

Statement of Castell Abner
Candidate for Steering Committee
Litigation Community

As an attorney with a diverse background, I have not had a “traditional” career path. I have had the opportunity to practice in several settings—in private practice, government, and clerking for the D.C. Judiciary. It is the early lessons learned throughout my non-traditional path that help me relate to just about anyone in our Bar and Litigation section, regardless of their personal background or current title. I believe that as litigators we possess unique advocacy and critical thinking skills that enable us to make a huge impact on the lives of our clients and our communities—we simply need to channel our skills for good. Throughout my career, that is exactly what I have aimed to do. Last year I was selected by the D.C. Courts as the recipient of the Charles Hamilton Houston Legal Award, and also had the good fortune of being selected as a 2024 John Payton Leadership Academy Fellow. Recognizing the rapidly changing legal climate and the importance that litigation plays in the same, I now want to dedicate my energy and experience to assisting the D.C. Bar to meet the challenges ahead. I believe it will take a collaborative effort between litigators from every sector to ensure that D.C. remains the premier venue for litigants seeking justice.