

Pennsylvania
Legal Aid Network, Inc.

2021 Martin Luther King, Jr. Summer Internship Program Recognition Reception



**“Injustice anywhere is a threat
to justice everywhere.”**

-Letter from Birmingham Jail, April 16,

Wednesday, July 28, 2021

6:00 - 7:15 pm

Livestream the reception:
bit.ly/PLAN2021MLKJrProgram

*The Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network expresses its thanks to the
Pennsylvania Interest on Lawyer Trust Accounts Board and the
Pennsylvania Department of Human Services for its continuous funding of the
Martin Luther King, Jr. Internship and Fellowship programs.*

PROGRAM AGENDA

- Welcoming Remarks** The Hon. Kim Berkeley Clark
President Judge, Fifth Judicial District of PA
President, PLAN, Inc. Board of Directors
- Featured Speakers** The Hon. Joanna McClinton
Pennsylvania House Democrat Leader
191st Legislative District
- Recognition Ceremony** Arlene Marshall-Hockensmith, Esq.
Administrative Officer
PLAN, Inc.
- Special Remarks** Gabrielle R. Francis
2021 MLK Summer Intern
Justice at Work
- Themes & Observations** Patrick M. Cicero, Esq.
Executive Director
PLAN, Inc.
- Closing Remarks** Arlene Marshall-Hockensmith, Esq.
Administrative Officer
PLAN, Inc.

2021 Internship Program Trainers

DeJonna Bates, Esq. Community Justice Project	Jane Nylund, Esq. Philadelphia Legal Assistance
Shalisa Brunson, Esq. Philadelphia Legal Assistance	Ria Pereira, Esq. Pennsylvania Utility Law Project
Jillian Copeland, Esq. MidPenn Legal Services	Rachel Pinsker, Esq. Claudia McCarthy Legal Center
Queenette Echefu, Esq. North Penn Legal Services	Matthew Rich, Esq. MidPenn Legal Services
Nick Matash, Esq. MidPenn Legal Services	Rochelle Jackson PLAN, Inc. Board
Rochelle McCain, Esq. University of Pittsburgh School of Law	Julia Simon-Mishel, Esq. Philadelphia Legal Assistance
William McLaughlin North Penn Legal Services	Kyle Watson, Esq. Southwestern Pennsylvania Legal Aid

About Our Speaker

The Honorable Joanna McClinton took the oath of office to serve the people of the 191st Legislative District on Aug. 25, 2015, after winning a special election. In November 2018, she became the first African American and woman to be elected as the House Democratic Caucus chair, for the 2019-20 legislative session. In November 2020, Rep. McClinton was elected to be the House Democratic Leader for the 2021-22 Legislative Session, making her the only Black woman to ever hold a party leadership position in Harrisburg.

The election to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives continues Rep. McClinton's lifelong devotion to bettering the lives of others. A lifelong resident of southwest Philadelphia and graduate of Grace Temple Christian Academy, she became active in the community while completing a two-year internship with the radio station WDAS. Later, she studied Political Science and Leadership in Global Understanding at La Salle University, where she was a Dean's List student, student leader, and neighborhood tutor.

Immediately after graduating from LaSalle, she enrolled at Villanova University School of Law, where she used her legal training to serve the public. She interned at **Regional Housing Legal Services**, the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office, and the Defender Association of Philadelphia.

She was an assistant public defender for seven years. She became the assistant chief of the East Zone during her last year at the public defender's office, and helped attorneys with case preparation.

In 2013, Rep. McClinton combined her passion for the community and love of the law by becoming chief counsel to state Sen. Anthony Hardy Williams. She worked behind the scenes in the senator's Harrisburg and Philadelphia offices, developing policy and legislation. She also organized expungement fairs and public policy forums, and helped constituents with problems.

Rep. McClinton is active in the community. She was a youth leader at her West Philadelphia home church, Open Door Mission, for more than 10 years. As a youth ministry leader, she organized positive programs for children, mentoring and reminding them that their dreams can come true. She is a volunteer with Outreach to Youth and Hands of Compassion American Sign Language Ministry. She was an elected Board Member of the La Salle University Alumni Association Board of Directors, where she helped initiate the Minority Alumni Advisory Group. She served as the secretary of the Philadelphia Barrister's Association, the city's bar association of African American attorneys, and as president of the La Salle University African American Alumni Association. Rep. McClinton has been acknowledged for her commitment to public service and enhancing the quality of life for residents in Philadelphia and Delaware Counties by receiving several awards. They include: City and State PA's 40 Under 40; the Barristers' Association of Philadelphia's Outstanding Young Lawyer of the Year award; Successful Women Achieving Goals' Women of the Year Award; Fun Time Magazine's Women of Influence Award; the PRE-K for PA Champion award; the Spirit of a Dove Community Servant Award; the Lucien E. Blackwell Guiding Light Community Award; and the Black Gala Women of Excellence Award.

2021 Martin Luther King, Jr. Summer Interns



Top Row, Left to Right:

Nicole Bennett

Penn State Law
Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania

Sharai V. Bryan

Penn State Law
Pennsylvania Health Law Project

Malisa Dang

Penn State Dickinson Law
Pennsylvania Utility Law Project

Gabrielle R. Francis

Widener Commonwealth Law School
Justice at Work

Kayla E. Gonzalez

Widener Commonwealth Law School
Northwestern Legal Services

Bottom Row, Left to Right:

Brittany L. Griffin

Widener Commonwealth Law School
Regional Housing Legal Services

Madelyn R. Snyder

Penn State Dickinson Law
Community Justice Project

Gabrielle D. Tock

Penn State Law
MidPenn Legal Services

Cooper F. Townsend

Villanova University
Charles Widger School of Law
North Penn Legal Services

Octavia J. Williams

University of Pittsburgh School of Law
Southwestern Pennsylvania Legal Aid