

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



Fiscal Year 2024
Performance Oversight Pre-Hearing Responses

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Director, Mayor's Office of Community Affairs (MOCA)

Submission to the Committee on Business and Economic Development
Council of the District of Columbia

The Honorable At-Large Council Member Kenyan McDuffie,
Chairperson

Wednesday, February 26, 2025

11:00 a.m.
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Room 120
Washington, D.C. 20004

Racial Equity

- 1. Describe any programs or policies where the Office has had success in building racial equity during Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025 to date.**

Answer: In Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025 to date, the Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture (MONC) has contributed to advancing racial equity by amplifying existing grant programs from organizations such as the Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD) and the Deputy Mayor Planning economic and development (DMPED). Through these collaborations, MONC has helped enhance outreach and ensure that underrepresented businesses in the hospitality and nightlife sectors are informed and able to access these opportunities. Additionally, MONC has actively participated in panels and judging competitions, such as the "Made in DC" initiative, which highlights and supports minority-owned businesses, further promoting inclusivity in the District's cultural and entrepreneurial ecosystem.

- 2. What barriers does your the Office face when trying to: (1) make progress toward racial equity or (2) better understand racial inequity within the agency's context and operations (if any)? How does your the Office's spending address existing racial inequities (grant disbursement, procurement/contracting, etc.)?**

Answer: The office does not face any barriers in making progress toward racial equity.

- 3. Please provide data on the racial diversity among leadership and at all staff grade levels. How does retention differ by race across levels? How does pay differ by race within levels?**

Answer: The Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture (MONC) staff is racially diverse, with both current staff identifying as African American. There is no difference in retention levels based on race.

- 4. Last year, the Office identified its grants program and employment as areas of racial equity. What concrete steps did the Office take in the past year towards racial equity in those areas?**

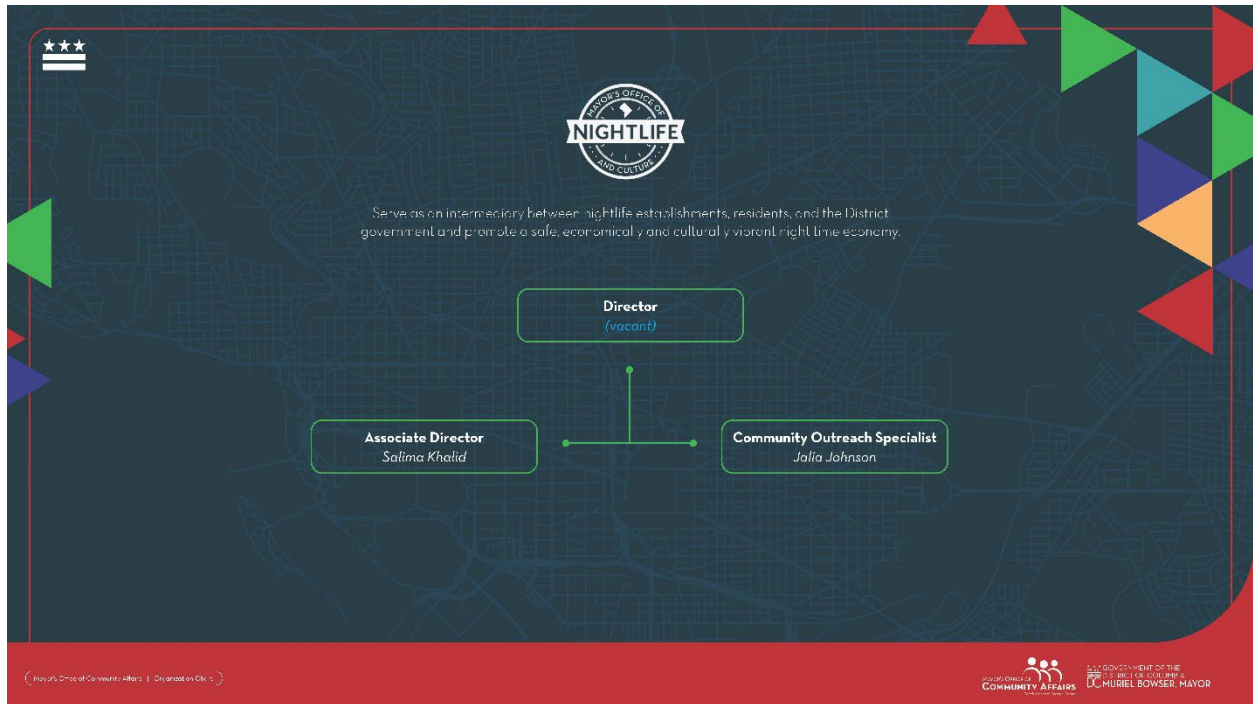
Answer: While the office does not have a grant program, over the past year, the Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture (MONC) partnered with the Washington Literary Center and local bartending academies to provide training and development opportunities for people of color w in the hospitality sector. These partnerships aimed to create pathways for career growth and enhance access to resources, promoting inclusivity in both employment and grant access for underrepresented groups.

