



The First 100 Days: The March Toward Justice

June 10, 2015

**Karl A. Racine
ATTORNEY GENERAL**





MESSAGE FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Dear District of Columbia Resident,

When I took office, I promised to fulfill the popular mandate of an overwhelming majority of District voters to stand up an independent Office of the Attorney General (OAG) that would advance the District's legal work not only on behalf of the city, but on behalf of our residents.

That's why I've spent my first months in office advocating for genuine independence for OAG, bolstering our efforts in community outreach and consumer protection, and exploring ways to strengthen enforcement of the District's affordable-housing laws. It's also why we're working hard to protect and improve public safety, why we're advancing an ambitious effort to reform juvenile justice in the District, and why we're redoubling our efforts to protect taxpayers and enforce honest government.



Krystian & Taylor Williams-Odom interview Attorney General Racine for their self-produced online news show, "TK2LDCNEWS."

We are doing this because the 660,000 residents of this amazing city deserve a top-quality public law firm to advocate for them and protect the public interest. I am committed to taking what is already an excellent chief legal office for our city and ensuring it has the tools, resources and leadership it needs to be one of the nation's very best public-interest legal organizations. My promise to you is that, in four years, you will be proud of the Office of the Attorney General.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "K. Racine".

Karl A. Racine
Attorney General

INTRODUCTION

As the first elected Attorney General of the District of Columbia, Karl A. Racine has worked hard to stand up an independent Office of the Attorney General (OAG). Since his inauguration on January 2, 2015, he has taken what was already a great public law firm and laid a foundation on which it can become one of the nation's premier attorney general offices.

Guided by the overarching principles of the "Keys to Justice" published during his campaign, the Attorney General has appeared in every ward of the city, delivering on his commitment to protect consumers, preserve affordable housing, improve public safety and juvenile justice, and enforce honest government.

The Attorney General has secured Council approval for several new full-time employees to enhance staffing for consumer protection and public safety, as well as Council approval to establish a Litigation Support Fund that will allow OAG to reinvest some proceeds from settlements and judgments the office obtains from bad actors into the operations of the office.

In the first 100 days, the Attorney General has:

- Enhanced public awareness of the important role that an independent OAG plays in protecting citizens and promoting public safety through a system of checks and balances;
- Continued efforts to stand up an independent Attorney General's office;
- Met regularly and consulted with the Mayor, the Council Chairman, the Council Judiciary Committee Chairman, other members of the Council, the Chief Financial Officer, the D.C. Auditor, the Metropolitan Police Chief, Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners, and their staffs to discuss important legal developments and to advance their legislative, statutory, and other priorities for the District;
- Attended at least one community event in every ward of the District at which he has discussed a host of topics, including a crackdown on sales of synthetic drugs as well as fair housing and consumer protection issues for seniors;
- Promoted and advocated for full democracy and self-determination for District residents;
- Settled and recovered nearly \$24 million for the District in judgments, settlements or sanctions;
- Provided legal advice to District government officials on a number of high-profile matters, including the implementation of Initiative 71, the District's gun laws, the D.C. Public Schools Empowering Males of Color Initiative, and the Budget Autonomy Act; and
- Worked with Councilmembers Kenyan McDuffie, David Grosso, and others to end the blanket practice of shackling all juvenile respondents who appear in Superior Court.

The following sections contain detailed highlights of OAG's work in a range of areas in the first 100 days of Attorney General Racine's administration.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

STANDING UP AN INDEPENDENT ATTORNEY GENERAL’S OFFICE.....	6
REACHING OUT TO THE COMMUNITY.....	7
DEFENDING THE DISTRICT’S AUTONOMY.....	8
PROTECTING CONSUMERS.....	9
PROVIDING OBJECTIVE AND INDEPENDENT LEGAL ADVICE.....	10
PRESERVING AFFORDABLE HOUSING.....	11
ENHANCING PUBLIC SAFETY.....	11
PROTECTING TAXPAYERS AND ENFORCING HONEST GOVERNMENT.....	13
REFORMING JUVENILE JUSTICE.....	13
SUPPORTING EQUAL RIGHTS FOR ALL.....	14
USING GOVERNMENT RESOURCES WISELY.....	14
MANAGING THE DISTRICT’S LEGAL WORK	15

