



October 25, 2011

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PRESS ADVISORY

'THE THREE DOCTORS' TO SPEAK AT FAMILY COURT CONFERENCE

The authors of *We Beat the Street*, *The Bond*, and [*The Pact*](#), tell the story of their journey from the streets of Newark to the practice of medicine and reconnecting with their fathers

WHAT: DC Family Court's Annual Interdisciplinary Conference – Theme: Empowering Fathers

WHERE: Walter E. Washington Convention Center
801 Mount Vernon Place NW

WHEN: **Friday, October 28, 2011 - 9:00am-4:30pm**

WHO: **Chief Judge Lee F. Satterfield, D.C. Superior Court**
Honorable Zoe Bush, Presiding Judge, Family Court
Honorable Hiram Puig-Lugo, Deputy Presiding Judge, Family Court
Honorable Carol A. Dalton, Co-Chair, Family Court Planning Committee
Honorable Milton Lee, Co-Chair, Family Court Planning Committee
Derek McGinty, News Anchor at WUSA 9

The theme of the 2011 Family Court Interdisciplinary Conference is "Empowering Fathers: One Size Does Not Fit All." Conference panels will explore the effects of growing up fatherless, as well what it means to be a father. (Agenda, attached below).

Dr. Sampson Davis, Dr. Rameck Hunt and Dr. George Jenkins will tell the story of their friendship and commitment which took them from the streets of Newark to college and medical school, and then to international fame. The Three Doctors grew up with few role models, surrounded by negative influences. They recognized in each other the desire and ability to "beat the street," and so, they made a pact: They would stick together, go to and graduate from college, and become doctors. The Three Doctors will speak and participate in a discussion about their roles and how their lives changed as they came to terms with their own difficult relationships with their fathers. The doctors' talk will be followed by a panel discussion with fathers with varying experiences, which will be moderated by local news anchor Derrick McGinty.

PRESS: Contact [Leah Gurowitz](#) or [Tom Feeney](#) if you would like to attend. 202/879-1700

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The Family Court of the District of Columbia Superior Court Interdisciplinary Conference

Empowering Fathers: One Size Does Not Fit All

D.C. Convention Center

October 28, 2011

Draft Agenda

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Registration and Continental Breakfast	Room: 146 A/B
9:00 a.m. – 9:10 a.m.	Welcome	Room: 146 A/B
	Honorable Lee Satterfield , Chief Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia	
9:10 a.m. – 9:20 a.m.	Honorable Zoe Bush , Presiding Judge, Family Court, Superior Court of the District of Columbia	
9:20 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Conference Overview & Introduction of Doctors	
	Honorable Hiram Puig-Lugo , Deputy Presiding Judge, Family Court, Superior Court of the District of Columbia	
9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	Plenary Panel: The Three Doctors - Sampson Davis, George Jenkins and Rameck Hunt.	Room: 146 A/B
	<i>The doctors will discuss the effects of growing up fatherless in the inner-city, an understanding of their fathers' absences, the roles of their mothers in their lives and how they went about building relationships with their fathers in adulthood.</i>	
10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	<i>Networking with the Doctors, Meeting with Service Providers & Break</i>	Room: 146 C
10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	Break	
10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Introduction of Panel & Moderator, Honorable Milton Lee , Superior Court of the District of Columbia	Room: 146 A/B
	Moderator – Derek McGinty , News Anchor for 9NEWS NOW on WUSA 9	
11:00 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.	Plenary Panel: Diverse Perspectives on What it Means to be a Father	
	Overview: <i>What does it mean to be a father? Who is a father? What is fatherhood? These questions will be answered by a panel of males who will share the triumphs and struggles of fulfilling the role of "father" in their day to day life experiences. The perspectives offered by the panel will: (1) shed light on culturally-defined beliefs and practices about "fathering," and (2) examine the implications for necessary change in policy and practice in</i>	

order to be more responsive to the unique needs of fathers within Family Court and across service systems in the District of Columbia.

Tawara Goode, Assistant Professor, Georgetown University

Ms. Goode will offer some reflections about the implications for change at both the individual and systems level based on stories shared by the panel.

12:45 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Lunch & Facilitated Dialogue

Room: 146 A/B

Dave Rosenthal, Senior Counsel Public Safety Division, Office of the Attorney General

Mr. Rosenthal will engage the audience in a lively dialogue about their reactions to the panel and the implications for change in Family Court and across service systems.

1:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Plenary Panel: Developing Effective Systems of Care and Approaches to Engage Fathers Positively in the Lives of their Children

Room: 146 A/B

Honorable Lori Parker, Superior Court of the District of Columbia and **Professor Laurie Kohn**, George Washington University Law School

Overview - This panel will address: training service providers on effective system-wide practices to engage fathers in services; building capacity and developing an effective system of care through key partnerships and interagency collaborations; early reintegration efforts by District agencies and community partners to connect persons with criminal histories with services and supports; and services to assist non-custodial fathers address potential barriers to fulfilling their support obligation. Building effective partnerships and strategies to support a father's successful involvement in family life includes collaboration and coordination around issues of mental health, substance abuse, physical health, education, parenting and co-parenting, employment, and visitation.

Panelists:

Dr. Jeffrey Johnson, National Partnership for Community Leadership (NPCL);
Ron Scott, Program Manager, Superior Court of the District of Columbia Fathering Court
Cedric Hendricks, Deputy Director, Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency;
Angelisa Young, Office of the Attorney General, Child Support Services Division, Policy Outreach & Training Section; and
James Worthy, Director, Baltimore Responsible Father Initiative Project

3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Break

3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Concurrent Workshops

Rooms: