



COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

THE JOHN A. WILSON BUILDING
1350 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004

KENYAN R. McDUFFIE
Councilmember, At Large
Chair Pro Tempore
Chair, Committee on Business and
Economic Development

Committee Member
Executive Administration and Labor
Housing
Recreation and Youth Affairs

January 2, 2024

Salah Czapary, Director
Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W., Suite 316
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Mr. Czapary:

The Committee on Business and Economic Development ("Committee") will hold performance oversight hearings on agencies under its purview in the first quarter of 2024. When the Council's final schedule for performance oversight hearings is announced, I will let you know the date, time, and location for the hearing for the Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture ("MONC" or "Office").

In preparation for the hearing, the Committee is sending the attached pre-hearing questions for your response. Please submit your responses no later than **5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 24, 2024**, in Word or Excel format, as applicable, and *minimize the use of attachments*. Note that the Committee will make agency responses publicly available. If there are answers or documents that should be redacted, please provide an unredacted copy for the Committee and a redacted copy for public review.

Please contact Daniel Sagrera, Policy Advisor, at dsagrera@dccouncil.gov, with any questions.

Sincerely,

Kenyan R. McDuffie

Racial Equity

1. In the context of the Office (including the Commission on Nightlife and Culture) and its mission, what are three areas, programs, or initiatives where you see the most opportunity to address racial inequity?
 - a. Based on the Office's responses to last year's performance oversight pre-hearing questions, please also provide an update on how the Office has helped improve: (1) business ownership opportunities for minorities in the nightlife economy; (2) job training for fiscal years 2023 and 2024, to date; and (3) access to information.

MONC is at the forefront of promoting racial equity by expanding access to grant opportunities facilitated by sister agencies like DMPED and DSLBD, in addition to collaborating with key organizations such as the Equality Chamber of Commerce (ECC). A standout accomplishment is MONC's successful amplification of ECC grants, resulting in 38 applications from Washington, D.C. restaurants. This represents an increase for ECC applications in the city, with the noteworthy inclusion of applicants from Wards 7 and 8, located east of the Anacostia River.

Moreover, MONC has actively collaborated with Humanities DC to enhance the visibility of their grant offerings, resulting in doubling of grant applications after MONC's efforts. In acknowledgment of this impact, Humanities DC's leadership expressed gratitude, stating, "Our number of applications doubled from last year, and I think you all were part of helping make that happen."

Additionally, MONC has forged partnerships with the DCNC and various venues to deliver certified Sexual Harassment Prevention training. Recognizing the financial strain this mandatory training can pose for small venues. Providing the training free of charge this not only eases the financial burden on small businesses but also contributes to fostering a safer and more secure working environment.

In undertaking these diverse initiatives, MONC assumes a pivotal role in cultivating inclusivity, accessibility, and sustainable growth within the local business landscape. The organization's commitment to addressing critical issues, supporting community partners, and championing equitable practices demonstrates its dedication to creating a thriving and diverse business environment in the nation's capital.

2. Do you think there are any areas/programs where the Office has had success in building racial equity over the past year? What areas or programs?

In the fiscal year 2023, the Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture (MONC) effectively engaged in outreach initiatives targeting nightlife businesses throughout the District. The focus of this outreach was to apprise businesses of grant and relief opportunities made

accessible by the D.C. Government. MONC carried out outreach efforts, shedding light on crucial grant and relief programs provided through ObviouslyDC.com.

3. Consider the demographic data the Office collects, tracks, and evaluates as part of its operations. Do you collect information on race and geographic area? If not, why not?

The Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture does not currently collect demographic data at this level.

4. Consider one operational data point and one performance data point where you collect race information or could collect race information. How could the Office use this data to inform future programmatic decisions?
 - a. Also discuss how the Office has utilized data from government agencies that report data on race and geographic area to improve its operations and interactions with businesses in the nightlife economy.

Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture does not currently collect race information

5. What are two areas or programs where the Office has significant potential to succeed in building racial equity? Please elaborate on why you chose those two areas.

Firstly, the initiative to ensure operators are aware of grant opportunities fosters economic inclusivity. By proactively informing operators, particularly those from marginalized communities, about available grants, it levels the playing field and provides them with essential resources for growth. This approach directly contributes to reducing economic disparities and promoting equitable access to financial support.

Secondly, the provision of sexual harassment training at no-cost is a crucial step in creating a safer and fairer working environment. Small businesses, often owned by people of color, face financial challenges in meeting legal requirements for such training. By offering it free of charge, the program actively alleviates the financial burden on these businesses. This not only ensures compliance with the law but also promotes a workplace culture that prioritizes the well-being of all employees, fostering an environment of equality and respect.

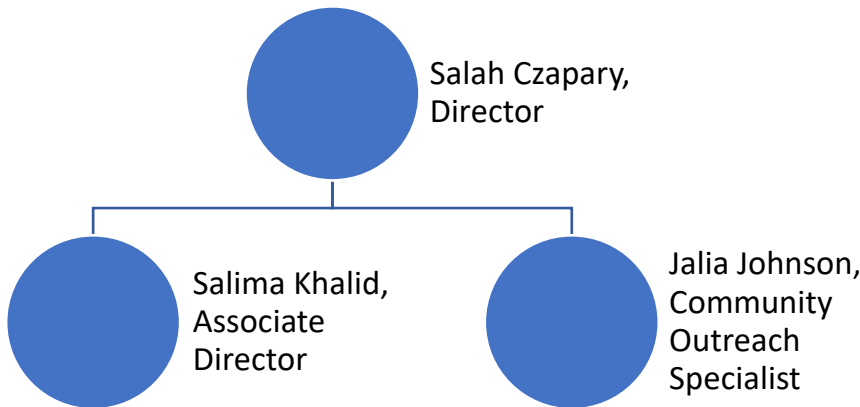
6. Consider what a racially equitable District of Columbia would look like. What are three ways the Office's operations would reflect this achievement?

Mayor Bowser is dedicated to fostering a racially equitable District of Columbia, ensuring that all residents across the 8 wards have access to live, work, and fully experience the city. In alignment with this commitment, MONC remains steadfast in its efforts to connect with women and people of color-owned businesses, apprising them of the diverse grant and relief opportunities facilitated by the D.C. Government.

Furthermore, MONC is actively pursuing the establishment of private-public partnerships (such as the DoorDash public safety partnership).

General Questions

- 7. Please provide a current organizational chart for the Office, as of January 1 2024, including the number of vacant, frozen, and filled positions in each division or subdivision. Include the names and titles of all senior personnel and note the date that the information was collected on the chart.
 - a. Please provide an explanation of the roles and responsibilities of each division and subdivision.
 - b. Please provide an explanation of any changes to the organizational chart made during the previous year.



i. Management

- 1. Provide oversight of all fiscal and programmatic matters.
- 2. Responsible for the direction and vision of the agency.
- 3. Plans, organizes, and designs the administrative structure for the Office of Nightlife and Culture, and serves as key staff support for the Commission on Nightlife and Culture.
- 4. Prepares annual report detailing actions taken and recommendations to improve the after-hours economy.
- 5. Serves as point of contact for nightlife establishments to facilitate connections to District government agencies.
- 6. Assists establishments with navigating the streatory application process.
- 7. Ensure establishments are aware of all grant/relief efforts.
- 8. Coordinates programming to promote education and opportunities for District residents, i.e., Hospitality Job Fair, nightlife corridor roundtables, etc.

- ii. **Operations: Manage staff and day-to-day activities of the office such as the weekly completion of Reopening phases reports.**
 - 1. **Organize and coordinate office administration and procedures.**
 - 2. **Serves as the office’s Public Information Officer (PIO).**
 - 3. **Create and distribute bulletin with relevant updates to inform our nightlife stakeholders.**
 - 4. **Conduct site visits as requested to assist businesses**
 - 5. **Assist in the coordination and development of public and private partnerships to assist with reviving the most vulnerable sectors of our nightlife economy.**
 - 6. **Coordinate and execute quarterly Commission on Nightlife and Culture meetings.**

iii. **Community Outreach**

- 1. **Coordinates the response of multiple District agencies to solve persisting neighborhood problem areas to address nightlife issues that affect mixed-used neighborhoods.**
- 2. **Develops partnerships with businesses, community-based organizations, and citizens to support service initiatives and community problem solving.**
- 3. **As liaison, provides project progress information to neighborhood stakeholders, including the Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, civic groups, tenant associations, faith-based organizations, schools, businesses, other organizations, and residents.**
- 4. **Maintains fiscal year establishment/community cases spreadsheet to monitor MONC involvement with assisting businesses and community.**
- 5. **Fields calls and emails from businesses and community stakeholders addressing nightlife issues.**
- 6. **Assists with conducting multi-agency roundtables to provide information regarding the Districts COVID-19 response and regulatory information to businesses, Main Streets, and BIDs.**
- 7. **Conducts site visits to assist businesses with navigating public safety and regulatory issues.**

8. Please provide a current Schedule A for the Office which identifies each position by program and activity, with the employee’s title/position, salary, fringe benefits, and length

of time with the agency. Please note the date that the information was collected. The Schedule A should also indicate if the position is continuing/term/temporary/contract or if it is vacant or frozen. Please separate salary and fringe benefits and indicate whether the position must be filled to comply with federal or local law.

POSITION	Title	Name	Emplid	Empl Rcd	Hire Date	Vacant	Grade	Step	Salary
97760	Director	Czapary, Salah	95637		11/14/2022	F	F1	0	124,368.2
97296	Associate	Khalid, Salima	122493		5/31/2022	F	5	0	91,865.97
43766	Outreach	Johnson, Jalia	107184	0	10/10/2023	F	5	0	76,880.00

9. For fiscal years 2023 and 2024, to date, please list all intra-District transfers to or from the Office. For each transfer, include the following details:
- a. Buyer agency;
 - b. Seller agency;
 - c. The program and activity codes and names in the sending and receiving agencies' budgets;
 - d. Funding source (i.e. local, federal, special purpose revenue);
 - e. Description of MOU services;
 - f. Total MOU amount, including any modifications;
 - g. Whether a letter of intent was executed for fiscal year 2023 or 2024 and if so, on what date,
 - h. The date of the submitted request from or to the other agency for the transfer;
 - i. The dates of signatures on the relevant MOU; and
 - j. The date funds were transferred to the receiving agency.

MONC is an office in Executive Office of the Mayor (AA0), which operates MOU and transfers at the agency level. As an office, MONC did not receive any intra-District transfers during FY23 or FY24, to date.

10. Please list any additional intra-district transfers planned for fiscal year 2024, including the anticipated agency(ies), purposes, and dollar amounts.

MONC is an office in Executive Office of the Mayor (AA0), which operates MOU and transfers at the agency level. As an office, MONC is not planning any intra-District transfers for FY24.

11. For fiscal years 2023 and 2024, to date, please identify any special purpose revenue funds maintained by, used by, or available for use by the agency. For each fund identified, provide:

- a. The revenue source name and code;
- b. The source of funding;
- c. A description of the program that generates the funds;
- d. The amount of funds generated by each source or program;
- e. Expenditures of funds, including the purpose of each expenditure; and
- f. The current fund balance.

MONC does not have any special purpose revenue accounts.

12. For fiscal years 2023 and 2024, to date, please list any purchase card spending by the Office, the employee making each expenditure, and the general purpose for each expenditure.

MONC did not conduct any purchase card spending in FY23 or FY24.

13. Please list all memoranda of understanding (“MOU”) executed by the Office during fiscal years 2023 and 2024, to date, as well as any MOU currently enforced. For each, indicate the date on which the MOU was entered and the termination date.

MONC is an office in Executive Office of the Mayor (AA0), which operates MOU and transfers at the agency level. As an office, MONC did not execute any MOU in FY23 or FY24 to date.

14. Please list the ways, other than MOU, in which the Office collaborated with analogous agencies in other jurisdictions, with federal agencies, or with non-governmental organizations in fiscal years 2023 and 2024, to date and whether there was an associated cost. If there was an associated cost, please report.