STANDING UP AN INDEPENDENT ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

In 2010, 76 percent of District voters approved an amendment to the District Charter creating an elected Attorney General who would serve as the District's chief legal officer, have "charge and conduct of all law business" of the city, and "be responsible for upholding the public interest." Attorney General Racine has succeeded in preserving and promoting the office's authority and ability to render unbiased, objective legal advice to District officials.

- **OAG Staff:** Attorney General Racine has met with OAG staff, assessed the office's strengths and weaknesses, and assembled a management team that includes a new chief deputy attorney general, chief of staff, legislative and communications directors, and a community outreach director.
- **Meeting with Elected Officials:** Attorney General Racine has met regularly with the Mayor and the Council Chairman since taking office, and also has met with each member of the Council. He will continue to meet on a regular basis with elected officials.
- **Meeting with Public-Safety Officials:** The Attorney General speaks regularly with Metropolitan Police Chief Cathy Lanier and other Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) senior staff.
- **Meeting with Legal Officials:** Attorney General Racine has been in close contact with the U.S. Attorney's Office and D.C. Superior Court officials since he took office.
- **Attorney General Independence and Authority Act:** Attorney General Racine has advanced legislation to clarify OAG's independence and authority in areas such as conducting legal-sufficiency reviews of legislation and contracts, OAG's personnel and procurement authority, and other areas.
- **Turning Back Attempts to Undermine OAG Powers:** The Attorney General has thwarted a proposal inserted into the Executive Office of the Mayor's Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Support Act proposal that would have redefined the relationship between the Executive



NBC 4 Reporters Tom Sherwood and Mark Segraves interview Attorney General Racine for the "All Politics Is Local" program at the Hill Center in Ward 6.

Branch and the Attorney General as that of a client to an attorney while omitting the Charter's references to the Attorney General's statutory role as the District's chief legal officer, responsible for upholding the public interest. The proposal would have moved the primary authority for reviewing the legal sufficiency of the District's legislation, regulations and contracts from independent OAG attorneys to in-house attorneys with the Mayor's Office of Legal Counsel.

- **Leveraging Resources Provided by the National Association of Attorneys General:** Attorney General Racine and staff have attended and actively participated in a number of meetings and programs sponsored by the National Association of Attorneys General. Through this participation, Attorney General Racine has solicited support for full democracy and self-determination for District residents.

REACHING OUT TO THE COMMUNITY

In the District's first election for an independent Attorney General, the voters made clear their desire for a more outward-facing OAG to address their concerns about, as well as educate them regarding, important matters like consumer protection and public safety. Since taking office, Attorney General Racine and OAG staff have augmented the office's community outreach efforts, meeting on scores of occasions with neighborhood groups, senior residents, religious organizations, school groups, and other affinity communities to assist them on a host of issues and garner residents' input and feedback on OAG's work.

