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LDF's Policy Department Strengthens Leadership Position in Washington

Lisa Cylar Barrett and Monique Dixon Take on New Roles

The NAACP Legal Defense Fund (LDF) is pleased to announce upcoming changes to our Policy Department.

“We are thrilled to share the news that [Lisa Cylar Barrett](#) will be taking on the position of LDF’s Director of Policy,” said [Sherrilyn Ifill](#), President and Director-Counsel of LDF. “After spending many years as a civil rights litigator and policy advocate, [Todd A. Cox](#) is joining the Wellspring Philanthropic Fund, where he will direct a civil society program dedicated to ensuring the full and equitable participation of the most vulnerable in the country’s democratic process. We salute Todd for his deep loyalty to our organization and for his brilliant and effective leadership in staking out clear and unequivocal positions on many critical issues during a particularly difficult time in this country. We are fortunate that Lisa has shown herself to be fully prepared to take on the challenging role of leading our policy department at this critical juncture.”

Ms. Cylar Barrett joined LDF in November as a Senior Policy Counsel where she has played a leadership role in our federal efforts on voting, judicial nominations, and economic justice. She has been an excellent strategic thinker and partner, working closely with LDF’s Director-Counsel and Associate Director-Counsel. Before joining LDF, Lisa was the Managing Director of Federal Policy for PolicyLink where she oversaw the development and execution of strategies to advance racial and economic equity.

“[Monique L. Dixon](#), who has been with LDF since 2014, will remain as Deputy Director of Policy, and will also assume the new position of Director of State Advocacy for LDF,” continued Ifill. “Monique’s additional focus and expertise will allow LDF to deepen our state and local work, as we move towards the development of our new southern office in 2020.”

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Founded in 1940, the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. (LDF) is the nation's first civil and human rights law organization and has been completely separate from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) since 1957—although LDF was originally founded by the NAACP and shares its commitment to equal rights. LDF's Thurgood Marshall Institute is a multi-disciplinary and collaborative hub within LDF that launches targeted campaigns and undertakes innovative research to shape the civil rights narrative. In media attributions, please refer to us as the NAACP Legal Defense Fund or LDF.

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