Not applicable.

15. Please list all recommendations identified by the Office of the Inspector General, D.C. Auditor, or other federal or local oversight entities since the Office was created. Please discuss specifically what actions the Office has taken to address these recommendations. If a recommendation has not yet been implemented, please explain why.

Not applicable.

16. Please provide a table showing the Office’s Council-approved original budget, revised budget (after reprogrammings, etc.), and actual spending, by program and activity, since the creation of the Office. For each program and activity, please include total budget and break down the budget by funding source (federal, local, special purpose revenue, or intra-district funds).

- a. Include any over- or under-spending. Explain any variances between fiscal year appropriations, actual expenditures, and activity code.
- b. Attach the cost allocation plans for fiscal years 2023 and 2024.
- c. For the last fiscal year, did the Office have any federal funds that lapsed? If so, please provide a full accounting, including amounts, fund sources (e.g. grant name), and reason the funds were not fully expended.

Object Category	CSG	Comptroller Source Group Title	Appropriation	Current AY Expenditure (less I-D Adv)	Intra-District Advances	Encumbrance	Pre Encumbrance	Available Balance	Prior AY Expenditure	Prior AY Obligation	FY Available Balance	Percent Available
5020 - OFFICE OF NIGHTLIFE AND CULTURE												
0100 LOCAL FUND												
PERSONNEL S	0011-PERSONN	REGULAR PAY - CONT F	\$334,388	\$285,752	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$48,635	\$0	\$0	\$48,635	15%
	0013-PERSONN	ADDITIONAL GROSS PA	\$0	\$16,230	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$16,230)	\$0	\$0	(\$16,230)	0%
	0014-PERSONN	FRINGE BENEFITS - CUR	\$71,072	\$58,763	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12,309	\$0	\$0	\$12,309	17%
			\$405,460	\$360,746	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$44,714	\$0	\$0	\$44,714	11%
0100 LOCAL FUND			\$405,460	\$360,746	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$44,714	\$0	\$0	\$44,714	11%
5020 - OFFICE OF NIGHTLIFE AND CULTURE			\$405,460	\$360,746	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$44,714	\$0	\$0	\$44,714	11%

17. Please list, in chronological order, each reprogramming in fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024, to date, that impacted the Office, including those that moved funds into the Office, out of the Office, and within the Office. Include the revised, final budget for your Office after the reprogrammings for fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024, to date. For each reprogramming, list the date, amount, rationale, and reprogramming number. Please also include the program, activity, and CSG codes for the originating and receiving funds.

Not applicable

18. Please describe every grant the Office is, or is considering, applying for in fiscal years 2023 and 2024.

- a. Please discuss any grants or loans that the Office has disbursed to nightlife businesses to provide financial for fiscal years 2022 and 2023.

Not applicable

19. Please provide the duties and responsibilities of the Office including any additional powers that may have been delegated. Please note additional powers the Office may have received as a result of the public health emergency.

MONC serves as an intermediary between nightlife establishments, residents, and the District government. MONC has not received any additional powers as a result of the public health emergency.

20. Please list each contract, procurement, and lease, executed, extended, and option years exercised by your office during fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024, to date. For each contract, please provide the following information, where applicable:

- a. The name of the contracting party;
- b. Contract number;
- c. Contract type (e.g. HCA, BPA, Sole Source, sing/exempt from competition award, etc.)
- d. The nature of the contract, including the end product or service;
- e. Contract's outputs and deliverables;
- f. Status of deliverables;
- g. The dollar amount of the contract, including amount budgeted and amount actually spent;
- h. The term of the contract;
- i. Whether the contract was competitively bid;
- j. Subcontracting status (i.e. Did the Contractor sub any provision of the goods and/or services with another vendor);
- k. CBE status;
- l. Division and activity within ABRA utilizing the goods and/or services;
- m. The name of the agency's contract monitor and the results of any monitoring activity; and
- n. The funding source.

Not applicable

21. Please list all pending lawsuits that name the Office as a party. Identify which cases on the list are lawsuits that potentially expose the District to significant financial liability or will result in a change in Office practices, and describe the current status of the litigation. Please provide the extent of each claim, regardless of its likelihood of success. For those identified, please include an explanation about the issues involved in each case.

Not applicable

22. Please list all settlements entered into by the Office or by the District on behalf of the Office in fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024, to date, and provide the parties' names, the amount

of the settlement, and if related to litigation, the case name and a brief description of the case. If unrelated to litigation, please describe the underlying issue or reason for the settlement (e.g. administrative complaint, etc.).

Not applicable

23. Please list the administrative complaints or grievances as well as the nature of the complaints or grievances that the Office received in fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024, to date, broken down by source. Please describe the process utilized to respond to any complaints and grievances received and any changes to Office policies or procedures that have resulted from complaints or grievances received. For any complaints or grievances that were resolved, please describe the resolution.

Not applicable

24. Please describe the Office's procedures for investigating allegations of sexual harassment or misconduct committed by or against its employees. List and describe any allegations received by the Office in fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024, to date, whether those allegations were resolved.

MONC follows the procedures in accordance with Mayor's Order 2023-131. All MONC staff have complied with notification requirements of the Order.

The sexual harassment officer / prevention program is operated at the agency level in EOM, where a committee includes the EOM Sexual Harassment Officer, two deputy SHO and the General Counsel to the Mayor.

Throughout EOM, MONC or any office in District government, an report is received by the EOM SHO or any other District SHO, who conducts an investigation and reports findings to the Mayor's Office of Legal Counsel.

MONC did not receive or forward any allegations of sexual harassment during fiscal years 2022, 2023 or 2024.

25. Please list and describe any ongoing investigations, audits, or reports on the Office or any employee of the Office, or any investigations, studies, audits, or reports on the Office or any employee of the Office that were completed during fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024, to date.

MONC did not undergo any investigations, audits, or reports.

26. Please describe any spending pressures the Office experienced in fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024. Include a description of the pressure and the estimated amount. If the spending pressure is still on going, please describe any proposed solutions.

MONC did not experience any spending pressures.

27. Please provide a copy of the Office’s fiscal year 2024 performance plan. Please explain which performance plan objectives were completed in fiscal 2023 and whether they were completed on time and within budget. If they were not, please provide an explanation.

Not applicable for EOM.

28. Please provide a copy of your Office’s fiscal year 2024 performance plan as submitted to the Office of the City Administrator. If the Office has an interview process with the Executive Office of the Mayor, please describe the process and provide any changes the Office undertook as a result of the review.

Not applicable for EOM.

29. Please provide the number of FOIA requests for fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024, to date, that were submitted to your Office. Include the number granted, partially granted, denied, and pending. In addition, please provide the average response time, the estimated number of FTEs required to process requests, the estimated number of hours spent responding to these requests, and the cost of compliance.

The FOIA Officer for the Executive Office of the Mayor - in the Office of General Counsel handles requests received by EOM. During fiscal years 2022, 2023 and 2024, MONC did not have any FOIA requests

30. Please provide a list of all studies, research papers, reports, and analyses that the Office prepared or contracted for during fiscal years 2023 and 2024, to date. Please state the status and purpose of each. Please submit a hard copy to the Committee if the study, research paper, report, or analysis is complete.

MONC does not have any studies or reports in process or completed for FY23 and FY24. MONC will have a report ready for transmittal on March 1st, 2024.

31. Please separately list each employee whose salary was \$100,000 or more in fiscal years 2023 and 2024, to date. Provide the name, position number, position title, program, activity, salary, and fringe. In addition, state the amount of any overtime or bonus pay received by each employee on the list.

Position N	Title	Name	Emplid	Empl Rcd	Hire Date	Vacant Sta	Grade	Step	Salary
97760	Director o	Czapary,Sz	95637	0	11/14/2022	F	E1	0	124368.2

32. Please list in descending order the top 25 overtime earners in the Office in fiscal years 2023 and 2024, to date, if applicable. For each, state the employee’s name, position number, position title, program, activity, salary, fringe, and the aggregate amount of overtime pay earned.

