

**Council of the District of Columbia**  
**COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004

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**COUNCILMEMBER CHARLES ALLEN, CHAIRPERSON**  
**COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY**

**ANNOUNCES A PUBLIC HEARING ON**

**B24-0093, THE “UNIFORM FAMILY LAW ARBITRATION ACT OF 2021”**

**B24-0121, THE “UNIFORM POWER OF ATTORNEY AMENDMENT ACT OF 2021”**

**AND**

**B24-0156, THE “UNIFORM PARTITION OF HEIRS PROPERTY ACT OF 2021”**

**Thursday, May 13, 2021, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**Virtual Hearing via Zoom**

**To Watch Live:**

<https://dccouncil.us/council-videos/>

<http://video.oct.dc.gov/DCC/jw.html>

<https://www.facebook.com/CMcharlesallen/>

On Thursday, May 13, 2021, Councilmember Charles Allen, Chairperson of the Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety, will convene a public hearing to consider Bill 24-0093, the “Uniform Family Law Arbitration Act of 2021”, Bill 24-0121, the “Uniform Power of Attorney Act of 2021”, and Bill 24-0156, the “Uniform Partition of Heirs Property Act of 2021”. The hearing will be conducted virtually via Zoom from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The stated purpose of B24-0093, the “Uniform Family Law Arbitration Act of 2021”, is to enact the Uniform Family Law Arbitration Act to establish a comprehensive framework for the arbitration of family law matters.

The stated purpose of B24-0121, the “Uniform Power of Attorney Amendment Act of 2021”, is to enact the Uniform Power of Attorney Act, to provide clear statutory guidance to individuals creating powers of attorney and to agents acting under powers of attorney, to clarify the fiduciary duties of agents to their principals, to protect individuals creating powers of attorney against fraud or other abuse by agents, to protect third parties who deal with agents exercising powers of

attorney, and to provide a statutory form power of attorney that is easy to use, comprehensive, and legally effective.

The stated purpose of B24-0156, the “Uniform Partition of Heirs Property Act of 2021”, is to enact the Uniform Partition of Heirs Property Act, to require in the event a cotenant requests a partition, that the cotenant give notice to other cotenants, that the property’s fair market value be determined by a court-ordered appraisal, that the other cotenants be given a right of first refusal, that if no other cotenant elects to purchase, the court order a partition-in-kind, unless the court determines that partition-in-kind will result in great prejudice to the cotenants as a group, and if the court determines that a partition-in-kind is inappropriate and orders a partition-by-sale, that the property must be offered for sale on the open market at a price no lower than the court-determined value for a reasonable period of time and in a commercially reasonable manner.

The Committee invites the public to provide oral and written testimony. Public witnesses seeking to provide oral testimony at the Committee’s hearing must thoroughly review the following instructions:

- Anyone wishing to provide oral testimony must email the Committee at [judiciary@dccouncil.us](mailto:judiciary@dccouncil.us) with their name, telephone number, and organizational affiliation and title (if any), by the **close of business on Friday, May 7, 2021.**
- The Committee will approve witnesses’ registrations based on the total time allotted for public testimony. The Committee will also determine the order of witnesses’ testimony.
- Representatives of organizations will be allowed a maximum of five minutes for oral testimony, and individuals (and any subsequent representatives of the same organizations) will be allowed a maximum of three minutes.
- Witnesses are not permitted to yield their time to, or substitute their testimony for, the testimony of another individual or organization.
- If possible, witnesses should submit a copy of their testimony electronically in advance to [judiciary@dccouncil.us](mailto:judiciary@dccouncil.us).
- Witnesses who anticipate needing language interpretation are requested to inform the Committee as soon as possible, but no later than five business days before the hearing. The Committee will make every effort to fulfill timely requests; however, requests received fewer than five business days before the hearing may not be fulfilled.

For witnesses who are unable to testify at the hearing, written statements will be made part of the official record. Copies of written statements should be emailed to the Committee at [judiciary@dccouncil.us](mailto:judiciary@dccouncil.us) **no later than the close of business on Friday, May 21, 2021.**