



# UPDATE



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*Jonathan Smith, Washington Lawyers' Committee  
Executive Director designate.*

## Committee Leadership Transition: Celebrating Rod Boggs' Tenure as Executive Director, Welcoming Successor Jonathan Smith

At this year's Wiley Branton Awards Luncheon on June 22, the Washington Lawyers' Committee will celebrate the long and distinguished career of its Executive Director Rod Boggs and formally introduce its new leader Jonathan Smith.

Rod Boggs steps down after the Committee's 2016 Wiley A. Branton Awards Luncheon, following 45 years of service. At the Branton Luncheon, Jonathan will be formally introduced to the Committee's supporters and Rod will be honored with the organization's 2016 Wiley Branton Award.

Jonathan's appointment marks a seminal moment in the Committee's nearly 50-year history. His selection as Executive Director concludes an extensive search process led by the Committee's Executive Committee and aided by a leading national search organization.

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## Landmark Ruling Achieved in Equity Residential Case

After 10 years of litigation, in April 2016, Chief Judge Catherine Blake of the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland, in a landmark ruling, granted the Equal Rights Center's (ERC) motion for partial summary judgment on liability, and denied Equity Residential's motion for partial summary judgment on liability in a lawsuit addressing accessibility in the design and construction of multifamily housing. Additional discovery is underway and a trial date is set for June 2017.

The Committee and co-counsel **Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll PLLC** and **Blank Rome LLP** (formerly Dickstein Shapiro LLP) had filed the complaint on April 27, 2006, on behalf of the ERC, against publicly traded real estate investment trust Equity Residential, one of the largest developers of multifamily housing in the United States, owning over 800 apartment complexes nationwide.

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**Rod Boggs**  
Executive Director  
Washington Lawyers'  
Committee

tenure over the past 45 years, and on the Committee's evolving role. I will also note some hopes I have for our organization's future.

For starters, I want to express the extraordinary sense of pride and gratitude I feel for the opportunity to spend a long and rewarding career working with such a skilled and dedicated group of colleagues on the Committee's staff and at our cooperating law firms.

When you add the wide array of deserving clients we have assisted and the challenging and diverse civil rights issues the Committee has addressed, it is perhaps easy to understand why I have always believed I have had the best job any lawyer could imagine.

This feeling is no less true today than it was in 1969 when, fresh from working in the anti-war movement, I joined the national Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law and began working on issues of employment discrimination and criminal justice reform.

Among many valuable lessons I have learned in the ensuing years is that the great potential for good found in the pro bono resources of our city's law firms and the importance of careful planning, patience and perseverance can result in successful civil rights litigation and advocacy.

The truth of this statement is all too evident in the extended duration of some of Committee's most successful work.

Examples include our 25-year battle to integrate the Ironworkers Union, the nearly 20-year struggle to combat racial discrimination in federal agencies such as the Library of Congress and Government Printing Office, and the extended advocacy over several decades devoted to improving our city's public schools.

Without dedicated clients and law firm co-counsel, successes in these efforts and hundreds of others would have been impossible.

As we all know, the legal profession in our city has changed significantly in recent years, leading some to question the commitment of future law firm leaders to the strong tradition of pro bono and poverty representation that I believe has contributed so much to progress that has made our city a national leader in advancing civil rights.

While change is inevitable and progress is by no means assured, the history of the Washington Lawyers' Committee teaches a different lesson about the future in our city.

I remain confident that, just as our nation's civil rights agenda continues to grow as new constituencies come to assert their basic rights, so our legal profession will be steadfast in its resolve to honor the tradition of pro bono service that has been the Committee's hallmark for nearly 50 years.

In looking to the future, I know the Committee can have abundant confidence in the leadership that will surely be provided by Jonathan Smith.

I look forward to helping him in whatever ways I can, and I urge all Committee supporters to do likewise.

## Disability Rights

### Blind Students Sue BarBri, Demand Equal Access to Bar Prep Services

On April 25, 2016, the Washington Lawyers' Committee and Texas Civil Rights Project (TCRP) filed a lawsuit on behalf of several blind law students and graduates against BarBri, the biggest bar exam preparation company in the nation.

