknowledged that

while there is tremendous prosperity in DC, that prosperity does not reach every corner of our city. Hence, she proposed a need to focus on creating pathways to the middle class, so every member of our community can benefit from the success of our city.

As we embark on this seventeenth publication of INDICES, we do so with the knowledge that, Washington, DC is one of the most stable economies in the country. We are the economic engine of the region, number one tech hot spot, number one in LEED certified projects per capita among large cities, and among the top ten cities for venture capital investment. We Are Washington DC.

The District of Columbia is located among the mid-Atlantic states and covers 69 square miles of which 60 square miles is land area and 9 square miles is water area. This diamond-shaped area, once a part of Maryland, shares a border with Virginia on one side and Maryland on the other three. The Potomac River flows along the common border with Virginia.

The District of Columbia is laid out in four quadrants with the Capitol building as the centerpiece. North Capitol and South Capitol Streets start at the Capitol and serve as the dividing line between east and west. East Capitol Street and Independence Avenue extend out from the Capitol to serve as the dividing line between north and south. Washington has avenues named for every state, thousands of acres of parkland and beautiful flowering trees – the most famous of which are the cherry blossom trees, a gift from Japan.

The District of Columbia became the nation's capital in 1800 and has been the home of the federal government ever since. In addition to its national capital role, the District of Columbia is host to over 150 embassies and missions, as well as headquarters to many international organizations, making it an international capital. Present in the District are also renowned museums and arts institutions. The Smithsonian Institution is the nation's curator of our natural history, American technology and air and space travel. The National Gallery of Art and the National Museum of African Art house fine collections of paintings and sculptures that are national treasures.

Other venerable Washington institutions are the National Theatre, Ford's Theatre, Lincoln Theatre, Warner Theatre, Howard Theatre (recently re-opened), the Kennedy Center and the newest addition, the Newseum, which is the world's most interactive museum of news and journalism. With this rich cultural heritage, Washington DC is one of the world's most popular tourist destinations. In 2014, the nation's capital welcomed 20.2 million visitors, more visitors than ever before according to Destination DC, the District's official convention and tourism corporation.

In sports, Washington DC sports teams compete in a variety of national leagues including baseball, basketball, football, ice hockey and soccer. These teams include the Washington football team (football), Washington Nationals (baseball), Washington Wizards (basketball), Washington Mystics (basketball -women), Capitals (ice-hockey) and DC United (soccer).

The Government

The District of Columbia's government structure is unique since the District is not part of any state. The U.S. Constitution grants Congress "exclusive right" over the District of Columbia as it is considered a federal district, and not a state. Until the passage of the District's Home Rule Act in 1973, the nation's capital did not have its own local government. The Home Rule Act delegated local responsibilities to a mayor and a 13 member city council which includes one representative of each of the District's eight wards, four at-large positions and a chairman. The mayor is the head of the executive branch and is responsible for enforcing city laws and approving or vetoing bills. The Council is the legislative branch and makes the laws and approves the annual budget and financial plan. It also oversees the operations of government agencies and confirms major appointments made by the Mayor. The mayor and council members are elected to four-year terms.

In addition to the Mayor and the Council, DC residents elect representatives for the District of Columbia State Board of Education, Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, a US Congressional Delegate,

two shadow United States Senators and a shadow representative. DC has no voting representatives in Congress. The city is considered a federal district even though it now has more than 672,000 residents. Local politicians have to lobby federal officials to influence how the federal government spends their tax dollars on important issues such as health care, education, Social Security, environmental protection, crime control, public safety and foreign policy. Local organizations continue to plea for statehood.

The neighborhoods of the District of Columbia are divided into 8 Wards (districts established for administrative or political purposes). The Wards are subdivided into Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (ANCs) (40 ANCs in 2012) which have elected Commissioners who advise the DC government on issues relating to traffic, parking, recreation, street improvements, liquor licenses, zoning, economic development, police protection, sanitation and trash collection, and the city's annual budget. Each Commissioner represents approximately 2,000 residents in his or her Single Member District area, serves two-year terms and receives no salary.

The following chart shows the current mayor and Council members in the District of Columbia.

Elected Officials - 2015

Mayor

Muriel Bowser, Democrat

Congressional Delegate

Eleanor Holmes Norton, Democrat

Contact: (202) 225-8050

DC Council

DC Council has 13 elected members, one from each of the eight wards and five elected at-large.

Elected at-large

Phil Mendelson	Democrat (Council Chair)	(202) 724-8032	pmendelson@dccouncil.us
Elissa Silverman	Independent	(202) 724-7772	esilverman@dccouncil.us
Anita Bonds	Democrat	(202) 724-8064	abonds@dccouncil.us
David Grosso	Independent	(202) 724-8105	dgrosso@dccouncil.us
Vincent Orange	Democrat	(202) 724-8174	vorange@dccouncil.us

Representing Wards

Brianne Nadeau	Democrat	Ward 1	(202) 724-8181	bnadeau@dccouncil.us
Jack Evans	Democrat	Ward 2	(202) 724-8058	jevans@dccouncil.us
Mary M. Cheh	Democrat	Ward 3	(202) 724-8062	mcheh@dccouncil.us
Brandon T. Todd	Democrat	Ward 4	(202) 724-8052	btodd@dccouncil.us
Kenyan McDuffie	Democrat	Ward 5	(202) 724-8028	kmcduffie@dccouncil.us
Charles Allen	Democrat	Ward 6	(202) 724-8072	callen@dccouncil.us
Yvette Alexander	Democrat	Ward 7	(202) 724-8068	yalexander@dccouncil.us
LaRuby May	Democrat	Ward 8	(202) 724-8045	lmay@dccouncil.us



