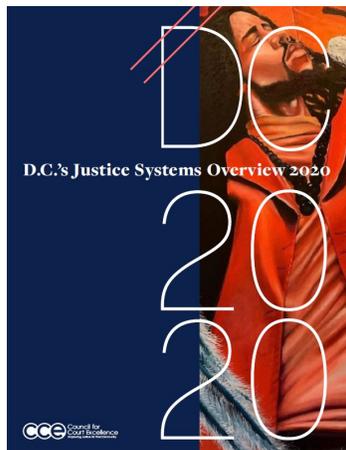


## July 2021 Newsletter

### Celebrating Virtually at CCE's 24th Annual Justice Potter Stewart Award Gala

CCE hosted the 24th Annual Justice Potter Stewart Award Gala on May 20, 2021. The special evening was filled with music, moving speeches, and a celebration of incredible leaders. CCE was proud to honor **Patty Mullahy Fugere** of the Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless, **Kojo Nnamdi** of WAMU 88.5, and law firms **Akin Gump** and **Wiley Rein**. These awardees combine compassion with conviction as their work addresses affordable housing and homelessness, critical conversations on race and equity, and the needs of incarcerated individuals during COVID-19. When speaking about this year's honorees, CCE President **Patrick McGlone** said, "They have improved the lives of the residents of our nation's capital and advocated for some of our most marginalized neighbors."

Thank you to our Chair's Circle Sponsor Deloitte LLP; the Justice Champion Sponsors — Akin Gump, Arent Fox, Arnold & Porter, Lockheed Martin Corporation, Ullico Inc., Venable, and Wiley Rein; and the Justice Leader Sponsors — Boies Schiller Flexner, Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner, Davis Wright Tremaine, GEICO, Gibson Dunn, Jackson & Campbell, P.C., PNC Bank, The Washington Post, and Zuckerman Spaeder. A full list of the 2021 sponsors can be found [here](#).



### New Report Highlights Developments & Challenges in D.C.'s Criminal Legal System

On May 11, CCE published [D.C.'s Justice Systems Overview 2020](#), our newest data-driven review of the most significant challenges in the District's adult and youth criminal legal systems and progress over the last 18 months. The report, supported by the Public Welfare Foundation, builds off of the 2019 inaugural edition, [D.C.'s Justice Systems Overview](#), and concentrates on five areas: Violence and Policing; Adult Prosecution and the Courts; Incarceration; Reentry; and Youth Justice. Stay tuned for the next edition, *D.C.'s Justice Systems Overview 2021*.

### Forums Discuss Future of Policing in D.C. & Impacts of Local Control on Statehood

CCE hosted the first two of four roundtable discussions on May 4 and June 30. Both panels were moderated by **D.C. Auditor Kathy Patterson**. During the first forum, "The Future of Policing in the District," panelists discussed alternatives being implemented by other jurisdictions, reforming the police recruitment and training process, and recommendations from the [D.C. Police Reform Commission](#). Kenithia Alston, mother of Markeese Alston and activist, spoke on her fight to receive unedited police bodycam footage of her son's death: "I am advocating, protesting at the front line, and grieving all at the same time." You can read the forum report [here](#) or watch the recording [here](#).

The second forum, "What If We Were In Charge?", was a lively conversation about the future of D.C.'s criminal legal system with more local control or D.C. Statehood. Panelists discussed how a lack of control impacts D.C.'s ability to hold agencies accountable, as well as many reforms that can and should be enacted now. You can watch the full discussion [here](#). A written report will be available soon.

Join us on July 29 at 1pm for the third forum in this series: ***Our Children in Crisis: A Focus on D.C.'s Crossover Youth***. Experts and impacted families will discuss the challenges faced by children involved in both the child welfare and youth justice systems, as well as opportunities for improving the collaboration between the agencies that are tasked with supporting them. **Register [here](#)**.



## CCE Calls for More Transparency in Court of Appeals Decisions

Continuing our calls for transparency and reliable access to court records, CCE submitted a [public comment](#) in April encouraging the D.C. Court of Appeals to provide public access to court electronic records. The comment highlighted the importance of online access in the digital age in order to ensure public monitoring and oversight of the legal system. CCE's comment stems from our 2017 report, [Remote Public Access to Public Records: A Cross-Jurisdictional Review for the D.C. Courts](#), which examines the best means for state and federal courts to provide public access to court records. CCE remains committed to the principle of court and agency transparency to ensure that the public is well-informed and equipped to make important legal decisions. Special thanks to Board Directors **Fritz Mulhauser** and **Richard Hoffman** for their time and expertise in developing CCE's submission.



## Community Presentations on Phase II Task Force Recommendations

Throughout the spring, the District Task Force on Jails & Justice members and CCE staff have facilitated over 24 community presentations and "teach-ins" in D.C. on the Task Force's Phase II report, [Jails & Justice: Our Transformation Starts Today](#). The report makes 80 recommendations to help D.C. invest in safer communities and cut local incarceration rates in half. During the presentations, Task Force members shared correctional and survey data, identified priority recommendations, answered questions, and discussed ways for community members to get involved in advocating for reform. CCE thanks the Task Force members who volunteered their

time and expertise to present to more than 750 community members!

## CCE Board Leaders & Staff Testify Before D.C. Council

This summer, CCE staff and Board leaders testified six times before D.C. Council. CCE staff and Board Leader **Jonathan Jeffress** testified at the [Criminal Record Sealing and Expungement Public Hearing](#) in April and again in May at the [Public Oversight Roundtable on Local Control of Parole](#), calling for the establishment of a new parole authority to make parole grant, parole and supervision revocation, and early termination decisions. Additionally, CCE testified at or submitted testimony for the FY22 Budget Oversight Hearings for the [D.C. Department of Behavioral Health, Office of Victim Services and Justice Grants](#), [D.C. Department of Transportation](#), [Office of Administrative Hearings](#), and the [Office of Human Rights](#).

## CCE Welcomes New Development Manager

CCE is happy to welcome **Sarah Baczewski** as our new Development Manager! Ms. Baczewski will oversee CCE's fundraising-related responsibilities, including donor relations, foundation grants, supporting our Awards Dinner and other events, and more. Previously, she served as the Office & Development Manager for Plastic Pollution Coalition, an

environmental organization. Prior to her work in the nonprofit world, Ms. Baczewski worked in the entertainment industry in Los Angeles for several production and management companies. In her free time, she loves reading, participating in community theater, and attending live theatre (especially musicals). Ms. Baczewski recently directed a one-act comedy for the Providence Players in April and a radio drama for The Arlington Players in June.



### Op-Ed From CCE Executive Director Published in the *Washington Post*

On July 19, 2021, the *Washington Post* published ["D.C. needs a local paroling authority."](#) an op-ed by CCE's Executive Director **Misty Thomas**. In the article, Ms. Thomas calls for greater urgency from D.C. leaders to make policy decisions and budgetary investments to support a locally-controlled paroling authority. Without action now, D.C. will likely fail to meet Congress's November 2022 deadline to sunset the U.S. Parole Commission's authority over D.C. cases.

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