The lawsuit was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division, under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). It claims that BarBri failed to provide equal access to key parts of its bar preparation courses, leaving blind individuals stuck with inferior preparation to pass the bar exam and become lawyers.

"BarBri's lack of accessibility is greatly disturbing, particularly given its role as the gate-keeper of the legal profession, said the Committee's Disability Rights Staff Attorney Deepa Goraya.

"Today, with so many advances in technology, individuals from different backgrounds and varying abilities are graduating from law school," she added, "and BarBri must be mindful of the needs of this diverse community when offering its bar review services."

### DC Taxi Companies Agree to Accessibility for Blind Individuals with Service Dogs

Four DC taxi companies—Yellow Cab Company of DC, Inc., Grand Cab Company, Elite Cab Association, and Pleasant Taxi Club LLC—reached an agreement on May 27, 2016, with the American Council of the Blind (ACB), a civil rights advocacy organization for the blind, to ensure that blind and

visually impaired individuals with service animals have access to taxi services in the District of Columbia.

Together, these four companies represent more than one-fifth of the taxicabs in Washington, DC.

The agreement followed a disability rights lawsuit filed by the Committee and co-counsel **Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP**, against the DC taxi companies on March 16, 2015, on behalf of the ACB and relating to accessibility for blind passengers with service dogs.

Under the agreement, the taxicab companies will contribute to a testing fund overseen and administered by ACB to monitor learning, education effectiveness, and compliance by associated drivers with legal obligations to provide street-hail taxicab services in DC.

The taxicab companies will also develop and implement a model non-discrimination policy, and recommend changes to DC Taxi Commission policies and rules to promote and safely provide street-hail taxi services in DC to the visually impaired.

### Blind Passenger Sues Uber for Dragging Her and Service Dog Down the Street, Violating Disability Laws

On June 1, 2016, the Committee and **Gilbert LLP** filed a lawsuit in federal district court in the Eastern District of Virginia on behalf of Tiffany Jolliff against Uber, alleging violations of the Americans With Disabilities Act and the Virginians with Disabilities Act for Uber's unlawful refusal to accommodate Ms. Jolliff, a blind passenger, and her service dog, Railey, and for injuring them in the process.

(Continued on page 4)

# Fair Housing

## Landmark Ruling Achieved in Equity Residential Case

(continued from page 1)

The lawsuit, *ERC v. Equity Residential*, is part of the Committee's initiative to ensure accessible housing for people with disabilities. The complaint alleges discrimination by national apartment and condominium developers in the design and construction of multifamily housing, which resulted in making such housing inaccessible to persons with disabilities.

"This ruling has helped to establish favorable case law in the District of Maryland on the scope of a multifamily housing provider's liability in developing properties in an inaccessible manner under the Fair Housing Act," said the Committee's Director of Litigation Matt Handley. "The ruling also indicates the deference that a court will give to U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations on housing accessibility."

## Settlement Obtained for Persons with Disabilities Seeking Reasonable Accommodation in Housing

On September 15, 2015, the Committee with co-counsel **Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP**, filed a charge on behalf of the Equal Rights Center (ERC) with the District of Columbia Office of Human Rights (OHR), alleging that property manager Fred A. Smith Company has a policy and practice of refusing to allow tenants with mental disabilities to rent and reside in available units at the properties with an emotional support or companion animal.

By refusing the requested reasonable accommodations, the landlord's policy interfered with prospective tenants with disabilities' equal access to housing, in violation of the Fair Housing Act and District of Columbia Human Rights Act. As a result, the ERC claims that Fred A. Smith Company's actions constituted unlawful discrimination on the basis of disability under federal and DC fair housing laws.

On January 29, 2016, the parties engaged in OHR-facilitated mediation which resulted in a settlement. Through the settlement, the ERC obtained favorable injunctive relief that includes, among other provisions, fair housing training for company staff, and monetary damages and attorney's fees.