Mayor Muriel Bowser



Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton



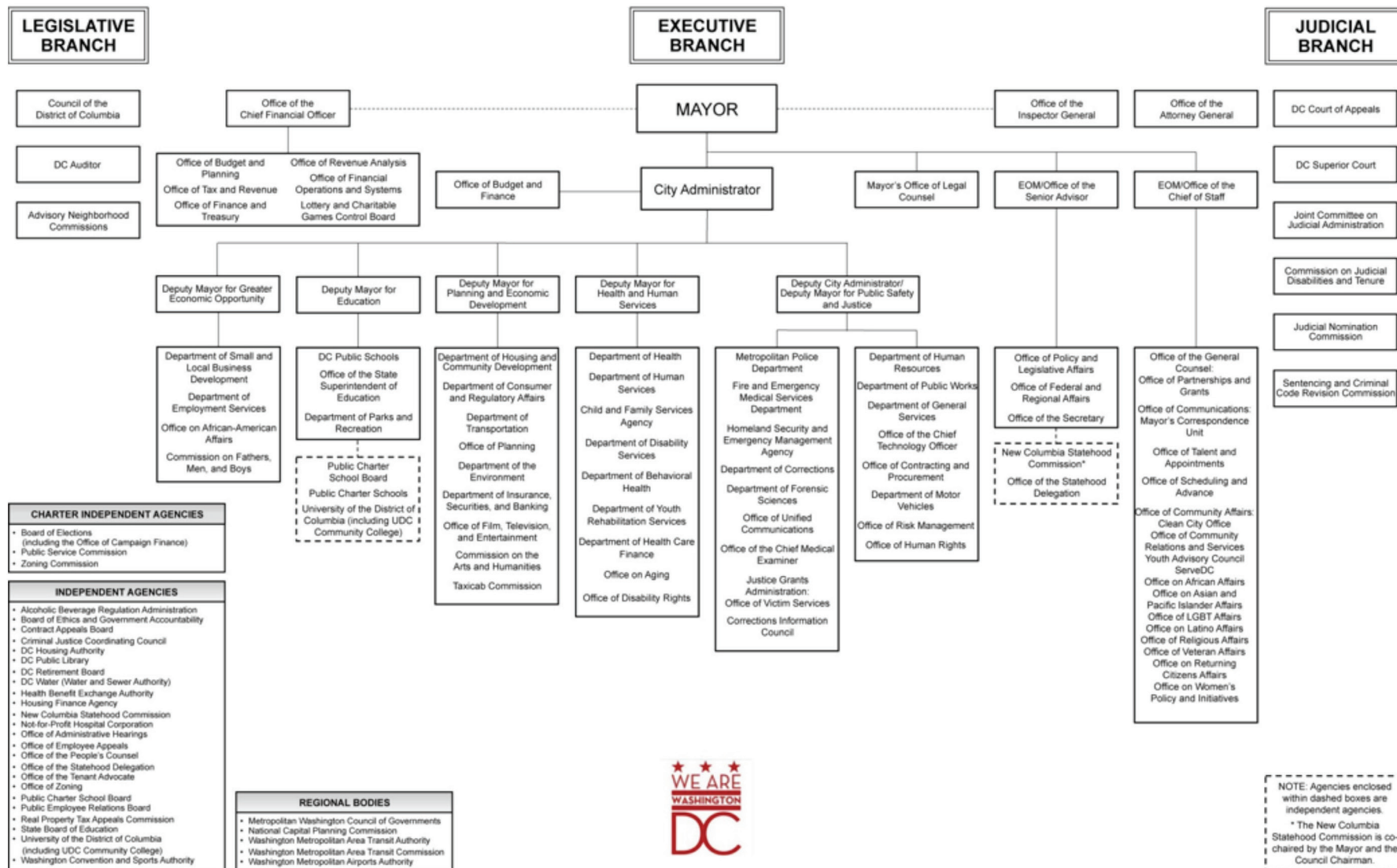
DC Council

Back row: Vincent Orange (D, at-large), Elissa Silverman (I, at-large), David Grosso (I, at-large), LaRuby May (D, Ward 8), Brianne Nadeau (D, Ward 1), Brandon T. Todd (D, Ward 4), Anita Bonds (D, at-large), Charles Allen (D, Ward 6)

Front row: Yvette Alexander (D, Ward 7), Jack Evans (D, Ward 2), Phil Mendelson (D, Chair), Kenyan McDuffie (D, Ward 5), Mary M. Cheh (D, Ward 3)



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (ANCs)

There are 40 Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) areas, established by the Council and subdivided into 296 single-member districts. One advisory neighborhood commissioner is elected for each of the single member districts. ANCs consider a wide range of policies and programs affecting their neighborhoods and present recommendations to various District government agencies, the executive branch and the DC Council. The Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (OANC), which provides technical support to the 40 ANCs, is located in Room 8 of the Wilson Building, 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC, 20004. The office can be reached at (202) 727-9945.

United States Senators (Shadow)

Michael D. Brown, Democrat
Contact: (202) 741-5019

Paul Strauss, Democrat
Contact: (202) 727-7890

United States Representative (Shadow)

Franklin Garcia, Democrat
Contact: (202) 460-3046

District of Columbia State Board of Education Members

The DC State Board of Education was established on June 12, 2007, as part of the “District of Columbia Public Education Reform Amendment Act of 2007.” The Board consists of nine elected members. One is elected at-large and the eight others represent each of the District’s Wards.

Name, Ward, Phone, E-mail Address

Jack Jacobson, President, Ward 2, (202) 251-7644,
Jack.Jacobson@dc.gov

Karen Williams, Vice President, Ward 7, (301) 641-1926,
Karen.Williams5@dc.gov

Laura Wilson Phelan, Ward 1, (202) 421-4360,
Laura.Wilson.Phelan@dc.gov

Ruth Wattenberg, Ward 3, (202) 320-7884,
Ruth.Wattenberg@dc.gov

D. Kamili Anderson, Ward 4, (202) 355-3695,
kamili.Anderson@dc.gov

Mark Jones, Ward 5, (202) 304-7294,
Mark.Jones@dc.gov

Joe Weedon, Ward 6, (301) 277-9410,
Joe.Weedon@dc.gov

Tierra Jolly, Ward 8, (202) 812-1464,
Tierra.Jolly@dc.gov

Mary Lord, (At-Large), (202) 257-3226,
Mary.Lord@dc.gov

District of Columbia Board of Education Staff

John-Paul C. Hayworth, Executive Director, (202) 741- 0888
John-Paul.Hayworth@dc.gov

Historic Events

Chronology of Significant Events in the History of the District of Columbia

- May 15, 1751** The Maryland Assembly appoints commissioners to lay out a town on the Potomac River, above the mouth of Rock Creek, on 60 acres of land to be purchased from George Gordon and George Beall. This settlement becomes Georgetown.
- February 27, 1752** The survey and plat of Georgetown into 80 lots is completed.
- September 17, 1787** The Constitution is signed by the members of the Constitutional Convention.
- June 21, 1788** The 1788 U.S. Constitution, as adopted by the Constitutional Convention on September 15, 1787, is ratified by the states. Article 1, Section 8, Clause 17 gives Congress authority "to exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten miles square) as may by cession of particular States, and the acceptance of Congress, become the seat of the government of the United States...."
- July 16, 1790** The Residency Act of 1790 gives the president power to choose a site for the capital city on the east bank of the Potomac River between the mouths of the Eastern Branch (now the Anacostia River) and Connogocheague Creek (now Conococheague) near Hagerstown, nearly 70 miles upstream.
- January 22, 1791** George Washington appoints Thomas Johnson and Daniel Carroll of Rock Creek, representing Maryland, and Dr. David Stuart, representing Virginia, as "Commissioners for surveying the District of (sic) Territory accepted by the said Act for the permanent seat of the Government of the United States...."
- January 24, 1791** President George Washington selects a site that includes portions of Maryland and Virginia.
- December 1, 1800** The federal capital is transferred from Philadelphia to the site on the Potomac River then called the City of Washington, in the Territory of Columbia. At the time of the 1800 census, the population of the new capital included 10,066 whites, 793 free Negroes and 3,244 slaves.
- February 27, 1801** Congress divides the [District] into the counties of Washington and Alexandria.
- May 3, 1802** Congress grants the City of Washington its first municipal charter. Voters, defined as white males who pay taxes and have lived in the city for at least a year, receive the right to elect a 12-member council. The mayor is appointed by the president.
- May 4, 1812** Congress amends the charter of the City of Washington to provide for an eight-member board of aldermen and a 12-member common council. The aldermen and the common council elect the mayor.
- March 15, 1820** Under the Act of 1820, Congress amends the Charter of the City of Washington for the direct election of the mayor by resident voters.
- July 9, 1846** Congress passes a law returning the city of Alexandria and Alexandria County to the state of Virginia.