- **Neighborhood Meetings:** In his first 100 days in office, Attorney General Racine has spoken to community groups in every ward of the District on topics ranging from cracking down on the sales of synthetic drugs to housing issues for seniors to youth violence to consumer protection.
- **Senior Homes:** Attorney General Racine has spoken to seniors at Wesley House in Ward 5 on housing affordability and habitability and to seniors at the Sunrise on Connecticut Avenue in Ward 3 and Sibley Plaza in Ward 6 on protecting themselves and their loved ones from identity theft and consumer fraud.
- **Public Safety:** Attorney General Racine and OAG staff have attended dozens of community meetings on public safety across the city since January 2.
- **Community Institutions:** Attorney General Racine has spoken at a number of community and educational institutions, including panel discussions on inequities in the criminal-justice system at Metropolitan A.M.E. Church and George Washington University; a Martin Luther King, Jr. Day lecture at Capitol View Library; a speech on housing issues and consumer protection to Women in Housing and Finance; D.C. Appleseed, the Committee of 100 on the Federal City, and the Consortium of Legal Service Providers.
- **Labor and Business Groups:** Since he took office, Attorney General Racine has spoken to several local groups concerned with labor, business and economic development, including the Federal City Council, the D.C. Chamber of Commerce, local chapters of the AFL-CIO and LiUNA, the Greater Washington Board of Trade, the Economic Club of Washington, the Restaurant Association of Metropolitan Washington, and the D.C. Insurance Federation.
- **Legal Organizations:** Attorney General Racine has spoken to or met with a number of legal leaders and groups in the District, including the judges of the D.C. Court of Appeals and the D.C. Superior Court, the D.C. Bar Association, the D.C. Public Defender Service and the Consortium of Legal Service Providers.
- **Expanding Outreach by OAG Attorneys:** Since Attorney General Racine took office, OAG's Public Interest Division has boosted efforts to educate consumers and District businesses. This includes consumer-protection meetings in the community and a new partnership with the District's Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration to educate business owners on how to advance their goals while maintaining their alcohol licenses in good standing.



Attorney General Racine speaks to Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4C.

DEFENDING THE DISTRICT'S AUTONOMY

Attorney General Racine has taken every opportunity to support the will of the voters and elected representatives of the District of Columbia by fighting interference in the District's autonomy from members of Congress and other officials who do not represent our residents.

- **Initiative 71:** Attorney General Racine provided the legal advice that enabled the District's elected leaders to stand together and implement the voters' choice to legalize small amounts of marijuana for cultivation and use at home without running afoul of the law – including unsuccessful attempts by federal officials to undo the referendum. Attorney General Racine also advised the Mayor, the Council Chairman and other officials on how to respond to attempts by Congress to bully District employees. Attorney General Racine and his staff have met regularly and worked closely with Congresswoman Norton and staff from the District's congressional oversight committees on Initiative 71 as well as other issues.
- **The District's Gun Laws:** Attorney General Racine and OAG attorneys have defended the constitutionality of the District's gun laws in court and spoken out against cynical attempts by some members of Congress to bolster their national profiles by introducing legislation that would upend the District's gun laws.
- **Local Prosecutorial Authority:** Attorney General Racine thanked Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton for introducing legislation that would bring the District in line with other states by giving local officials authority to prosecute all local crimes. All adult felonies and most adult misdemeanors in the District are currently prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office.
- **Telling the District's Story to Outside Groups:** Attorney General Racine has taken every opportunity available to him to advocate for full democracy and self-determination for District residents in speeches and conversations with people who live in other parts of the country. This includes speeches to the National Association of Attorneys General and the Florida-based Haitian Lawyers Association.



Attorney General Racine speaks at a National Association of Attorneys General meeting.

PROTECTING CONSUMERS

Attorney General Racine has expanded OAG's emphasis on protecting the District's consumers from those who would prey on our most vulnerable residents. OAG has had significant accomplishments since the beginning of the year in settling major cases and bolstering community awareness about consumer-protection issues.

