

2022

# ANNUAL REPORT

## Annual Report



WASHINGTON  
HEADS  OFFICE

Leadership Council

# About WHOOLC

The Washington Heads of Office Leadership Council (WHOOLC) is a professional organization for senior executives of color who oversee government affairs for fortune-level companies and trade associations. We provide leadership development and networking opportunities that inspire strategic visioning, inform programmatic planning, and improve relationship-building for our members.

Currently, our membership represents more than 20 companies representing more than \$4.2 trillion in assets under management (AUM).

## ***Our Mission***

To curate and deliver leadership development and networking opportunities that create, support, and advance diversity in the government affairs industry.

## ***How We Do It***

Through monthly in-person meetings and ongoing virtual communication, WHOOLC provides a forum for members to:

- Share and gather intel on the latest social, political, and technological factors influencing public policy
- Discuss best practices for managing high-level government affairs programs
- Identify opportunities to provide and/or receive peer mentorship
- Create a strategy to support the development of the next generation of government affairs professionals

If you are interested in learning more about membership with the Washington Heads of Office Leadership Council, please email Executive Director Mariko Bennett at [Mariko@whoolc.org](mailto:Mariko@whoolc.org).

# A Message from the Board

Greetings,

We are back! After two years of connecting with our members and fulfilling our mission virtually, the Washington Heads of Office Leadership Council returned to in-person meetings and events in 2022. We were so thrilled to be able to welcome our members and guests back to face-to-face gatherings. This year was a year of rebuilding, re-engaging, and reimagining for the benefit of our organization's future. And what a year it was!

WHOOOLC ended our program year with 39 outstanding members representing the nation's largest and most prominent companies

In 2022, we continued with our commitment to enhancing our members' experience through exceptional programming and diversifying our industry to adequately reflect the communities that we serve. In 2023, look forward to WHOOOLC positioning itself as the organization of choice for government affairs executives of color to connect and collaborate, and to cultivate and support the next generation of government affairs leaders.

We look forward to expanding our reach in 2023 as we celebrate our fifth anniversary. We look forward to celebrating this milestone moment with you!

Sincerely,



**Molly Ryan**  
Co-founder & President



**Bradley Knox**  
Co-founder &  
Chairman of the Board



**Clifton Porter, II**  
Board Secretary



# Letter from the Executive Director

Greetings, as Executive Director for the Washington Heads of Office Leadership Council (WHOOLC), I am excited to report on the activities of another successful year. As our county slowly rises up from the pandemic, we are returning to convening in person on a regular basis. This year, we have planned and implemented some amazing programs and events that have engaged and informed our membership. Building upon our successes from our previous years, I am happy to share that 2022 has been one of our strongest years yet!

## **Building Upon a Strong Organization's Structure**

WHOOLC began 2022 in a strong position with the most members since the organization's inception four years ago. We were pleased to retain the majority of our members from 2021 as well as our sponsors. The level of support that WHOOLC has from our members and their respective companies is a testament to the value they receive from WHOOLC. The Board set goals for growth and sustainability for the organization long-term.



In terms of our programming, I am proud to say, We Are Back! We held several in-person meetings, as well as a couple of virtual offerings. We were thrilled to once again host our annual Leadership Boot Camp in person, this past October at the Sagamore Pendry Hotel in Baltimore. I am happy to share some of our program highlights with you.

## **Membership Overview**

As we near the end of 2022, our membership is strong with 39 paid WHOOLC members. This ends our year just one less than our goal of 40 members.

## **Looking Forward**

We look forward to continuing to grow the organization and its brand in 2023 with a goal of increasing the number of paid and active WHOOLC Members by 15%, revamping the Leadership Boot Camp recruitment process, and enhancing our sponsor relationships. Our signature programs are set for 2023 and we will begin marketing all of our programs at the beginning of the year to entice both members and sponsors to participate. Our journey to sustainable success has begun!



# A Year in Review



**Secretary Ann Berry**



**Melani N. Douglass**



**Charles Jean Pierre**



**Chef Huda Mu'min**



**Eboni Powe**



**Attorney General  
Eric Holder**



**Senator Tim Scott**







### JANUARY

We started out the year by bringing the membership together for a "Just Us" virtual luncheon. WHOOLC members discussed what's happening with them, and their companies, as well as shared their hopes for the Congressional session and the 2022 elections.