- May 17, 1848** Congress adopts a new charter for the City of Washington and expands the number of elected offices to include a board of assessors, a surveyor, a collector and a registrar.
- April 16, 1862** Congress abolishes slavery in the federal district (the City of Washington, Washington County and Georgetown). This action predates both the Emancipation Proclamation and the adoption of the 13th Amendment to the Constitution.
- January 8, 1867** Congress grants black males the right to vote in local elections.
- June 1, 1871** The elected mayor and council of Washington City and Georgetown, and the County Levy Court are abolished by Congress and replaced by a governor and council appointed by the president. An elected House of Delegates and a non-voting delegate to Congress are created. In this act, the jurisdiction and territorial government came to be called the District of Columbia, thus combining the governments of Georgetown, the City of Washington and the County of Washington. A seal and motto, "Justitia Omnibus" (Justice for All), are adopted for the District of Columbia.
- June 20, 1874** The territorial government of the District of Columbia, including the non-voting delegate to Congress, is abolished. Three temporary commissioners and a subordinate military engineer are appointed by the president.
- June 11, 1878** In The Organic Act of 1878, Congress approves the establishment of the District of Columbia government as a municipal corporation governed by three presidentially appointed commissioners: two civilian commissioners and a commissioner from the military corps of engineers. This form of government lasted until August 1967.
- July 4, 1906** The District Building, on 14th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, becomes the official City Hall.
- July 1, 1952** The Reorganization Plan of 1952 transfers to the three commissioners the functions of more than 50 boards.
- March 29, 1961** The 23rd Amendment to the Constitution gives District residents the right to vote for president.
- February 20, 1967** The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority is created through a compact between the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia.
- April 22, 1968** District residents receive the right to elect a Board of Education.
- December 24, 1973** Congress approves the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act, P.L. 93-198, which establishes an elected mayor and a 13-member council.
- May 7, 1974** Voters of the District of Columbia approve by referendum the District Charter and the establishment of advisory neighborhood commissions. General elections are held for mayor and council on November 5, 1974.
- January 2, 1975** The newly elected Mayor Walter Washington and first elected council take office.
- February 3, 1976** The first election for advisory neighborhood commissioners is held.
- March 29, 1978** The first segment of the Metrorail Red Line opens.

- August 22, 1978** Congress approves the District of Columbia Voting Rights Amendment, which would give District residents voting representation in the House and the Senate. The proposed constitutional amendment was not ratified by the necessary number of states (38) within the allotted seven years.
- January 2, 1979** Mayor Marion Barry takes office.
- November 4, 1980** District electors approve the District of Columbia Statehood Constitutional Convention of 1979, which became DC Law 3-171 and which called for convening a state constitutional convention.
- November 2, 1982** After the constitutional convention, a Constitution for the State of New Columbia is ratified by District voters.
- October 1, 1984** The District enters the municipal bond market.
- October 29, 1986** Congress approves an amendment to the District of Columbia Stadium Act of 1957, which authorizes the transfer of Robert F. Kennedy Stadium from the federal government to the District of Columbia government.
- February 20, 1987** The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority is created to acquire Washington National and Washington - Dulles International airports from the federal government, pursuant to P.L. 99-151, The Metropolitan Washington Airports Act of 1986. The authority begins operating the airports on June 7, 1987.
- October 1, 1987** Saint Elizabeth's Hospital is transferred to the District of Columbia government pursuant to P.L. 98-621, The St. Elizabeth's Hospital and the DC Mental Health Services Act of 1984.
- January 2, 1992** Mayor Sharon Pratt Dixon, the first woman mayor, takes office.
- January 2, 1995** Marion Barry takes office for an unprecedented fourth term as mayor of the District of Columbia.
- April 17, 1995** President Clinton signed the law creating a presidentially appointed District of Columbia Financial Control Board and a mayor-appointed Chief Financial Officer.
- July 13, 1995** The newly appointed financial control board holds its first public meeting. It is composed of Dr. Andrew Brimmer, chair; and members: Joyce A. Ladner, Constance B. Newman, Stephen D. Harlan and Edward A. Singletary. John Hill is the Executive Director and Daniel Rezneck is the General Counsel.
- February 14, 1996** Mayor Barry announces a transformation plan to reduce the size of government and increase its efficiency.
- October 1, 1997** The National Capitol Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997 extended powers of the Financial Authority to oversee reforms in nine major departments of District Government. The "Revitalization Act" provided for the Federal government to assume financial responsibility for the District's unfunded pension liability; funding of the District's Court system and transfer of adult felons to the Federal Bureau of Prisons. The Federal Payment was eliminated beginning with fiscal year 1998.
- January 2, 1999** Mayor Anthony A. Williams takes office.
- March 6, 1999** Congress passed P.L. 106-1, the District of Columbia Management Restoration Act of 1999, which returned control of nine major city agencies to the mayor.

- September 11, 2001** Terrorist attack destroys part of Pentagon building, National Airport closed, the White House and Capitol buildings evacuated.
- March 31, 2003** The new Walter E. Washington Convention Center opens just two blocks from the site of the city's first convention center that opened in 1874.
- May 29, 2004** The National World War II Memorial is dedicated on the National Mall in the District of Columbia.
- December 29, 2004** The Ballpark Omnibus Financing Revenue Act of 2004 was signed into law creating the financing for a ballpark that will allow Major League Baseball to return to the nation's capital after 33 years.
- January 4, 2005** Mayor Anthony A. Williams signed into law bill 15-827, the District of Columbia Emancipation Day Amendment Act establishing April 16 as a recognized legal holiday in the District.
- January 2, 2007** Mayor Adrian M. Fenty takes office.
- March 30, 2008** DC's new 41,222 seat Nationals stadium opens, as part of baseball's return to the capital and the revitalization of the Southeast/Navy Yard section of the city. Host Washington Nationals face the Atlanta Braves for their first win at the new park. Pope Benedict XVI celebrates mass there April 17, 2008.
- January 2, 2011** Mayor Vincent C. Gray takes office.
- October 16, 2011** Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Dedication on the National Mall. This memorial was built to commemorate his life and work, and to honor his national and international contributions to world peace through non-violent social change.
- January 1, 2015** Mayor Muriel Bowser takes office.

