



The views expressed herein are presented on behalf of the D.C. Affairs Community, the Antitrust and Consumer Law Community, and the Law Practice Management Community, of the D.C. Bar Communities, which are voluntary associations of individuals, most, but not necessarily all, of whom are members of the D.C. Bar. The D.C. Bar itself made no monetary contribution to fund the preparation or submission of this statement. Moreover, the views expressed herein have been neither approved nor endorsed by, and do not necessarily reflect the views of, the D.C. Bar, its Board of Governors, or all members of the D.C. Bar or the D.C. Affairs Community, Antitrust and Consumer Law Community, or Law Practice Management Community.

Steering Committee of the D.C. Affairs Community of the D.C. Bar Communities

Public Statement to Acknowledge and Honor Our Recently Deceased Member and Friend
Claudia L. McKoin

June 30, 2026

The D.C. Affairs Community of the D.C. Bar Communities¹ lost one of our champions recently, Claudia L. McKoin. Claudia was a leader and strong advocate for the District of Columbia in whatever she did, including her extensive work as a member of the D.C. Affairs Community. A longtime District resident, Claudia passed away on April 19, 2026.

She was born in Cleveland, Ohio in 1947. She came to the District of Columbia to attend Howard University, where she received her B.A. in Business Administration, followed by an M.B.A. from George Washington University, and her Juris Doctorate from American University's Washington College of Law.

Claudia had a more than three-decade career both as a businesswoman and later an attorney with the company that became Verizon, distinguishing herself as a leader in telecommunications policy and external affairs. She demonstrated unremitting dedication to both civic engagement and public policy which allowed her to transition from a

¹ The D.C. Affairs Community is one of the more than twenty Communities at the D.C. Bar. Communities constitute the voluntary membership component of the Bar and include groups based on practice areas and other affinities. Communities promote professional development through networking opportunities, educational programming, the development of practice resources, and engagement on issues affecting legal systems, legal practitioners, and their respective areas of practice. For more information about the D.C. Bar Communities, please visit <https://www.dcbbar.org/for-lawyers/communities>.

distinguished private sector career to one serving all Washingtonians in several significant public sector roles.

She served as the Director of Federal Relations for the Council of the District of Columbia when Vincent Gray was the Chairman of the Council (2006-2010). As noted in *Roll Call* from October 4, 2010: “Those who have worked with Gray during his tenure on the council said he has always been Congress-savvy, adept at keeping tabs on what was going on in the Capitol. Claudia McKoin, one of his top aides and the point person for federal affairs, is rarely without a spreadsheet tracking bills in progress, they said.” Because Congress holds ultimate legislative authority over Washington, D.C., Claudia’s work was essential for protecting local home rule and autonomy. Later, after Chairman Gray was elected Mayor (2011-2015), Claudia continued her role as one of the mayor’s top aides and the point person for federal affairs, serving to advance key priorities, develop and follow legislative strategies, and preserve essential programming. And, from 2014-2016, she served as a Rental Housing Commissioner. Through Claudia’s efforts, her impact continued through organizations such as the Harley Business Group, where she championed equitable opportunities for small, local, and women-owned businesses. She cultivated partnerships and strengthened economic mobility, always working to ensure institutions and community members move toward equity and shared prosperity.

Claudia’s commitment to social action and public service was demonstrated time and again in her active membership and leadership roles in numerous organizations, including as a long time, active member of the D.C. Affairs Community of the D.C. Bar. She served a term as co-chair of the D.C. Affairs Community with Esther Bushman and for many years helped D.C. Affairs to plan and produce significant programming and public statements.

She was a proud Member of the District of Columbia Bar, Maryland Bar, and American Bar Association. Additionally, she served on the Academic Advisory Council at Potomac College, the Dean’s Diversity Council at Washington College of Law, and the Boards of Directors for the YMCA of the National Capital Area, Gateway Georgia Avenue Revitalization Corp, and D.C. Vote. She was a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Incorporated, The Girl Friends Incorporated, and The Links Incorporated. The Public Service Leadership Training Academy of the Federal City Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, formally named “The McKoin Academy,” is a tribute to her legacy and impact.

In addition to her professional and civic achievements, Claudia enjoyed skiing, tennis, and golf. She loved to travel too.

Claudia is survived by her sisters, Charlene McKoin, Moneva McKoin, and Pamela McKoin; her brother-in-law, Laurence Morse; and her nephew and niece, Stephan Morse and Kristina Morse.

In remembering Claudia, we celebrate a life filled with purpose, love, and an enduring commitment to making the world a better place. She will be missed by all those who knew her, but her spirit will forever remain in the hearts of those she touched.

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The members of the Steering Committee of the D.C. Affairs Community of the D.C. Bar Communities unanimously approved this statement on June 18, 2026.

The Antitrust and Consumer Law Community and the Law Practice Management Community of the D.C. Bar Communities have joined in this statement.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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