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## Blind Passenger Sues Uber

(continued from page 3)

The lawsuit, *Jolliff v. Uber Technologies, Inc.*, arises from a June 14, 2015, incident in which the Uber driver, who had agreed to transport Ms. Jolliff, refused to provide Uber service to Ms. Jolliff and Railey, and drove away while Ms. Jolliff was attempting to enter the car. As a result, Ms. Jolliff was dragged several feet, tripped, and suffered injuries. In addition, the complaint alleges that Ms. Jolliff has on other occasions been repeatedly discriminated against and denied Uber's services when Uber's drivers have seen that she is accompanied by her service dog Railey.

"Federal law requires Uber to treat blind customers equally and accommodate their service animals," said the Committee's Deputy Director of Litigation Peter Romer-Friedman. "Uber cannot build its business model around flouting laws that protect consumers or workers."



# Equal Employment Opportunity

## Jury Verdict Reached in Race Discrimination Case Against Red Line LLC

On January 21, 2016, the Committee and co-counsel **Relman Dane & Colfax PLLC** obtained a jury verdict on behalf of Briggitta Hardin in her race discrimination claims against Red Line LLC and its owner. The jury awarded her \$175,000 in compensatory damages and \$500,000 in punitive damages.

Ms. Hardin, who is African American, was hired to fill a bartender position at Redline, a DC bar, lounge and restaurant. Upon discovering that his staff had hired an African-American bartender when Ms. Hardin arrived for her first shift, the restaurant's owner appeared disgusted and fired Ms. Hardin on the spot.

Evidence gathered during our investigation showed that this discriminatory denial of employment was part of a broader scheme of discriminatory exclusion, including policies that excluded African Americans from working in visible positions and denied African-American customers equal access to the establishment.

## Settlement Obtained for Employee Discriminated Against Due to Disability

The Committee and co-counsel **Arnold & Porter LLP** have successfully reached a settlement agreement on behalf of Jennifer Forte, a woman with severe intellectual disabilities, who was discriminated against due to her disability. The November 2015 settlement provides monetary relief for Ms. Forte and a revamp of the school system's discrimination policies.

Ms. Forte was initially hired to work in the mailroom with the Harford County public school system, with job coaching and other accommodations. However, accommodations were later removed, Ms. Forte was harassed, and she was ultimately fired for performance issues.

The matter was settled after the judge denied Harford County's motion to dismiss the complaint filed by the Committee and co-counsel.

## Committee Protects Employment Rights of Veterans

A recent Committee initiative involves protecting employment and reemployment rights of servicemembers and veterans under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), which prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of a persons' military status or service, and ensures that servicemembers can serve in the military and return to civilian jobs.

In April 2016, the Committee's Deputy Director of Litigation Peter Romer-Friedman argued in the 11th Circuit on behalf of Rodney Bodine, a U.S. Army reservist whose employer forced him to waive his USERRA rights as a condition of employment and then compelled him to arbitrate his USERRA claims.

Briefing is also underway in the 6th Circuit on behalf of Kenneth E. Savage, a Navy Reserve lieutenant fired by Federal Express for filing complaints about its failure to make correct pension contributions under USERRA for mechanics like Savage who served in the military.

(Continued on page 6)

# Immigrant Rights

## DC Area Construction Company Sued for Denying Wages Settles

The Committee and co-counsel **Latham & Watkins LLP** represented painters and other laborers at Tito Contractors who were denied wages for regular hours worked and not paid time-and-a-half for overtime hours over a period of many years, in some cases for more than a decade. Tito Contractors also retaliated against the workers when they complained about the wage and hour violations.

The complaint was filed on October 18, 2013, in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, as a class action and collective action with seven named plaintiffs. The case was certified as a collective action in 2014 with a total of 26 plaintiffs.

On March 4, 2015, the court granted plaintiffs' summary judgment motion as to liability and denied defendant's summary judgment motion on the issue of equitable tolling. The Committee and co-counsel negotiated an \$800,000 settlement that included full statutory damages for all plaintiffs, plus damages from before the statutory period.