Source: Office of Public Records

Council of the District of Columbia

The Council of the District of Columbia (Council) is the legislative branch of the District of Columbia government. The Council was established in 1973 by Public Law 93-198, now called the “District of Columbia Home Rule Act,” following a referendum wherein citizens overwhelmingly approved the creation of a locally elected government. Its mission is to provide leadership to effectively serve community needs and position the Council to be recognized as a strong and innovative legislative body governing a leading world capital. The Council enacts laws, reviews and approves the government’s annual operating and capital budgets and conducts oversight of the performance of agencies, and boards and commissions to demand efficiency and accountability in service delivery and appropriate use of government resources.

The Council plans to fulfill its mission by achieving the following strategic result goals:

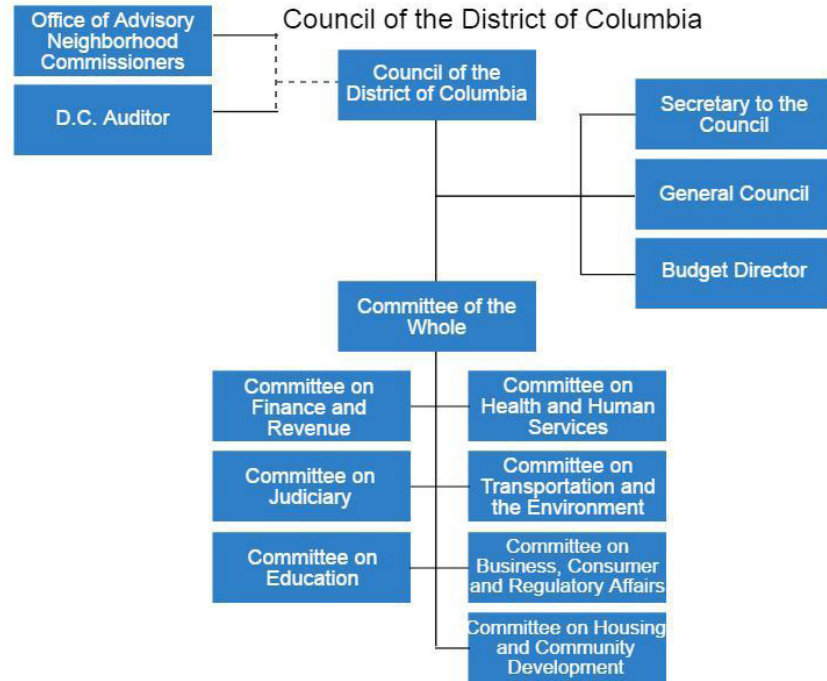
- Improving and enhancing Council operations through the establishment of efficient and effective procedures, systems and technology, and by building adequate staff capacities;
- Developing a transparent, efficient budget review process to help the District maintain a balanced budget and sound fiscal performance, and conducting appropriate oversight, ensuring public confidence in the fiscal health of the District of Columbia;
- Performing a fiscal analysis of all legislation and preparing fiscal impact statements;
- Strengthening the process for review of Executive agency contracts and reprogramming and monitoring operations and capital budget spending; and
- Establishing protocols and outlining legislative priorities to develop a legislative agenda that ensures attention to critical issues.

The Council is composed of 13 members, including the Chairman who is elected at-large, a representative from each of the eight wards and four members elected at-large. The Council conducts its work through standing committees, each usually composed of five members. Standing committees consider proposed legislation, hold public hearings, and analyze its fiscal impact and vote on measures for action by the Council.

To assist in its oversight of District Executive Branch agencies, the Council appoints the DC Auditor who conducts statutorily required audits of government accounts and operations and other audits as directed by the Council. The Council also appoints the Executive Director of the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions to provide technical, administrative and financial reporting assistance to the commissioners.

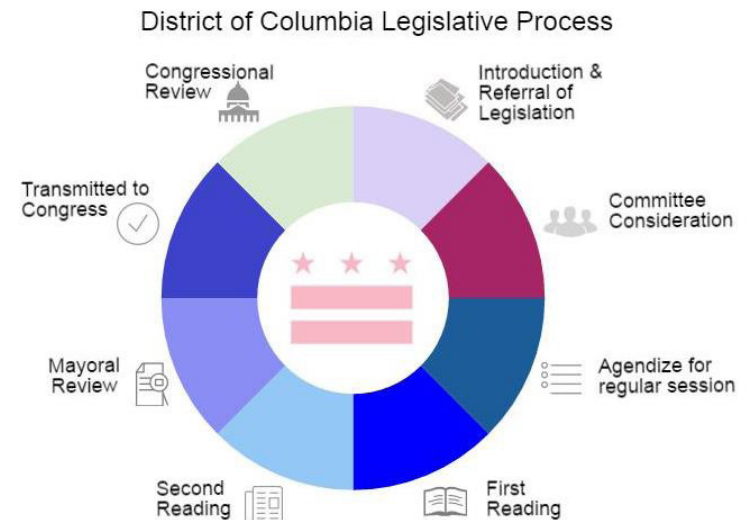
The Council maintains a comprehensive public outreach program that is accessible on its website and via social media channels. It includes a daily schedule of public activities and an up-to-date legislative tracking system to inform citizens about the status of proposed legislation. To encourage citizen participation, the Council also publishes a weekly calendar of upcoming public meetings and hearings along with a list of bills pending in the Council. Through its standing committees, the Council holds hundreds of public hearings annually to solicit public input on legislation, government operations and the proposed annual operating budget prior to adoption of the budget. In addition, the Council helps residents to access services.

Organizational Structure



Proposed legislation is referred by subject matter to the committee having jurisdiction. Council rules require public notice of all matters under consideration. Notices of new legislation, and public hearings and roundtables are published in the DC Register, the Council's Calendar of the Week and the Council website at www.dccouncil.us. The committee analyzes a proposed bill, determines its fiscal impact and receives public comments through a public hearing and written submission. The committee may vote to approve the bill for Council consideration. If the legislation is cleared by the Committee of the Whole, it is scheduled for a legislative meeting. A bill approved in two votes by the Council is forwarded to the mayor for ten business days, during which time the mayor may sign the bill making it an act, veto the bill or take no action, thereby allowing the act to be approved automatically. The Council may override a mayoral veto by a two-thirds vote.

When two-thirds of the members find that immediate action is required because of special circumstances, the Council also may adopt emergency legislation effective for 90 days and temporary legislation which remains in effect for 225 days. Except for emergency acts and special legislation (e.g., bond legislation), all acts must be referred to Congress for a mandated review period. Congress has 60 legislative days in which to review proposed changes to the criminal code, and 30 legislative days to review other legislation. A legislative day is any day in which one or both houses of the Congress are in session. If Congress does not disapprove a District act by adopting a joint resolution of disapproval, which must be signed by the President of the United States, the act becomes law.



The Council is supported by the Office of the Secretary to the Council, the Office of the Budget Director, and the Office of the General Counsel. The Secretary to the Council is responsible for Council operations and maintains all legislative records. The Budget Director analyzes the proposed operational budget and certifies the fiscal impact of all legislation and contracts before Council approval. The General Counsel provides legal advice, assists in drafting legislation and supervises the publication of the DC Official Code.

Office of the Secretary

The Office of the Secretary (OS) was first established in 1802 when President Thomas Jefferson signed an act of Congress that established the Corporation of the City of Washington. The First Council of the City of Washington established the Office of the City Register, which was the predecessor to the Office of the Secretary. During the history of the District of Columbia and the Office of the Secretary, there have been various amendments to the District's charter and changes in the title, duties, and responsibilities of the Secretary; however, the function of the Secretary of the District of Columbia, as the custodian of the Great Seal of the District of Columbia, has remained the same. The title Secretary was first used in 1871 when President Ulysses S. Grant appointed Norton P. Chipman as the first secretary.

Today, the Office of the Secretary operates under Mayor's Order 97-177, which defines the functions, duties and responsibilities

of the Office. The Office of the Secretary is comprised of Office of Documents and Administrative Issuances, Office of Notary Commissions and Authentications, Office of Public Records and Archives, Office of Protocol and International Affairs, and Ceremonial Services Unit.

Ceremonial Services

The Ceremonial Services Unit is responsible for processing all requests for ceremonial documents to be signed by the Mayor of the District of Columbia. The types of documents that OS provides to the public are certificates of appreciation, Meritorious Public Service Awards, proclamations, greetings, congratulations, anniversaries, birthdays, condolences, retirement, and letters for various occasions.

Office of Protocol and International Affairs

The Office of Protocol and International Affairs (OPIA) supports the District's thriving international presence that is a chief contributor to the District's economy. DC is home to more than 185 embassies and two special interest sections. This division organizes, plans, and coordinates all of the protocol and international events for the Office of the Secretary. OPIA works with other District government agencies to co-ordinate international events. OPIA hosts over 300 international delegation visits per years in conjunction with requests from such places as the Department of State International Visitor program, the individual embassies, and the offices of governments abroad. OPIA also acts as the constituent services office for embassy and chancery buildings; working closely with the Office of Foreign Missions regarding any issue received by residents or by the Embassies. The District of Columbia currently has fourteen (14) Sister City relationships. These sister city partnerships are overseen and administered by the Office of the Secretary.

Table 1.1. Ceremonial Documents Processed

Document Type	FY 12 Total	FY 13 Total	FY 14 Total	FY 15* Total
Certificate - Appreciation	30	36	31	22
Certificate - Distinguished	6	8	4	9
Certificate - Merit	53	83	83	25
Letter - Anniversary	14	11	12	5
Letter - Birthday	106	83	75	56
Letter - Condolence	104	113	120	103
Letter - Congratulations	207	255	321	172
Letter- Greetings	233	203	177	108
Letter - Retirement	98	111	188	263
Proclamation	311	341	308	210

**Note: Data is presented from October 1 to June 15, 2015. Source: DC Office of the Secretary*

Source: Office of the Secretary

Table 1.2. Sister Cities Relationships

City	Country	Year
Accra	Ghana	2006
Addis Ababa	Ethiopia	2013
Ankara	Turkey	2011
Athens	Greece	2000
Bangkok	Thailand	1962
Beijing	People's Republic of China	1984
Brasilia	Brazil	2013
Brussels	Belgium	1985
Dakar	Republic of Senegal	1980
Paris	France	2000
Rome	Italy	2011
Seoul	Republic of Korea	2006
Sunderland	United Kingdom	2006
Tshwane	Republic of South Africa	2002

Source: DC Office of Protocol and International Affairs



Source: Office of the Secretary

Mayor Bowser with Dancers at Sri Lanka Independence Day Reception.

Office of Document and Administrative Issuances

The Office of Documents and Administrative Issuances' (ODAI) primary mission is to "provide for the prompt preparation, editing, printing and publication of the District of Columbia Register, and the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations in accordance with the District of Columbia Documents Act of 1978, D.C. Law 2-153." The Office of Documents and Administrative Issuances also has the primary responsibility for preparing, reviewing, editing, and assisting in the drafting of Mayor's Orders and Mayor's Memoranda. Mayor's Orders are issued in accordance with the authority of the Mayor to prescribe major policies and actions having general and significant applicability and legal effect, i.e., appointments, reorganizations, and delegations of authority. Mayor's Memoranda provide agencies and employees with general management information for their guidance and instruction. The Office of Documents and Administrative



Source: Office of the Secretary

Meeting with Delegation from China

Issuances is also responsible for the review and publication of District government agency rulemakings pursuant to the District of Columbia Administrative Procedure Act.

Set forth below is a listing of the activities and production of the Office of Documents and Administrative Issuances in fiscal years 2010 through 2015.

Table 1.3. Activities and Production, 2010 - 2015

Mayor's Orders:	Mayor's Memoranda:	Rulemakings:
• 2010 – 214	• 2010 – 2	• 2010 – 361
• 2011 – 202	• 2011 – 2	• 2011 – 390
• 2012 – 195	• 2012 – 3	• 2012 – 424
• 2013 – 254	• 2013 – 0	• 2013 – 433
• 2014 – 296	• 2014 – 0	• 2014 – 436
• 2015* – 288	• 2015* – 0	• 2015* – 271
<i>Note: *Data is presented from October 1 to June 15, 2015</i>		
<i>Source: Office of Documents and Administrative Issuances</i>		

Office of Notary Commissions and Authentications

The Office of Notary Commissions and Authentications (ONCA) commissions District of Columbia notaries public and authenticates documents for domestic and foreign use. ONCA is governed in accordance with the law and regulations found in Title 1, Chapter 12 of the DC Code that was enacted in 1901 and Title 17, Chapter 24 of the DC Municipal Regulations. Pursuant to D.C. Code § 1-1201, the Mayor may appoint citizens of the United States who are residents of the District of Columbia or whose sole place of business or employment is located in the District as Notaries Public.

Office of Public Records and Archives

The Office of Public Records is mandated by DC Law 6-19 and the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations, Title 1, Chapter 15, to review and approve agency records retention schedules; train records officers in implementing the policies, procedures, and guidelines of managing records; collect, store, preserve, conserve and service historical records in the custody of the Archives.

The District of Columbia Archives holds historical records of the city and its citizens. Historic records on file include wills, birth records, death records, land records and marriage records. District of Columbia Archives authorizes transfers, reviews, approves Records Transmittal and Receipt, in accordance with the terms of applicable regulations, laws, and records retention schedules.

The District of Columbia Records Center (Records Center) collects and stores both permanent and temporary records of the District government. The Records Center implements records retention schedules. Inactive and temporary records are maintained in the holdings of the Records Center until they reach their disposal authority as cited in the records retention schedule for destruction. Historical permanently valuable records are maintained in the Records Center until they are transferred to the Archives in accordance with the terms of the records retention schedule for final disposition.

Figure 1.1. Functions of Divisions under the Office of Public Records and Archives

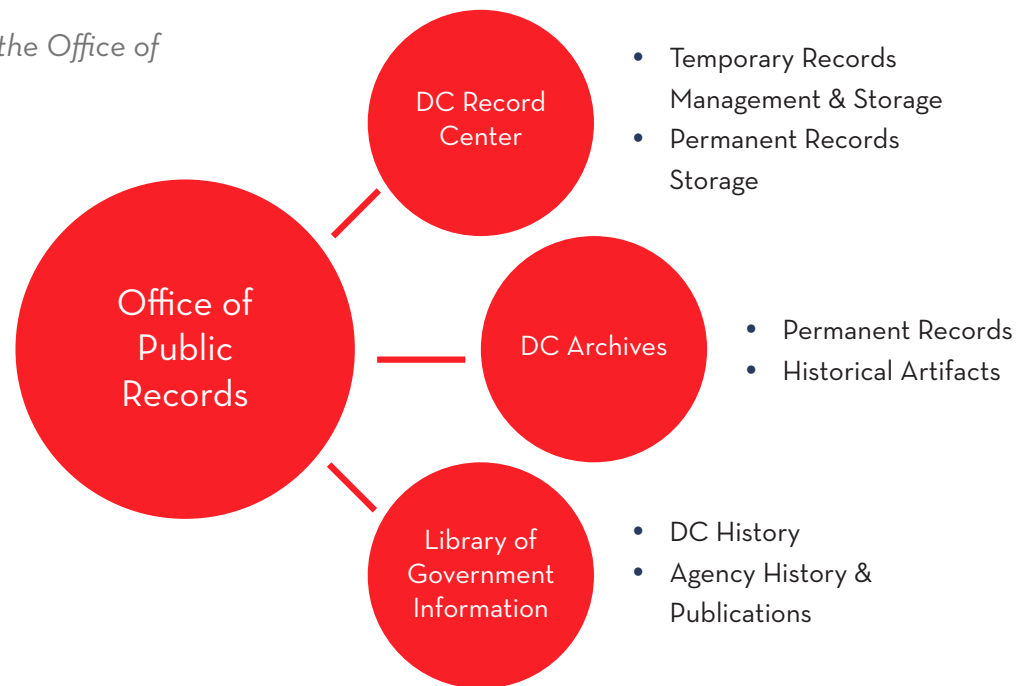


Table 1.4. Documents Processed by the ONCA, 2012-2015

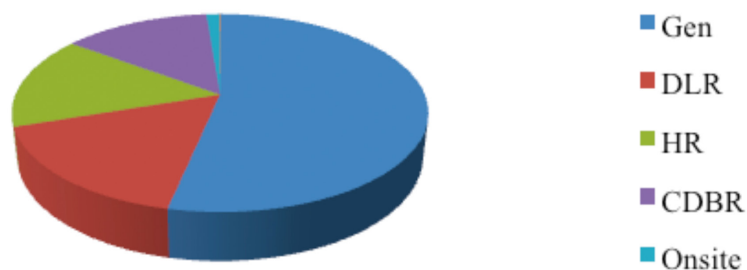
Type	FY 12	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Notary Commission	1,932	1,872	1,871	1,326
Apostilles	16,486	23,287	23,186	14,597
Foreign Certificates	30,553	39,875	51,636	34,688
Department Head Certificates	472	75	92	56
A Certificates	78	515	368	351
Total Number of Documents Processed	47,930	65,624	77,153	51,018

Note: *Data is presented from October 1 to June 15, 2015

Source: Office of Public Records and Archives

Figure 1.2. Archives Records Requests

Archives Access 2013



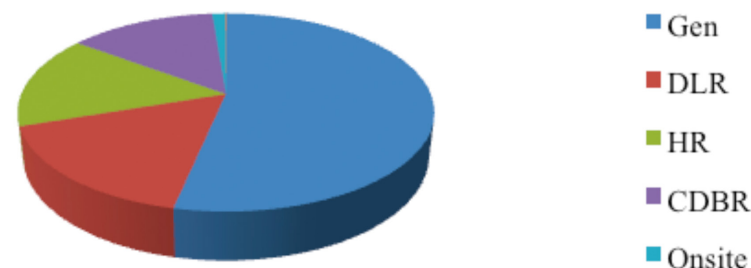
2013 Total Archives Records Requests: 6,583

Archives Access 2013 (Percentages)

• Genealogical Records (GEN)	52.71%
• (Births, Deaths, Wills, Marriages, Probates, Guardianships, Indentures of Apprenticeships)	
• Deeds and Land Records (DLR)	17.46%
• (Recordings and Documentation of Deeds and Land)	
• Historical Records (HR)	15.90%
• (Board of Commissioners Files, Reports, Subject Files, Dept. Files)	
• Community Development & Business Records (CDBR)	12.19%
• (Building Permits, Architectural Plans, Articles of Incorporation)	
• Onsite Research	1.03%*
• Freedom of Information Act Requests (FOIA)	0.72%

Figure 1.3. Archives Records Requests

Archives Access 2014



2014 Total Archives Records Requests: 7,249

Archives Access 2014 (Percentages)

• Genealogical Records (GEN)	52.85%
• (Births, Deaths, Wills, Marriages, Probates, Guardianships, Indentures of Apprenticeships)	
• Deeds and Land Records (DLR)	18.10%
• (Recordings and Documentation of Deeds and Land)	
• Historical Records (HR)	15.93%
• (Board of Commissioners Files, Reports, Subject Files, Dept. Files)	
• Community Development & Business Records (CDBR)	12.47%
• (Building Permits, Architectural Plans, Articles of Incorporation)	
• Onsite Research	0.65%*
• Freedom of Information Act Requests (FOIA)	0.00%

**The percentage of researchers that actually visit the Archives to conduct research has drastically decreased due to an increasing number of requests being processed electronically.*



Source: Office of Public Records and Archives

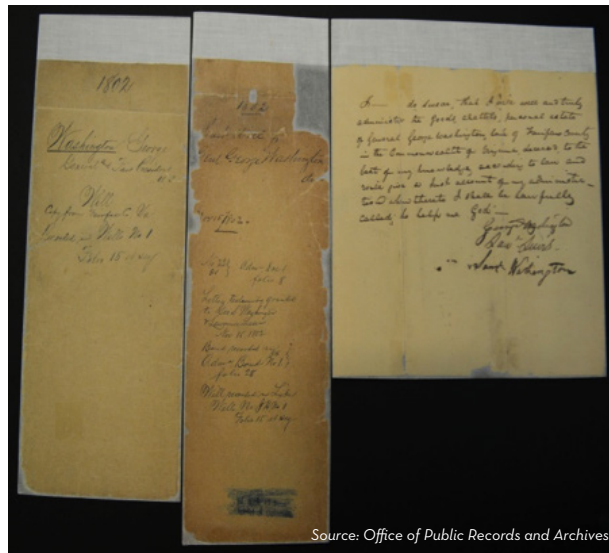
2015 DC Emancipation Day Celebration - Lecture Series Program at the Department of Health.



Source: Office of Public Records and Archives

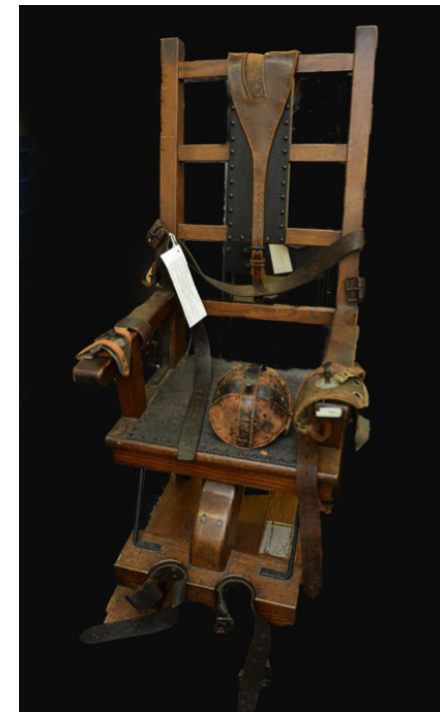
Slave's Ball and Chain

Collections of DC Archives Historical Holdings



Source: Office of Public Records and Archives

The Will of George Washington



DC Electric Chair

DC Office of Human Rights

The District of Columbia Office of Human Rights (OHR) is a local government agency that works to eradicate discrimination, increase equal opportunity and protect human rights for individuals who live, work, visit or conduct business in the District. The agency enforces a host of local and federal civil rights laws, including the District of Columbia Human Rights Act of 1977, the Fair Criminal Record Screening Amendment Act of 2014 as well as other laws and policies on nondiscrimination including the District of Columbia Family and Medical Leave Act of 1990, the District of Columbia Parental Leave Act, the District of Columbia Language Access Act of 2004, and the Protecting Pregnant Workers Fairness Act of 2014. Additionally, the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development designated OHR as a fair employment practice agency and a fair housing assistance program agency, respectively. Together, these designations allow OHR to enforce complaints of discrimination filed under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Equal Employment Opportunity Act), the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the Equal Pay Act and Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Fair Housing Act).

Specifically, OHR is empowered to do the following:

- Investigate and process complaints of unlawful discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, and educational institutions
- Protect the equal employment opportunity rights of District government employees
- Review, approve, and monitor the affirmative action plans of all District government departments and agencies
- Initiate investigations into systemic discriminatory practices and conditions causing community tension and conflict which could lead to breaches of the peace and public order

- Adjudicates private sector discrimination complaints brought under the D.C. Human Rights Act (Commission on Human Rights)
- Ensure the proper enforcement of local and federal laws and policies with respect to discrimination
- Provide information on human rights laws and policies to the community at large
- Make recommendations to the Mayor and the DC Council based on reports, studies, and hearings conducted by the OHR.

The DC Commission on Human Rights (“Commission”) is an agency within OHR that adjudicates private sector discrimination complaints brought under the D.C. Human Rights Act. The Commission also provides an appeals process to applicants who were found ineligible for employment under the Criminal Background Checks for the Protection of Children Act. Although the Commission is within OHR, the Commission acts independent of OHR in order to adjudicate cases in an impartial manner.

The Commission is comprised of thirteen Commissioners, who are nominated by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council. Each Commissioner is appointed to a three-year term without compensation.

The District of Columbia Human Rights Act prohibits discrimination in the following areas (actual or perceived):

Table 1.5. District of Columbia Human Rights Act Discrimination Prohibition Areas

Employment	Housing and Public Accommodation	Education
Race	Race	Race
Color	Color	Color
Religion	Religion	Religion
National Origin	National Origin	National Origin
Sex	Sex	Sex
Age	Age	Age
Marital Status	Marital Status	Marital Status
Personal Appearance	Personal Appearance	Personal Appearance
Sexual Orientation	Sexual Orientation	Sexual Orientation
Family Responsibilities	Family Responsibilities	Family Responsibilities
Disability	Family Status	Disability
Political Affiliation	Disability	Political affiliation
Matriculation	Political Affiliation	Source of Income
Gender Identity or Expression	Source of Income	Gender Identity or Expression
Genetic Information	Place of Residence or Business	
	Status as a Victim of Intrafamily Violence	
	Gender Identity or Expression	

**The percentage of researchers that actually visit the Archives to conduct research has drastically decreased due to an increasing number of requests being processed electronically.*

Source: DC Office of Human Rights

Complaint Process

Individuals who believe they have been subjected to discrimination in employment, housing, places of public accommodation, or educational institutions in the District may file a complaint with OHR online or at our office. Our complaint process is cost-free and does not require an attorney.

Intake

The first step in having OHR resolve an alleged act of discrimination is to file a complaint by completing a questionnaire. After the initial complaint questionnaire is submitted, an intake interview will be held to determine whether the claim meets all jurisdictional requirements. If OHR has jurisdiction, the Complainant can file a formal complaint, which is docketed and sent to the mediation unit.

Conciliation

After a probable cause finding, the parties are invited to resolve the complaint through conciliation. This is an attempt to resolve the allegations of unlawful discrimination before the case goes to a hearing.

Adjudication

If conciliation fails, then the complaint is certified to the COHR for a public hearing. The Commission will issue a final decision and Order determining whether discrimination has occurred and order appropriate remedy, if any.