Not applicable.

33. For fiscal years 2023 and 2024, to date, please provide a list of employee bonuses or special pay granted that identifies the employee receiving the bonus or special pay, the amount received, and the reason for the bonus or special pay.

Not applicable.

34. If there are any boards or commissions associated with the Office, please provide a chart listing the names, confirmation dates, terms, wards of residence, and attendance of each member. Include any vacancies. Please also attach agenda and minutes of each board or commission meeting in fiscal year 2023 or 2024, to date, if minutes were prepared. Please inform the Committee if the board or commission did not convene during any month.

First name	Last name	LAW
Rosemary	Evans-Suggs	The Director of the Department of Small and Local Business Development;
Vinoda	Basnayake	One member shall be an owner of a business holding an on-premises retailer's license pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 25-113;
Sarah	Fashbaugh (designee)	The Director of the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration;
Theresa	Belpulsi	The President of Destination DC;
Nina	Albert	The Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development
Angie	Gates	President of Events DC; and
Maggie	O'Neill	One member shall be a District-based visual artist.
Ian	Callender	One member shall be a District-based artist or director in the performing arts; and

VACANT		One member shall be a person sitting on the board of directors of a Business Improvement District, as defined in section 3(7) of the Business Improvement Districts Amendment Act of 1997, effective October 8, 1997 (D.C. Law 12-26; D.C. Official Code § 2-1215.02(7));
Ris	Lacoste	One member shall be a representative of an organization that advocates for preventing sexual harassment and assault;
Keith	Slade	The Director of the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs
Christopher	Naoum (designee)	The Executive Director of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities;
Chad	Shuskey (designee)	The President of the Washington, DC Economic Partnership.
Bernard	White	One member shall be a dean, director, or equivalent position focused on student life at a District-based college or university where at least 50% of undergraduate students live in college- or university-owned, operated, or affiliated housing;
VACANT		(E) One member shall be a District-based musician or producer working in the music industry;

35. Please provide a list of any additional training or continuing education opportunities made available to Office employees. For each additional training or continuing education program, please provide the subject of the training, the names of the trainers, and the number of Office employees that were trained.

MONC has received the training listed below in addition to classes offered through PeopleSoft:

- i. **BEGA Ethics**
- ii. **Sexual Harassment**
- iv. **Cyber Security**

36. Does the Office conduct annual performance evaluations of all its employees? Who conducts such evaluations? What steps are taken to ensure that all employees are meeting individual job requirements?

Director Czapary conducts performance evaluations for MONC employees. MONC's Director meets with MONC employees to discuss performance goals and work progress.

37. What are the top challenges the Office is presently facing especially in light of the pandemic?

Revitalization of Downtown and the continued financial stressors of recovery on the industry.

- a. In what areas (e.g., financial training, procedural training, etc.) do you believe the Committee can be more helpful in assisting the Office to meet the demands of the pandemic?

Helping ensure grants are accessible and do not include inhibiting requirements.

38. Please provide a complete list of the Office's current programs, community events, and initiatives. Include a brief description and general time frame for each item.

- **In addressing the evolving landscape of nightlife regulations, the Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture (MONC) is actively engaged in a comprehensive outreach initiative targeting Sidewalk Café and Streatery operators. As the temporary programs were set to expire in 2023, MONC took a proactive stance to inform operators about the upcoming regulatory changes before enforcement commences.**
- **The T-Street Task Force focuses on tackling issues related to nightlife safety and quality of life around the Howard Theatre and involves District agencies, local businesses, organizations and residents.**
- **MONC is spearheading a DashCams Distribution program, emphasizing the importance of enhancing security for delivery and rideshare drivers. The Sober Ride Campaign continues to be amplified by MONC in partnership with the Highway Safety Office to encourage responsible choices and discourage impaired driving within the nightlife community.**
- **MONC is dedicated to fostering a safe working environment through the implementation of Sexual Harassment Prevention Training, demonstrating a holistic approach to ensuring the well-being of both patrons and workers in the nightlife industry and meeting legislative mandates. Collectively, these initiatives showcase MONC's dedication to adaptability, safety, and the overall enhancement of the nighttime experience for operators and the community alike.**

39. What has the Office done in the past year to make the activities of the Office more transparent to the public? In addition, please identify ways in which the activities of

the Office and information retained by the Office could be made more transparent.

