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**DC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNOUNCES 2021 OFFICERS AND ROSTER OF  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



*Dr. Carolyn Rudd, Founder and President and CEO of CRP, Inc.,  
Inaugurated as Board Chair*

**WASHINGTON, DC (December 10, 2020)** – The DC Chamber of Commerce today announced its 2021 officers and roster of board of directors during its 2020 Annual Meeting and Chairman’s Inaugural Breakfast, which took place virtually this morning.

The new board will commence their respective roles, starting January 1, 2021. The 2021 DC Chamber of Commerce Board officers include:

- Dr. Carolyn Rudd, CRP Inc. Chair
- Andrew Surine, M&T Bank, Chair Elect
- Tonya Vidal Kinlow, Children’s National Hospital, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair
- Earle C. Horton, Tiber Hudson, 2nd Vice Chair
- Heather Ness, Robert Bobb Group, Secretary
- Winell Belfonte, CohnReznick, Treasurer

“We are honored to have a line up of board officers and members that include leaders from our business and nonprofit industries who are passionate about the policy, advocacy and the business support the Chamber provides for its members,” said Angela Franco, Interim CEO of the DC Chamber of Commerce. “We appreciate the service of immediate past chair Ajay Madan, especially his visionary leadership and focus on the Chamber’s growth and resilience. We

welcome Dr. Carolyn Rudd, a distinguished leader in the DC community, who will bring her vast knowledge in small business development, workforce development, research, policy assessment and more to the work that the Chamber does on behalf of its members.”

Dr. Rudd is founder, president, and CEO of CRP, Incorporated (CRP), a Washington, DC-based, multi-faceted professional services and management consulting firm established in 1988. Under the stewardship of Dr. Rudd, CRP has evolved into one of the leading small businesses in the Washington, DC metropolitan area, providing solutions in research, policy assessment and analysis, and program management and support services to federal agencies, the District of Columbia government, colleges and universities, and nonprofit organizations. CRP was recognized by the District of Columbia Chamber of Commerce as its “2017 Small Business of the Year” for its leadership in federal contracting in the District. In 2018, CRP was named one of the top 100 minority businesses in the DC metropolitan area.

Dr. Rudd has demonstrated an unswerving commitment to providing employment opportunities for graduates of the University of the District of Columbia. She has led CRP’s efforts as a charitable partner in the DC community by making philanthropic contributions to countless healthcare, nonprofit and empowerment organizations. Dr. Rudd has served as chair of the DC Commission for Women (appointed by Mayor Muriel Bowser) as well as on the boards of Family Matters of Greater Washington, the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice, and Leadership Greater Washington. She is a life member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated. Dr. Rudd is married and lives in Upper Northwest DC.

“It is my pleasure to accept the challenge of becoming the 2021 DC Chamber of Commerce board chair,” said Dr. Rudd. “The board, Chamber leaders and I have much to accomplish in the coming year. With the lens of equity, inclusiveness and empowerment, I am hopeful that the collective thought leadership and resources of our board and collaboration with local government would amount to a strategic direction that will elevate support for small businesses, workforce development, economic growth and sustainability. Our plan needs to be innovative as we strive to reduce small business and economic losses during and past the pandemic.”

### **About the DC Chamber of Commerce**

The DC Chamber of Commerce is the largest Chamber in the Washington DC region. As an advocate for the DC business community for 81 years, the DC Chamber of Commerce is the voice for businesses in the District of Columbia, proudly serving a diverse membership of more than 1,400 members. For more information, visit <https://www.dcchamber.org>, or follow the Chamber at <https://twitter.com/dcchamber> and on <https://www.facebook.com/DCCofCommerce>.