



## HAWDC e-HEADLINES

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### Hotel Association of Washington, DC Awards \$30,000 in Scholarships to District High School Students:



On Friday June 10<sup>th</sup>, the Hotel Association of Washington, DC (HAWDC) awarded \$30,000 in scholarships to graduating seniors at Bell Multicultural High School at the Columbia Heights Education Campus (CHEC). The scholarships were granted to seven students enrolled in CHEC's NAF Hospitality and Tourism Academy.

The HAWDC Chairman's Award for Leadership was established earlier this year by the Hotel Association of Washington, DC to recognize the outstanding achievements of students enrolled in DC NAF Hospitality and Tourism Academies. The scholarships are awarded to students based on academic performance, interest in the field of hospitality, student leadership, and involvement in extracurricular activities. HAWDC also awarded a \$3,000 scholarship to a college bound Carlos Rosario International Public Charter School student.

" We applaud the commitment to academic excellence demonstrated by these phenomenal students. We work diligently to expose young District residents to the exciting fields of study and career opportunities in the hospitality industry. Awarding these



scholarships is just one of the several ways we demonstrate our commitment to their future academic and career success," says Solomon Keene, HAWDC's President and CEO.

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*\*Pictured Above: (Top Picture) Solomon Keene, President & CEO, HAWDC with Columbia Heights Education Campus HAWDC Scholarship Recipients. (Bottom Picture) Hector Torres, Vice President & General Manger, Capital Hotels & Suites; Jay Haddock, President, Capital Hotels & Suites; Joel Guevara, HAWDC Scholarship Recipient; and Allison Kokkoros, Executive Director/CEO, Carlos Rosario International Public Charter School.*

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## **HAWDC Hosts Lunch with District Taxicab Commission Chairman:**



On Friday, June 24th, HAWDC had the pleasure to host a lunch and Q&A Session with the Chairman of the District of Columbia's Taxicab Commission, Ernest Chrappah. HAWDC Members had the opportunity to hear Chairman Chrappah discuss the

Commission's re-branding efforts (beginning this week, the Commission will now be called the Department of For-Hire Vehicles), as well as the Commission's efforts to continuously modernize and improve taxicab service to better serve travelers to our city. HAWDC Members also had the opportunity to view and test the DC TAXI app -- a convenient way to hail a taxi with a tap from a Smartphone. HAWDC thanks Chairman Chrappah for his time and coming to speak with our Members!

*\*Pictured Above: Ernest Chrappah, Chairman, District of Columbia Taxicab Commission, and Solomon Keene, President & CEO, HAWDC.*

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## **District Increases Minimum Wage to \$15 an Hour:**

As you are aware, in April, Mayor Bowser introduced the "Fair Shot Minimum Wage Amendment Act of 2016" to the District of Columbia Council to increase the city's minimum wage. On Tuesday, June 21st, the District Council held its final vote on the legislation and Councilmembers voted unanimously to increase the District's minimum wage to \$15 an hour by the year 2020. The legislation also increases the tipped minimum wage to \$5 an hour by 2020. Both the \$15 and \$5 will be indexed to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) after 2020.

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