MONC has begun growing its social media footprint and sends out periodic newsletter to nightlife stakeholders on upcoming events, grants and regulations. Newsletters are sent monthly.

- a. Please discuss whether the Office has begun issuing its newsletter to the public. How often are the newsletter issued? What demographics does the Office target to issue the newsletter? How many newsletters are issued on a regular basis?

The MONC newsletter targets industry stakeholders and is sent out monthly.

40. What collaborations, initiatives, or programs have been successful in fiscal years 2023 and 2024, to date?

In fiscal years 2023 and 2024 to date, the Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture (MONC) has successfully implemented several collaborations, initiatives, and programs to enhance public safety and community engagement:

- **Public Safety Canvassing: MONC partnered with the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) to conduct public safety canvassing on H Street and Adams Morgan. This initiative aimed to address security concerns following a series of smash and grabs.**
- **Go-Go Roundtable: MONC organized a Go-Go Roundtable, bringing together 60 stakeholders to discuss the specific needs of the Go-Go community. This collaborative effort facilitated community engagement and provided a platform for addressing and understanding the unique requirements of the Go-Go music scene. MONC's Go-Go Roundtable not only connected bands with Humanities DC grants but also contributed to a significant increase in grant applications. Humanities DC reported the largest number of applications to their grants following MONC's engagement, highlighting the positive impact of this collaborative effort.**
- **Equality Chamber Grants: MONC played a pivotal role in amplifying the Equality Chamber grants through targeted canvassing and social media outreach. This effort resulted in 38 DC restaurants applying for these grants, showcasing the success of MONC's outreach strategies.**

- **Active Threat Preparedness Training:** MONC collaborated with the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA), MPD, and Fire and Emergency Medical Services (FEMS) to host Active Threat Preparedness Training. This initiative underscored MONC's commitment to ensuring the safety and preparedness of nightlife establishments and their patrons.
- **DoorDash Dashcam Partnership:** MONC led a partnership between DoorDash and the city to provide free dash cameras to delivery and rideshare drivers, enhancing safety measures for these essential workers. These initiatives demonstrate MONC's commitment to promoting the cultural vibrancy of the nightlife scene while prioritizing safety and community well-being.

41. Did the Office participate in any ethics trainings in fiscal years 2023 and 2024, to date?

MONC staff attended virtual ethics training and in-person ethics training in both FY23 and FY24.

42. Please explain how the Office solicits feedback from customers.

- a. What has the Office learned from this feedback?
- b. How has the Office changed its practices as a result of such feedback?

While conducting outreach to businesses and District residents, MONC encourages feedback to better serve stakeholders. MONC encourages customers to submit feedback to nightlife@dc.gov.

43. What were the Office goals for fiscal year 2024 and how has the pandemic changed these goals going forward for fiscal year 2024 and beyond?

MONC continues to be a liaison and intermediary for the nightlife community and government. FY23 goals are focused on outreach around the sidewalk and streatory programs, amplification of grants, policy recommendations for alcohol liability reform and elevating Go-Go music.

44. Please discuss the Office's legislative priorities, if any, for Fiscal Year 2024.

MONC's continues to monitor legislative changes around alcohol liability insurance and the implementation of I-82.

Commission on Nightlife and Culture

45. Please discuss the role the Commission on Nightlife and Culture has played or is currently playing since the rise of the pandemic. How has the Commission assisted the Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture and any other District agencies in addressing the challenges the pandemic has raised for small businesses?

Since the onset of the pandemic, the Commission on Nightlife and Culture has provided MONC and the District Government with recommendations on how to safely reopen live restaurants, bars, nightclubs, and entertainment venues in the District. The Commission continues to reiterate that post-pandemic recovery is slow and an implementation plan for I-82 is needed for the industry to successfully adjust

46. Please discuss the number of times the Commission convened a meeting in fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024, to date. Also, please discuss how the pandemic has affected the number of times the Commission meets and if the Commission has transitioned to a virtual platform.

