



**Antoinette Barksdale**  
Washington, DC

*General Counsel*  
**United States Department of Justice**

Currently, Antoinette serves as the General Counsel at the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) in the Community Relations Service (CRS), and an Adjunct Professor at Howard University in Washington, D.C. where she teaches Technical Writing Pre-law. Antoinette has successfully handled complex civil rights cases for the DOJ for more than 18 years and for over 25 years for the federal government. As

General Counsel, she is responsible for all aspects of legal and high-level programmatic matters at CRS.

Prior to becoming General Counsel at CRS, she was a senior trial attorney at DOJ in the Civil Rights Division's (CRT) Employment Litigation Section (ELS). In addition, she was the Senior Advisor to the General Counsel at the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC); an Attorney Advisor in the White House Counsel's office under President Bill Clinton; and a Trial Attorney with the Department of Housing and Urban (HUD). Antoinette is an extraordinary advocate and litigator.

Antoinette currently serves on the Board of the Women Lawyers' Division of the National Bar Association (NBA); Community Service Chair, Nation's Capital Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc.; and Board Member of the Washington Bar Association Educational Foundation. Additionally, Antoinette served as the Chair of the Scholarship Committee for more than six years for the Washington Bar Association. She also served as the Chair of Awards and Scholarship for the NBA and the Women Lawyers' Division. She has received numerous awards, including Outstanding Woman Lawyer in Public Service; Chair's Award for Outstanding Service to the Women Lawyers' Division; and the President's Award for Exemplary Service to the NBA. Antoinette has served on numerous boards for the District of Columbia. She was appointed by former Mayor Marion Barry to the Board of Appeals and Review for two terms and was later appointed by former Mayor Adrian Fenty as a Commissioner on the Small and Local Business Development Commission.

Antoinette is a graduate of the University of Arkansas School of Law, Howard University, and Indiana University in Pennsylvania. She is a long-time resident of the District of Columbia and has been intimately involved in public and community service in the District for more than 25 years. She brings both exceptional legal skills coupled with a strong dedication and passion to civic engagement and public service to the residents of the District of Columbia. She resides in Ward One and is the proud mother of Blaire Elizabeth (a Girl Scout) and wife to Kleber.

Antoinette is the Second Vice President of Girl Scouts Nation's Capital Board of Directors and a member of the DEI Ad Hoc Task Force. She served as a National Delegate for the 2020 National Council Session of GSUSA and has held other volunteer roles such as member and Chair of the Nominating Committee, member of the Gold Award Panel. She is an active Girl Scout volunteer at Peoples Congregational Church, mother of a Girl Scout, and a Lifetime Member.