



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

“Serving the Foggy Bottom and West End communities of Washington, D.C.”

February 25, 2026

Brooke Pinto, Ward 2 Council Member of the District of Columbia
Chairperson-Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Suite 106
Washington, DC 20004

RE: Office of Attorney General (OAG) Performance Oversight Resolution 2026

At its regular meeting on Wednesday, February 25, 2026, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A (“ANC 2A” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With four of six commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission, after a motion made by Chairperson Patel and seconded by Commissioner Dicapo, adopted the following resolution by (4-0-0):

WHEREAS, the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia ("OAG") is charged with protecting the legal interests of the District while independently enforcing laws that protect workers, consumers, tenants, and the public interest; and

WHEREAS, many residents and workers within ANC 2A, particularly in the hospitality and service sectors, rely on OAG’s Consumer Protection and Wage Theft Divisions to address wage theft, misclassification, deceptive practices, and other violations; and

WHEREAS, wage theft and lack of wage transparency continue to cause significant harm to workers and consumers within the District; and

WHEREAS, Council legislation commonly referred to as the *Dram Shop Plus* legislation was advanced with the stated purpose of addressing compliance concerns related to Initiative 82; and

WHEREAS, workers, advocates, and the Fair Price Fair Wage Coalition warned that authorizing service fees would reduce take-home pay for tipped workers and mislead consumers; and

WHEREAS, despite the repeal of Initiative 82, restaurants and hospitality businesses continue to impose service fees, demonstrating that such fees were not required for compliance and instead function to obscure labor costs and suppress wages; and

WHEREAS, the continued use of service fees has:



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- enabled or concealed wage theft;
- undermined consumer protections under the Consumer Protection Procedures Act (CPPA); and
- complicated enforcement by OAG by forcing reliance on guidance rather than clear statutory prohibitions; and

WHEREAS, OAG’s Consumer Protection and Wage Theft Divisions continue to receive complaints related to service fees, misrepresentation, and unpaid wages, validating concerns raised by workers and advocates; and

WHEREAS, voters approved wage increases for tipped workers, and proposals to freeze or delay those increases undermine the expressed will of the electorate and place additional enforcement burdens on OAG; and

WHEREAS, during Fiscal Year (FY) 2026, OAG demonstrated its independence and commitment to the rule of law by pursuing enforcement actions against powerful private actors and governmental entities alike, including litigation challenging unlawful actions related to the deployment and presence of the National Guard; and

WHEREAS, while OAG has taken significant enforcement actions and issued guidance to protect workers and consumers, the Commission recognizes that enforcement alone cannot substitute for clear, worker-centered and consumer-centered legislation;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT ANC 2A:

1. **Commends the Office of the Attorney General for its work during FY 2026**, particularly the efforts of the Consumer Protection and Wage Theft Divisions to recover wages, address deceptive practices, and protect vulnerable workers;
2. **Affirms strong support for OAG’s independence and enforcement authority**, including its willingness to bring actions against both private employers and governmental entities when the law is violated;
3. **Encourages continued enforcement related to deceptive service fees**, wage theft, and misrepresentation in the hospitality and service industries;
4. **Calls on the DC Council to enact clear statutory prohibitions on deceptive service fees** and to ensure that automatic gratuities belong entirely to workers, thereby reducing reliance on enforcement guidance;
5. **Requests that OAG continue to engage with ANCs and community stakeholders**, including ANC 2A, to share enforcement trends, guidance, and areas where legislative clarification is needed.



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RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FY27 PERFORMANCE OVERSIGHT

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that ANC 2A respectfully recommends that the Office of the Attorney General, in Fiscal Year 2027:

A. **Provide enhanced public reporting** on wage theft and consumer protection enforcement, including data on complaints, investigations, settlements, judgments, and repeat offenders, disaggregated where possible by industry;

B. **Continue proactive enforcement and inter-agency coordination** related to deceptive service fees and wage transparency in the hospitality and service sectors, including collaboration with DOES and DCRA as appropriate; and

C. **Identify and transmit to the DC Council legislative gaps or ambiguities** that impede effective enforcement of wage, gratuity, and consumer protection laws, particularly those related to service fees and automatic gratuities.

Commissioner Trupti Patel (2A03@anc.dc.gov) is the Commission’s representative in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

Chairperson Trupti J Patel (she/her)
Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A
Historic Foggy Bottom
Single Member District 2A03

CC:

Brian Schwalb, Attorney General, District of Columbia



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Graham Lake, Section Chief, Workers Right Division

Aaron Jenkins, Director of Community Engagement

Phil Mendelson, Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia

Doni Crawford, At-Large Councilmember of the District of Columbia

Anita Bonds, At-Large Councilmember of the District of Columbia

Charles Allen, Ward 6 Councilmember of the District of Columbia

Wendell Felder, Ward 7 Councilmember of the District of Columbia

Jimika Williams, Ward 2 Liaison, Mayor's Office of Community Relations