Corporate Advisory Board member **FTI Consulting** provided assistance in calculating damages in the case.

## Pregnancy Discrimination Lawsuit Against Chipotle Scheduled for Trial

In February 2014, the Committee and co-counsel **Debevoise & Plimpton LLP** filed a complaint in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia against Chipotle Restaurants on behalf of a Spanish-speaking woman who was terminated by the restaurant after disclosing she was pregnant. **Arnold & Porter LLP** has succeeded Debevoise & Plimpton LLP as counsel in the case.

The facts in this case were cited by the DC City Council to support efforts to amend DC law to require that accommodations be made for pregnant employees. Summary judgment was denied on February 5, 2016. The case is scheduled for trial on August 1, 2016.

## Wage Theft Case Against Taco Restaurant Settled

In October 2015, the Committee and co-counsel **Williams & Connolly LLP** settled a lawsuit, filed in U.S. District Court for the

District of Maryland, on behalf of an immigrant woman who worked for a taco restaurant for a few weeks. In those short weeks, she was paid far below minimum wage and not even paid for her last week of work.

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## Committee Protects Employment Rights of Veterans

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This summer, the 9th Circuit will hear oral argument on behalf of Lieutenant Kevin Ziober, terminated from his job with a federal contractor a day before he began a one-year deployment in Afghanistan. He sued his employer but was told that he would have to arbitrate his claim.

In November 2015, the Committee filed a USERRA action challenging the unlawful termination of Bradley Podliska, a former investigator of the U.S. House Benghazi Committee, fired for serving in the military as a U.S. Air Force reservist.

Finally, the Committee is litigating class action lawsuits under USERRA on behalf of American Airline pilots who did not receive correct pension contributions during their military service since 1997, and state patrol officers denied a veteran's preference in hiring and promotions over a 20-year period.

# DC Prisoners' Project

## Fluvanna Prison Health Care Settlement Implemented

The Committee, with co-counsel **Wiley Rein LLP** and in collaboration with Virginia Legal Aid Justice Center, are currently implementing the landmark settlement reached with the Virginia Department of Corrections on November 26, 2014, in the health care class action lawsuit on behalf of women incarcerated at Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women (Fluvanna), the primary women's state prison in Virginia.

The lawsuit, *Scott v. Clarke*, filed on July 24, 2012, claimed that 1200 women incarcerated at Fluvanna were being provided constitutionally inadequate medical care, resulting in dangerous conditions and risks to health and life. Defendants included private health care providers Armor Correctional Health Services, Inc., of Miami, and subsequently Corizon Health, Inc., as well as the Virginia Department of Corrections. The plaintiffs sought improvements in basic medical care and correctional services at the prison. More than two years of investigation and preparation preceded the filing.

In a memorandum opinion, the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Virginia ruled that the Virginia Department of Corrections may not delegate its constitutional obligation to provide adequate medical care by simply turning health care over to a subcontractor. The settlement provides for significant reforms in medical care at Fluvanna as well as in other prisons across Virginia, and for health care services to be monitored by an outside observer.

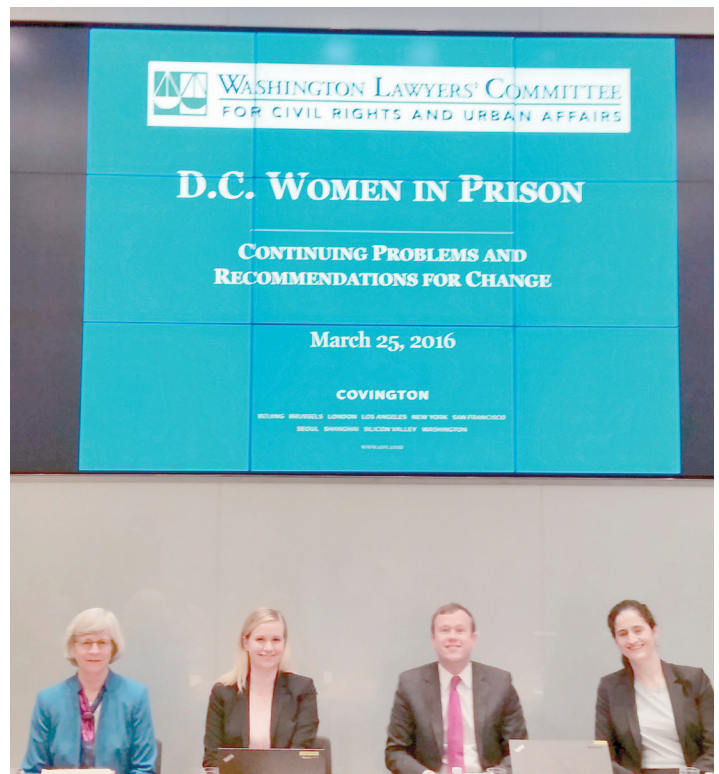
## Committee Releases Report on Challenges Faced by DC Women in Prison