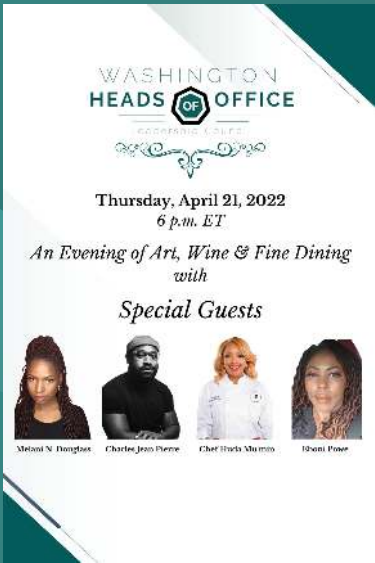
### FEBRUARY

In February, we were honored to be joined by Sonceria Ann Berry, Secretary of the United States Senate. Secretary Berry shared her journey to this very unique position and some of the behind the scenes, inner workings of the United States Senate.



### MARCH

Our March meeting was a riveting discussion on cryptocurrencies with one of the country's renowned experts, Professor Tonya M. Evans. She lead a lively discussion regarding what you needed to know about this emerging technology.



## APRIL

### An Evening of Art, Wine & Fine Dining

In April, we held an evening event that featured beautiful art, fine wine, and great food. It was a great opportunity for members to socialize in a very artistically-chilled evening.

## MAY

In May, we held a mid-year Just Us session and provided a preview of the second half of our program year.



## JULY

For July, our membership was treated to a special fireside chat with former Attorney General Eric Holder.

The chat was moderated by our own WHOOLC member Toni Bush. Members also received copies of Holder's book, "Our Unfinished March."





## SEPTEMBER

The Honorable Senator Tim Scott joined us for a very insightful lunch discussion and shared his thoughts on the current state of play in DC. It was a very impactful afternoon and the members were honored to have the opportunity to speak with Senator Scott.



## NOVEMBER

As this meeting was held on Election Day, we held a member of the membership to discuss what was taking place on and off the Hill and how that would impact the members professionally as well as our communities.





# 2022 Martha's Vineyard Weekend



This year's weekend in Martha's Vineyard once again brought together friends and supporters, new and old, in the beautiful backdrop of the Vineyard. We brought back the popular fish fry while adding a new speakeasy event.





# 2022 Leadership Boot Camp

This year's Boot Camp was held in person and welcomed eight new Boot Campers into the WHOOLC family.

The weekend was received extremely well by the Boot Campers and WHOOLC Members in attendance. From the opening sessions on Friday to the Boot Camper brunch on Sunday, the collaboration and learning were top-notch!

The 2022 Legacy Award was presented to R. Lucia Riddle during this Leadership Boot Camp. The 2023 Boot Camp recruitment phase will open in spring 2023.

Thank you to Aflac for being this year's sponsor.





# 2022 Holiday Toast



WHOOLC ended the year with its annual Holiday Toast, held at the beautiful Hay Adams on Monday, December 12, 2022.

Nearly 60 guests joined us for an afternoon of networking, music, and holiday cheer.

The holiday event was hosted by Aflac. Following an introduction from Executive Director Mariko Bennett, WHOOLC Co-Founder and Board Chairman Brad Knox shared remarks on behalf of WHOOLC and Aflac. Board Secretary Clif Porter provided an inspirational holiday toast to culminate the special event.





# Our Sponsors



# 2022 Membership

Gina Adams, FedEx Corporation  
Mayealie Adams, Danaher  
Saat Alety, Allstate  
Tiffany Atwell, EcoLab  
Laricke Blanchard, USAA  
Andy Blocker, Invesco, Ltd  
Keysha Brooks-Coley, BCBS  
Roslyn Brooks, PwC  
Tammy Boyd, American Cancer Society  
Antoinette Bush, News Corp (retired)  
Zoe Cadore, Calpine  
Khary Cauthen, Cheniere  
Nicole Collier, P&G  
Senator William “Mo” Cowan, Devoted Health, Inc.  
Camille Donald-Simpson, American Equity  
Stephanie Dyson, BMS  
Garrick Francis, Alliance for Automotive Innovation  
Nicole Francis-Reynolds, ServiceNow  
James Hayes, Tenable  
Fred Humphries, Microsoft  
Alethia Jackson, Walgreens  
Jake Jones, Daimler  
Brad Knox, Aflac  
Brittany Masalosalo, HP  
Yvonne McIntyre, PGE-Corp.  
Waldo McMillan, Cisco  
Lamell McMorris, Edward Jones  
Tiffany Moore, CTA  
Derron Parks, Rad Power Bikes  
Stan Pierre-Louis, THESA  
Clif Porter, AHCA  
Angela Riemer, Pfizer  
Marcus Reese, WESTFIELD Property  
Kimberly Ross, American Council of Life Insurers (ACLI)  
Norman Ross, PIM Brands, Inc.  
Lauren Scott, GAFC  
Molly Ryan, Global Blood Therapeutics  
Lauren Scott, Global Atlantic Financial Company  
Tamar Thompson, Alexion  
Terrence Thompson, Kyndryl

WASHINGTON  
**HEADS**  **OFFICE**  
Leadership Council

*Changing the face of government affairs.*



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