- **Recovering Millions of Dollars in Consumer-Protection Lawsuits:** Since Attorney General Racine took office, OAG's Public Interest Division has brought \$21.5 million to the District's coffers in a major settlement with the Wall Street firm Standard & Poor's for their role in defrauding District investors during the years leading up to the 2008 financial crisis. OAG is also currently investigating other Wall Street firms in similar cases, and is poised to recover an additional \$60 million (and possibly more) for District taxpayers this fiscal year in a case regarding online travel companies and unpaid taxes.
- **Bolstering the District's Capacity to Protect Consumers in the Future:** Attorney General Racine has launched a Consumer Protection and Community Outreach Initiative that will increase OAG's capacity to protect residents by going after and prosecuting bad actors who choose to disregard applicable District and federal law and prey on the District's most vulnerable residents. This will allow the Attorney General to enforce District laws by materially expanding OAG's capacity to investigate and prosecute – helping the District emerge as a leader on multi-state legal investigations and civil actions. OAG proposed, in its Fiscal Year 2016 Budget submission, the establishment of a Consumer Protection Fund that would retain a portion of the funds OAG brings in annually in consumer-protection awards and settlements to support an expanded consumer-protection program as well as other OAG initiatives.
- **Educating the Public:** Attorney General Racine has launched his consumer protection education initiative by speaking to community groups and releasing "Protect Yourself: A Consumer Protection Pamphlet" (available at: <http://oag.dc.gov/page/consumer-protection-pamphlet>).
- **Alerting Consumers:** Attorney General Racine has also issued alerts on identity-theft cases involving major health-insurance providers that might have affected District residents, and outlined six common scams for consumers to avoid during tax-filing season.
- **Opposing Mega-Mergers that Would Harm District Consumers:** Attorney General Racine joined the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and 10 states in filing a complaint asserting that a proposed merger between Sysco and US Foods – the nation's two largest broadline food-service distributors – would violate federal antitrust law and harm businesses and consumers in the District by driving up prices.
- **Shielding the District's Health-Insurance Market from Chaotic Prices:** Attorney General Racine joined 22 other states in filing a friend-of-the-court brief at the Supreme Court defending the sustainability of America's health-care system and the right of millions of low- and moderate-income Americans to premium-assistance tax credits when they purchase health insurance on a federally facilitated exchange. If the Supreme Court issues an adverse ruling in the *King v. Burwell* case, the District's



Attorney General Racine speaks to the community at an event in Ward 5.

health-insurance market could be subject to wild price fluctuations that would negatively affect consumers and businesses.

- **Recovering Funds for the District and Enforcing Civil Penalties Against Violators:** In the first 100 days after the Attorney General took office, OAG’s Public Interest Division has recovered more than \$23 million for the District in judgments, settlements or sanctions payable. In that time, the division handled more than 500 cases.

PROVIDING OBJECTIVE AND INDEPENDENT LEGAL ADVICE

Since January 2, Attorney General Racine has fulfilled his duty to provide objective legal advice to District government officials on a number of high-profile issues – even in cases where that advice differs from the opinions of other elected officials or leading community groups.

- **Empowering Males of Color Initiative:** When asked to opine on the legality of a proposal by the Mayor and the Chancellor of the D.C. Public Schools to create an initiative targeted at improving the academic performance of young males of color, Attorney General Racine led OAG through a careful review of all relevant constitutional and civil-rights law at the federal and local levels. OAG determined that the initiative could be carried out in a way that both supports its objective and aligns with the law.



Attorney General Racine with Maryland Attorney General Brian Frosh (L) and Virginia Attorney General Mark Herring (R).

- **Budget Autonomy Act:** After reviewing the previous OAG position on the 2013 Budget Autonomy Referendum, Attorney General Racine agreed with U.S. District Court Judge Emmet Sullivan’s reluctant conclusion that the legislation conflicts with relevant federal laws and cannot be enforced. He and the Chief Financial Officer continue to assert that position in court, although the Mayor and the Council now take differing positions.
- **Marijuana Regulation Hearing:** Attorney General Racine concluded that a Council decision to hold a formal legislative hearing on legislation that would have created a regime for regulating the sales of marijuana would violate a congressional provision prohibiting the District from enacting new laws that would further legalize marijuana possession and use in the District. The Council took his advice, and chose to hold an informal legislative roundtable on the subject instead.
- **Providing Legal Advice in Routine and High-Profile Matters:** Since January 2, OAG’s Legal Counsel Division has prepared more than 350 written legal advice assignments and provided oral legal advice in at least twice that number of matters to District officials, including to the Mayor, Councilmembers and agencies. The division also assisted with a dozen rulemaking projects on high-profile or sensitive matters and handled nearly 20 legal issues involving Advisory Neighborhood Commissions. The division rendered advice in a number of high-profile matters, including marijuana legalization, the regulatory

changes needed to bring the District’s firearm laws into compliance with federal court decisions, the D.C. Public Schools Empowering Males of Color Initiative, legal concerns surrounding the Reproductive Health Non-Discrimination Amendment Act, the revocations of the charters of public charter schools, and a proposed multi-jurisdictional WMATA Capital Funding Agreement in which the District is being asked to contribute \$1.315 billion.