The Commission meets quarterly.

47. Please discuss how often the Commission meets with the Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture and if there is a standard meeting scheduled monthly with both offices.

The Commission meets quarterly with the Director and the Chair of the Commission, and the Director meet monthly.

48. Please share the recommendations the Commission has provided to the Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture for fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024, to date and share the ones that have been implemented.

- 1. Conduct a study to quantify the impact of DC's nightlife industry. (in progress, see #52)**
- 2. Spread awareness about and offer trainings for victims of sexual harassment in the nightlife industry (trainings were conducted in calendar year 2023. MONC also advocated for trainings to be allowed to be pre-recorded).**
- 3. MONC should amplify Go-Go music. (see #49).**

4. MONC should advocate for alcohol liability insurance reform. (MONC continues to monitor the legislative process).

49. What efforts has the office made in calendar year 2023 to amplify Go-Go Music throughout the District and beyond, as the official music of DC?

MONC hosted a Go-Go Roundtable and connected bands to Humanities DC grants. Humanities DC shared that this year they saw the largest number of applications to their grants after MONC's engagement. In addition, MONC co-hosted a Go-Go Gala in partnership with the National Independent Venue Association at the The Anthem, introducing over 1,000 bookers to Go-Go music.

50. Last year the Council passed the B25-0302 - 2023 World Cup Emergency Amendment Act of 2023 which extended hours on hours that licensed establishments could serve alcoholic beverages. What feedback did the Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture receive on these extended hours?

The extended hours were welcomed by operators and patrons and we anticipate a similar interest for emergency legislation will arise as we draw closer to the 2024 Paris Olympics.

51. What feedback did the Commission receive on the Streatery Program this past year and its impact on the nightlife community?

The streatery program continues to be a lifeline for many venues. The extension of the temporary program until December 2024 was welcomed by operators.

52. According to last year's Performance Oversight Responses with the Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture shared that they were providing the Mayor with recommendations from the Nightlife Impact Study. Please provide a summary of these recommendations and the status of the implementation of the recommendations and the success of them.

A Nightlife Impact Study was not conducted by MONC in FY22. In FY23, MONC partnered with GW University to conduct a survey of the industry. The work with GW is still ongoing and a final report is estimated to be ready later this calendar year.

53. What are the top five priorities of the Commission? Please provide a detailed explanation of how the Commission expects to achieve or work towards these priorities for fiscal year 2024.

To enhance the overall experience of the nightlife industry, our approach

encompasses addressing prevalent concerns through collaboration with ex officio Commission members, focusing on practical solutions for streateries. Simultaneously, we prioritize public safety and regulatory compliance by engaging with the Metropolitan Police Department, the District Department of Transportation and other regulatory agencies. Furthermore, we emphasize the importance of fostering a safe working environment by providing sexual harassment training through the MONC and encouraging other nightlife stakeholders to organize similar sessions, ensuring the protection of restaurant and bar workers. Lastly, in response to the hiring challenges posed by the pandemic, we strive to introduce innovative solutions that address the industry's workforce demands.

54. Please discuss if there are any vacancies available in the Commission and how the Commission is working to fill them.

The Commission is currently seeking a member to represent the Business Improvement Districts and the musical community and is working with the Mayor's Office of Talent and Appointments to fill these vacancies.

55. Please discuss the Commission's legislative priorities, if any, for Fiscal Year 2024.

The Commission has discussed the need for alcohol liability insurance reform, better coordination between venues and the nightlife taskforce, and the education campaign needed around the implementation of I-82.

56. Describe the activities of the Nightlife Task Force work in FY24.

Questions 56-58 should be directed to the Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice which leads the taskforce. MONC sits on the taskforce as a liaison to the business community.

57. What are the plans for the future of the Nightlife Task Force?

58. What metrics does MONC use to evaluate the effective of the Nightlife Task Force? Describe the effectiveness of the Nightlife Task Force using those metrics.