On March 25, 2016, the Committee with a team of lawyers from **Covington and Burling LLP** released the report "DC Women in Prison: Continuing Problems and Recommendations for Change" to widespread media attention. The report focuses on the overwhelming challenges faced by DC women who are incarcerated.

The report provides an in-depth look at the experience of women who are incarcerated both in the local Correctional Treatment Facility and in federal prisons, where many DC women convicted of felonies serve their sentences.

"This is a topic that should be of real concern to District of Columbia and federal policymakers and correctional authorities. Improving conditions for DC women who are incarcerated will help to enhance public safety, reduce public expenditures, and rebuild communities in the District," said Eric Holder, Covington partner and former U.S. Attorney General.

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*Covington & Burling LLP lawyers Carolyn Corwin (L), Lucille Andrzejewski (Center-Left), Philip Peisch (Center-Right), and Meghan Monaghan (R) discussed the Committee's report on DC Women in Prison at the press conference announcing its release on March 25, 2016.*



## Public Education



*At the May 31, 2016 School Partnership Lunch Meeting at Sidley Austin LLP: Kent Withycombe, Washington Lawyers' Committee Public Education Project Director discussed DC Public School partnership activities and recruitment efforts.*

### 2016 School Partnership Recruitment Meeting Held

More than 60 attendees from DC law firms and businesses met on May 31, 2016, to promote more educational partnerships with DC public schools. Organized by the Washington Lawyers' Committee and hosted at **Sidley Austin LLP**, the annual recruitment luncheon featured remarks by Rod Boggs, Sidley Austin LLP Partner and meeting host Mark Guerrera, and Josephine Bias Robinson, Chief, Office of Family and Public Engagement for DC Public Schools. Ms. Robinson strongly endorsed the Committee's DC Public School Partnership Program, and urged new organizations to partner with DC public schools.

The Partnership Program has now established a record high 53 school/firm partnerships, including new educational partnerships or projects this school year between law firms or area companies and specific D.C. public schools. They are: (1) **Proskauer Rose LLP** with Stuart-Hobson Middle School; (2) **McDermott Will & Emery LLP** transferred their

partnership to Amidon-Bowen Elementary School; (3) **Debevoise & Plimpton LLP** and **Veris Consulting** with Ludlow-Taylor Elementary School; and (4) **Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP** built a greenhouse for Houston Elementary School.

Firms involved in the school partnership program provide much-needed academic enrichment and related support for about 11,000 DC Public School students. Many more schools are awaiting partnerships. For more information, contact Kent Withycombe at (202) 319-1000, ext. 145, [Kent\\_Withycombe@washlaw.org](mailto:Kent_Withycombe@washlaw.org).

### Parent Engagement, Academic Enrichment Pilot Program Begun

To address the inequity in academic resources available to students in our Title I partnership schools, the Education Project has initiated a Pilot Program to increase parent engagement and academic enrichment opportunities at several Title I schools.

Working directly with school principals and parent-teacher leaders at the schools, the Pilot Program provides matching funds for a signature parent engagement program at each school that benefits students academically. Each firm involved will assist their schools in determining the program and applying for the matching funds.

Participating firms include **Zuckerman Spaeder LLP**; **Buckley Sandler LLP**; **Hogan Lovells LLP**; and **Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP**. Corporate Advisory Board member **Savills Studley** provided initial matching funds, and **BDO Consulting** will provide accounting advice and services to parent-teacher organizations and to the Committee. For more information, contact Kent Withycombe at (202) 319-1000, x145; or [Kent\\_Withycombe@washlaw.org](mailto:Kent_Withycombe@washlaw.org).



# Corporate Outreach

## Corporate Outreach Activities

This spring, the Committee's Board of Directors welcomed **Quadrangle Development Corporation** to the Committee's Corporate Advisory Board (CAB). The CAB was launched in 2010 to offer the business community the opportunity to participate with the Committee in accomplishing our mission of addressing issues of discrimination and poverty in our community. The CAB is chaired by Jay Frankl, Senior Managing Director, **FTI Consulting**. Other CAB member organizations include **BDO**; **Savills Studley**; and **Tower Legal Solutions**. **Veris Consulting, Inc.**, is a member of the Corporate Partner Program.

CAB company representatives offer business perspectives and advice on Committee matters; work with Committee lawyers and co-counsel to provide legal services and support on Committee cases; serve as partners with the Committee's Education Project in the DC public schools; and attend Committee events throughout the year while establishing closer ties with our many supporting law firms.

The Committee recognizes participating CAB companies during Committee events, and in print and online publications. For more information about the Corporate Advisory Board, contact Deputy Director Rhonda Cunningham Holmes at: (202) 319-1000, x111; or [rhonda\\_holmes@washlaw.org](mailto:rhonda_holmes@washlaw.org).

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## Cooking for Kids Bake Sales Benefit DC Public Schools

A dozen law firms raised more than \$10,000 to benefit DC public schools by competing in the Committee's 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Cooking for Kids Bake Sale and Taste-Off on March 14, 2016.

**BuckleySandler LLP** raised the most—more than \$4,800—for its school partner, Cleveland Elementary School.

After participating firms held bake sales at their offices to raise funds for their schools, they sent their best entries to the Committee's office for the Taste-Off competition.

Culinary experts Frank Ruta, Aggie Chin and Alex Kramer determined the top three entries in the cake, pie and cookie categories.

## Committee Releases Report on Challenges Faced by DC Women in Prison (continued from page 7)

The 94-page report, which includes a discussion of 11 recommendations, primarily focuses on aspects of incarceration that are particularly critical for DC women, including contact with children and families; medical care; education, job training and life skills programs; and sexual abuse and harassment. Legal, civil rights, and criminal justice experts, as well as senior federal and District of Columbia judges were involved in the production of the report.

"This report—the fourth in a series addressing significant issues affecting our local criminal justice system—highlights a set of problems confronting women prisoners that has long deserved public scrutiny," said Washington Lawyers' Committee's Executive Director Rod Boggs.

## Arrivals

### New Board Members

The Washington Lawyers' Committee is pleased to welcome five new members to the Board of Directors. They are: David Beddow (**O'Melveny & Myers LLP**); Maureen D. Hardwick (**Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP**); Howard S. Hogan (**Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP**); Julia M. Jordan (**Sullivan & Cromwell LLP**); and Theodore R. Posner (**Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP**).

### New Staff

**Edward Levy**, a former US Department of Energy attorney and energy conservation consultant, is now volunteering as Senior Counsel with the Committee's Equal Employment Opportunity Project. He is

a graduate of Brooklyn College and the University of Michigan Law School.

**Emily MacLeod** is a Visiting Attorney with the DC Prisoners' Project. She is a graduate of the University of Arizona and Washington University School of Law in St. Louis.

**Amal Mimish**, recently joined the Committee as a Paralegal with the Disability Rights and Fair Housing Projects. She is a graduate of American University.

**Ann Weber**, a Loaned Associate from **Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP**, is working with the DC Prisoners' Project. She graduated from the College of William & Mary and Georgetown University Law Center.