- **Providing Objective Legal Advice on Major District Real-Estate Deals and Cases:** Since Attorney General Racine took office, OAG’s Commercial Division has supported the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning & Economic Development (DMPED) in finalizing documents necessary to facilitate the developer’s closing on debt financing for the costs associated with constructing the new West End Library and Fire Station and assisted DMPED in closing on the Carr International Hotel to be built as part of The Wharf in Southwest. The division has also handled several major eminent domain matters, land acquisition cases, and public nuisance cases.

PRESERVING AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Attorney General Racine and other District officials have prioritized the need for the District to be a national leader in affordable housing. Attorney General Racine has put forward an Affordable Housing Protection and Enforcement Initiative that will support this priority and more vigorously protect the rights of homeowners and tenants.

- **Enforcing the District’s Affordable-Housing Laws:** The initiative would increase OAG’s capacity to enforce the Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Act and the District’s requirements for set-asides for affordable housing.
- **Protecting Housing for Seniors:** OAG’s Affordable Housing Protection and Enforcement Unit will also protect residents against predatory tax liens and reverse-mortgage scams, to which seniors often fall prey.

ENHANCING PUBLIC SAFETY

Since taking office, Attorney General Racine and OAG staff have worked hard in multiple areas to enhance public safety for residents across the District.

- **Educating Residents on the District’s Marijuana Laws:** In cooperation with the Metropolitan Police Department, Attorney General Racine released a “Frequently Asked Questions” document explaining the District’s new marijuana laws the day they took effect. It is available here: <http://oag.dc.gov/release/office-attorney-general-releases-frequently-asked-questions-document-district%E2%80%99s-marijuana>
- **Fighting Synthetic Drugs:** The Attorney General and OAG’s Neighborhood and Victim Services Section (NVS) have launched an all-out effort to end the sales of dangerous synthetic drugs in neighborhoods across the District. Attorneys from NVS have filed suits against the owners of two convenience stores (one in Ward 1 and another in Ward 5) that have repeatedly sold the dangerous and illegal drugs, and the owners of a third store (in Ward 4) are cooperating after NVS filed a legal notice regarding drug sales. Attorney General Racine also joined other state Attorneys General from across the nation in a letter urging the heads of nine major oil companies to ensure their franchisee stores do not sell synthetic drugs.

- **Improving Neighborhoods:** Attorneys from NVS, working with the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) and with residents, have settled a lawsuit with the Sursum Corda Cooperative Association and its property-management company to improve safety in the once-dangerous area. The settlement includes new lighting and security cameras and the hiring of a new security contractor.
- **Bolstering OAG's Capacity to Protect Public Safety:** OAG's Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Proposal includes resources that will expand the agency's ability to protect public safety, assist crime victims, and enforce the District's gun laws.
- **Prosecuting Criminals:** Since Attorney General Racine took office, OAG's Public Safety Division has opened more than 3,500 cases in the Criminal Section (which mostly deals with adult crimes) and papered more than 1,400 cases. The section has successfully resolved more than 250 cases since January 2. The division's Juvenile Section has reviewed more than 1,200 cases since January 2. The section also diverted more than 80 juvenile offenders into community-based programs, coordinated with other agencies to provide immediate medical services to a victim of human trafficking before she was returned to her home jurisdiction, and worked closely with school resource officers to address school-related crime.
- **Protecting Neighborhoods:** Since January 2, OAG's Neighborhood and Victim Services Section has handled more than 170 cases, filed several drug-nuisance cases, and favorably resolved more than 50 nuisance-property cases.
- **Protecting the District's Most Vulnerable Residents:** Since the beginning of January, approximately 94 percent of the abuse, neglect and endangerment cases handled by OAG's Family Services Division have had a favorable resolution.
- **Ensuring Due Process by Addressing Problems with the I/Leads System:** After OAG attorneys first discovered a problem with MPD's I/Leads data-management system that might have affected some cases by omitting information required to be provided to defendants, Attorney General Racine led an extraordinary effort to bring OAG, MPD, the U.S. Attorney's Office, the D.C. Superior Court, the U.S. District Court and defense attorneys together to ensure the problem was solved. At the Attorney General's direction, OAG is conducting an exhaustive review of past cases to detect any that might have been affected. He appointed a Special Counsel to oversee OAG's efforts to rectify the situation.
- **Addressing Problems with Data Analysis at the District's Consolidated Forensic Lab:** Attorney General Racine has worked closely with the Mayor's office, federal prosecutors, and accrediting agencies to rectify problems prosecutors identified earlier this year with analysis of DNA samples at the District's Consolidated Forensic Lab. Attorney General Racine charged a Special Counsel with coordinating OAG's efforts to ensure the problems are identified, reviewed and corrected and do not adversely impact justice being served in pending or future cases.

PROTECTING TAXPAYERS AND ENFORCING HONEST GOVERNMENT

Since taking office, Attorney General Racine has taken steps to ensure that employers, contractors, and government officials discharge their duties in a professional and ethical manner; that District taxpayers benefit from this; and that local, small and disadvantaged businesses can fairly compete for contracts under the law.

- **Bolstering OAG's Capacity for Procurement Enforcement:** Attorney General Racine has requested the resources and legislative changes that would increase OAG's ability to recover funds for the District in contract-appeals cases, resulting in millions of dollars of additional recovered revenue for the District.
- **Increasing OAG's Ability to Retain Top-Notch Attorneys:** The OAG Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Proposal also contains funds that would enable the agency to better compete with neighboring jurisdictions, the federal government, and private-sector organizations to retain good attorneys by bringing OAG attorney salaries closer to the regional average. This will increase OAG's capacity to protect the public interest.
- **Recovering Tax Savings for the District:** Since Attorney General Racine took office, OAG's Commercial Division has closed more than 130 cases in the Tax Division of D.C. Superior Court, resulting in tax savings to the District of more than \$26 million.
- **Ensuring the Legal Sufficiency of Procurement Contracts:** Since January 2, OAG's Commercial Division has also ensured the legal sufficiency of approximately 50 District government procurement contracts worth at least \$1 million.



Office of Attorney General Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Testimony before the Council Committee on the Judiciary.

REFORMING JUVENILE JUSTICE

One of Attorney General Racine's top priorities is reforming and improving the District's juvenile-justice system to reduce crime, reduce burdens on the District's correctional system, and ensure better outcomes for our city's children. He has already made significant progress on his juvenile-justice initiatives.

- **Leveraging Modern Methods to Improve Juvenile Justice:** Attorney General Racine has launched a comprehensive effort to improve prosecutorial decision-making and more effectively reduce youth crime. The effort would employ modern risk-assessment instruments, data tracking, and analysis to improve public safety and promote fairness and accountability in the delivery of prosecutorial services.
- **Resources to Bolster OAG's Ability to Reform Juvenile Justice:** OAG, through its Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Proposal and grant applications, is seeking resources to develop an innovative new prosecutorial risk-screening instrument. This instrument will better inform prosecutors' decisions

about which juveniles are good candidates for diversion to community-based programs rather than being prosecuted, and which juveniles need special attention by prosecutors and the juvenile-justice system. The data captured by this instrument will enable ongoing analysis to ensure that low-risk offenders are held accountable for their actions but do not penetrate too deeply into the juvenile-justice system, since research shows that doing so increases recidivism.

- **Juvenile Shackling:** Working in close cooperation with Ward 5 Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie, At-Large Councilmember David Grosso, Chief Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia Lee Satterfield, and federal and local law-enforcement agencies, Attorney General Racine was able to secure an administrative order that ends the blanket practice of shackling all juvenile respondents who appear in Superior Court.