Mediation

Mediation is a mandatory alternative dispute resolution program that occurs within 45 days of the filing of a complaint. The mediation unit works with both parties to assist in finding a mutually agreeable resolution to the alleged unlawful discriminatory practice prior to the launch of a full investigation.

Investigation

If an agreement cannot be reached in mediation, OHR will launch a full investigation. This process includes a thorough inquiry in all allegations contained in a complaint and the respondent's position regarding the allegations as well as interviewing witnesses, and reviewing relevant documents and policies. Upon completion of the investigation, OHR issues a letter of determination that explains whether the respondent most likely engaged in an act of discrimination (a probable cause determination). If probable cause is found, OHR may invite parties to participate in conciliation or send the case to the District of Columbia Commission on Human Rights (COHR) for a formal hearing.

Table 1.6. Cases Docketed in FY2010 - FY2014

Category	FY2010 Cases	FY2011 Cases	FY2012 Cases	FY2013 Cases	FY2014 Cases
Employment	415	339	279	288	388
Housing	24	32	31	33	36
Educational Institutions	4	6	3	5	7
Public Accommodations	11	9	21	63	63
Language Access	9	6	7	9	9
Total	463	392	340	357	504

Source: DC Office on Human Rights

New Cases Docketed in FY14

If conciliation fails, then the complaint is certified to the COHR for a public hearing. The Commission will issue a final decision and Order determining whether discrimination has occurred and order appropriate remedy, if any.

In FY14, the OHR received and docketed 504 new cases.

Programs and Initiatives Within the DC Office of Human Rights

Fair Housing Program

OHR's Fair Housing Division was established in 1999 pursuant to the 1998 amendments to the Human Rights Act, which made the Act substantially equivalent to federal fair housing laws. The amendments allowed OHR to seek certification from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to process fair housing claims under Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968. In FY14, OHR docketed 36 fair housing complaints. The docketed cases involved four issues: failure to accommodate, discriminatory financing, discriminatory advertising, statements and notices and denial of service.

Table 1.7. Employment Cases Filed in FY2010, FY2011-FY2014

Category	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014
Race	104	109	79	7	63
Sex	101	89	65	76	90
National Origin	44	43	52	39	44
Age	80	67	51	59	52
Sexual Orientation	21	18	15	16	20
Personal Appearance	12	17	16	8	1
Family Responsibility	18	15	9	10	8
Disability	56	78	90	87	57
Religion	13	11	5	13	6
Gender Identity or Expression	1	0	0	3	2
Retaliation	149	129	129	-	113
Color	17	12	11	8	6
Matriculation	3	0	10	0	1
Marital Status	6	0	4	1	2
Political Affiliation	3	1	2	2	1
Familial Status	0	0	9	-	-
Genetic Info	0	1	0	0	0
Source of Income	0	0	0	-	-
Total	628	590	547	329	466

Note: Complaints involving District government employees are handled under different rules and procedures.

Source: DC Office on Human Rights

Language Access Program

The Language Access Program (LAP) exists to ensure District residents who are limited or non-English proficient are afforded equal access to information and services provided by the District. Residents who speak little English must be offered interpretation services and/or translated documents when obtaining government services, as required by the Language Access Act of 2004. LAP staff engages in extensive community outreach, provide training and technical support to District agencies working with limited or non-English proficient residents, and measure the effectiveness of agencies in serving such populations by examining resource allocation and service delivery. Through its enforcement authority, LAP works under the auspices of OHR to investigate complaints claiming access to information or government services were denied.

Director's Inquiries

OHR remains at the forefront of proactive human rights enforcement in part through the use of Director's Inquiries, which allow the Office to investigate situations or practices that may amount to discriminatory actions within the District. The investigations resulting from Director's Inquiries often include interviews with relevant parties, extensive data analysis, and a review of business or government policies in an effort to determine whether patterns of discrimination exist. From claims of disparate treatment in hospitals and businesses, to possible discrimination in theatres and hotels, OHR is working to eradicate injustices in the District. District residents or visitors can recommend our Office launch a Director's Inquiry on a particular subject by visiting our website at ohr.dc.gov and submitting your inquiry through the "Ask the Director" link on the homepage.

Citywide Bullying Prevention Program

OHR leads the Mayor's Youth Bullying Prevention Task Force, which is working to develop a District-wide model bullying prevention policy that will guide government agencies in implementing their

own anti-bullying policies. The District-wide approach is unique in its look beyond the schools, to include other public spaces such as parks, community centers, libraries and the transportation system. The Task Force, created by the Youth Bullying Prevention Act of 2012, includes representatives from agencies, community advocates, direct service providers, school administrators, teachers, mental health professionals, parents and youth. Over the last year, the model bullying prevention have been approved and implemented in a majority of schools and youth-focused facilities around the District. The Program has also issued a toolkit to help guide schools on school climate and appropriate ways to address bullying challenges and incidents. The work of the Program and Task Force on the model policy and toolkit is part of a larger OHR effort to raise awareness about bullying.

Policy Initiatives and Awareness Campaigns

Through policy initiatives, awareness efforts, and outreach to community members and organizations, OHR works to proactively prevent discrimination and inform individuals they can file complaints if discrimination occurs. In FY 14, OHR began administering quarterly Human Rights Liaison trainings, bringing together service providers and community organizations to train them on how to identify potential discrimination against their clients and file complaints with OHR. The agency has also launched several micro and larger scaled projects and campaigns informing individuals of and empowering them to exercise their rights in the District. Over the past year, OHR has leveraged social media platforms, such as Twitter to create a quick accessible method for individuals to report public accommodation violations around gender neutral bathrooms, as well as broader campaigns appearing in metro stations that provide the simple message of DC's extensive protections of individuals through 19 traits covered in the human rights law. For more information on initiatives and awareness campaigns, visit ohr.dc.gov/page/campaigns.

Mediation Program

DC's Human Rights Act requires that all cases are mediated. Mediation is an alternative dispute resolution (ADR) program implemented by OHR. In FY14, OHR mediated 416 cases with a combined settlement total of over \$2.12 million. Approximately 44 percent of cases brought through mediation reach a settlement agreement.

Commission on Human Rights

The District of Columbia Commission on Human Rights is an independent agency that adjudicates private sector discrimination complaints in a "trial-type" hearing certified to it by the Office of Human Rights. Upon a finding of discrimination, the commission may issue injunctive relief, affirmative action and award damages, civil penalties and attorney's fees. Hearings are generally before a hearing examiner and in some cases before a panel of commissioners. In addition to its adjudicative function, the commission may undertake public investigations or hearings concerning various patterns of discrimination and make recommendations to the mayor or to the Council. The commission is a 13-member body appointed by the mayor for a term of three years. The mayor appoints the chairperson while the commissioners elect a vice-chairperson and secretary.