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## Committee Leadership Transition: Celebrating Rod Boggs' Tenure as Executive Director, Welcoming Successor Jonathan Smith

(continued from page 1)

In commenting on the selection, Committee board member and **Wiley Rein LLP** Pro Bono Partner Ted Howard, Chair of the Search Committee, noted, "Jonathan Smith is exceptionally well-qualified to take on the leadership of the Committee and build on the extraordinary record that Rod Boggs has done so much to build. We have every confidence that our organization will be in the best of hands as it looks to the future."

Rod Boggs echoed these sentiments, saying, "I could not imagine an individual better suited by experience, temperament and proven commitment to take on the Committee's leadership. I look forward to doing everything I can to help him in his new role."

Jonathan previously served as Executive Director of the Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia, the Public Justice Center in Baltimore, Maryland, and the D.C. Prisoners' Legal Services Project. Jonathan also served as Chief of the Special Litigation Section of the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, during which time the Section completed 18 investigations of civil rights violations by law enforcement, including the civil investigation of the Ferguson, Missouri Police Department in the wake of the Michael Brown shooting. Immediately before joining the Committee, Jonathan was the Associate Dean of Clinical and Experiential Programs at the University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law.

"I am honored to join the Committee's talented and committed staff to continue its critical work in addressing civil rights violations, poverty, and public education in our community," said Smith. "I am humbled to follow in the footsteps of Rod Boggs, who has provided exceptional leadership across nearly five decades. The Committee and community owe a debt of gratitude to Rod for his tremendous service in the cause of equal access to justice, and I look forward to continuing his legacy."

# Annual Campaign

## 2015/2016 Annual Funding Campaign Advances

For the 2015-2016 Annual Campaign, the Committee has received contributions of \$518,974 from 57 firms and \$366,232 from 659 individuals as of June 10, 2016. These figures do not include contributions to the Committee's Wiley Branton Awards Luncheon or special gifts directed to the John Burke Fund, Judge Louis F. Oberdorfer Memorial Fund, or the Founders' Fund. To be included in the current year's campaign, gifts from individuals and firms should be sent to the Committee by the end of the campaign year on November 30, 2016.

The Committee acknowledges all of its contributors for their gifts to the Committee, and expresses great appreciation for the service of all Associates and Partners who coordinated funding drives for the benefit of the Committee at their law firms.

## 2016 Founders' Reception Held May 9

Nearly 100 supporters, including Co-Chairs, Board Members, Trustees, and staff attended the Committee's 2016 Founders' Reception on May 9 at the beautiful home and gardens of Georgetown Law School Professor Emanuel Tersh Boasberg III in Washington, D.C. Committee Co-Chair Steven P. Hollman, a partner at **Hogan Lovells US LLP**, and the Committee's Executive Director Rod Boggs welcomed attendees to the reception and acknowledged longtime supporters.

Rod Boggs praised the vision of the founders involved in the Committee's creation, and expressed appreciation for the contributions received from the Committee's many supporters and their law firms. Everyone was encouraged to support and attend the Committee's 2016 Wiley Branton Awards Luncheon on June 22.



*Attending the 2016 Founders' Reception were (L/R): Committee Board Members Joseph M. Sellers, Partner; Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll PLLC; and Paul M. Smith, Partner; Jenner & Block LLP.*



*2016 Founders' Reception attendees included (L/R): Catherine Cone, Washington Lawyers' Committee Fair Housing Staff Attorney; Prof. William L. Robinson, founding Dean of UDC Clarke School of Law; and former Committee Board Member Ronald L. Flagg, General Counsel, Legal Services Corporation.*

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#### CORPORATE & FOUNDATION CONTRIBUTORS

The Washington Lawyers' Committee acknowledges the following corporations and foundations for their contributions and commitments to Committee Projects and Programs this year:

**Aid Association for the Blind of the District of Columbia  
BDO USA, LLP**

**John Burke Memorial Fund**

**The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation**

**Corina Higginson Trust**

**The District of Columbia Bar Foundation**

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