SUPPORTING EQUAL RIGHTS FOR ALL

Attorney General Racine has long supported equal rights for all District residents, regardless of their race, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin or immigration status. Since taking office, he has supported several efforts to secure equal rights and opportunities for all District residents.

- **Marriage Equality:** Attorney General Racine joined other state attorneys general in a friend-of-the-court brief before the U.S. Supreme Court arguing that the Constitution requires marriage equality nationwide. The states' brief argues that the continued refusal by some states to license or recognize marriages between gay and lesbian couples inflicts widespread harm on these couples and their families, including legally-married same-sex couples from the District when they are traveling in those states.
- **Immigration Reform:** Attorney General Racine also joined his colleagues from other states in filing a friend-of-the-court brief urging the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit to uphold President Obama's executive action creating a path to legal residency for some undocumented immigrants. The Attorney General said that all District residents benefit from the President's action, which enables some previously undocumented residents to begin working legally and paying taxes.

USING GOVERNMENT RESOURCES WISELY

Attorney General Racine has been careful to use government dollars wisely, taking advantage of every resource available to OAG to conserve taxpayer funds.

- **The Ruff Fellows Program:** On January 26, the Attorney General welcomed the fourth class of Ruff Fellows to OAG for one-year fellowships to assist in the District's legal work. OAG partnered with five local law schools (George Washington University Law School, Georgetown University Law Center, University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law, American University Washington College of Law and Howard University Law School) to fund fellowships for 14 law school graduates. Named after Charles (Chuck) F.C. Ruff, who served as the District's Corporation Counsel (the position now known as Attorney General) from 1995 to 1997, the fellowships are designed to provide an opportunity for talented new lawyers to engage in public service to the District of Columbia.
- **Recruiting Pro Bono Assistance:** OAG has recruited more than 40 *pro bono* lawyers and interns since the beginning of Attorney General Racine's term.

- **Underspending Transition Funds:** As required by law, on March 31, Attorney General Racine transmitted to the Council of the District of Columbia the Attorney General-Elect Transition Expenditure Report, which showed that his Transition Team spent less than half of the \$150,000 allocated for the transition.
- **Saving the District Money Through Good Legal Work:** In Attorney General Racine’s first 100 days, OAG’s Civil Litigation Division avoided a total of nearly \$250 million in liability for the District, receiving more than 130 new cases, closing more than 140 cases, and dealing with more than 900 pending matters. Their win/loss record on trials and dispositive motions for the period was over 80 percent.

MANAGING THE DISTRICT’S LEGAL WORK

Since taking office, Attorney General Racine has been hard at work managing a public law firm with 275 attorneys and more than 300 support and paraprofessional staff.

- **Representing the District in Appeals Courts:** Since January 2, OAG’s Office of the Solicitor General has argued more than 20 cases in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit or the D.C. Court of Appeals; has filed dozens of briefs and motions on the merits of cases, and has won more than 60 cases.
- **Defending the District’s Interests in Personnel Cases:** Since Attorney General Racine took office, OAG’s Personnel, Labor and Employment Division has received more than 130 new cases, and its win/loss ratio for final orders received during that time frame is approximately 3 to 1. The division also won several significant cases that saved the District from paying tens of thousands of dollars in settlements and fees.
- **Supporting Families in Child-Support Cases:** Since January 2, OAG’s Child Support Services Division has collected approximately \$16 million in support owed and has established paternity in more than 1,000 cases. The division has also held 20 outreach events, including several programs for expecting or parenting students across the District.
- **Supporting the District’s Legal Work:** Since January 2, OAG investigators have served more than 1,100 summonses and subpoenas, and OAG’s Operations and Information Technology Sections have completed construction on a new OAG Moot Courtroom.



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

441 4th Street NW
Suite 1100 South
Washington, DC 20001
202-727-3400
<http://oag.dc.gov>