General Questions

- 5. Please provide a current organizational chart of the Office, including the number of vacant, frozen, and filled full-time equivalents ("FTEs") in each division or subdivision, as well as the names and titles of all senior personnel. Please include the date when the information was collected. Additionally, please provide the following:**

- An explanation of the roles and responsibilities of each division and subdivision, including specific programs and projects administered by each division. Please also explain the administrative organization within each division and provide the number of personnel allocated to each division; and
- A narrative explanation of any changes made during the previous year.

Answer: See below organizational chart



There are no divisions within the MONC office. There are no organizational changes made within the last fiscal year.

6. Please provide a current Schedule A for the Office, which identifies all employees by title/position, current salary, fringe benefits, and program. This Schedule A should also indicate whether the positions are continuing/term/temporary/contract and whether they are vacant or frozen positions.
- For each vacant position, please state how long the position has been vacant, and provide the status of the Office’s efforts to fill the position, as well as the position number, the title, the program number, the activity number, the grade, the salary, and the fringe associated with each position. Please also indicate whether the position must be filled to comply with federal or local law, and whether there are impediments to the Office’s ability to fill those vacancies.
 - For each filled position, please provide the employee’s length of service with the Office. Please provide any available information on turnover rates and/or trends identified by the Office.

Answer: See below table

Cost Center Title	Position Number	Title	Name	Grade	Step	Vacant Status	FY 2025 Salary	FTE
								2.00
Mayor's Office of Nightlife And Culture Initiatives	43766	Outreach and Services Speciali	Johnson, Jalia I	5	0	F	76,880.34	1.00
	97296	Associate Director	Khalid, Salima	5	0	F	91,865.97	1.00
	97760	Director of Nightlife & Cultur	(blank)	E1	0	V	137,782.00	1.00
Total								3.00

The MONC Director Position has been vacant since October 2024.

7. Please list all employees detailed to or from the Office, if any. For each employee identified, please provide the name of the agency from/to which the employee is detailed, the reason for the detail, the date of the detail, and the employee's projected date of return.

Answer: There are no employees detailed to or from MONC.

8. Did the Office conduct annual performance evaluations of its employees in FY24 or FY25, to date? Who conducted the evaluations? What are the performance measures by which employees are evaluated? What steps are taken to ensure that all employees are meeting individual job requirements? What steps are taken when an employee does not meet individual job requirements?

Answer: The MOCA Director conducts daily check-ins with MONC staff and reviews work product as timely and appropriate.

9. What is the Office's current remote work policy?

Answer: The Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture follows EOM no remote work policy. We are in the office 5 days a week.

10. Please complete the following chart about the residency of new hires in FY 24, and FY 25, to date:

Answer:

Position Type	Total Number	Number of District Residents
Continuing	2	2
Term		
Temporary		
Contract		

11. Please provide the Committee with the following:

- A list of all employees who received or retained cellphones, personal digital assistants, or similar communications devices at the Office expense in Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date;

Answer:

Position	Telecommunications Device

Associate Director	iPhone 13; Laptop
Community Outreach Specialist	iPhone 13; Microsoft Laptop

12. A list of all vehicles owned, leased, or otherwise used by the Office and to whom the vehicle is assigned, as well as a description of all vehicle accidents involving the Office’s vehicles in Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date;

Answer: The Mayor’s Office of Nightlife and Culture does not own, lease or utilize government vehicles

13. A list of travel expenses, arranged by employee, for Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date, including the justification for travel and description of activities engaged in during the travel;

- A list of employee bonuses or special award pay, raises, and step increases granted in Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date; and
- A list of the total overtime and workers’ compensation payments paid in Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date, including the number of employees who received overtime and workers’ compensation payments, in what amounts, and for what reasons.

Answer: There were no travel expenses arranged for an employee during FY24 or FY25 to date.

There were no employee bonuses or special award pay, raises, and step increases granted to a MONC employee in FY24 or FY25 to date.

There were no overtime or workers compensation payments paid to a MONC employee in FY24 or FY25 to date.

14. Regarding the use of communication devices:

- Please describe procedures that are in place to track which individuals or units are assigned mobile devices (including, but not limited to smartphones, laptops, and tablet computers) and how the usage of these devices is monitored.
- How does the Office limit the costs associated with its mobile devices?
- For Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date, what was the total cost including, but not limited to, equipment and service plans for mobile communications and devices?

Answer: The usage and monitoring of communications devices given to staff is handled by the Office of the Chief Technolgy Officer.

MONC is part of the Executive Office of the Mayor (AAO), therefore budgeting and costs associated with communications devices is best reflected in the EOMs responses and the testimony by Chief of Staff Lindsey Parker.

15. For Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date, please list any purchase card spending by the Office, including the employee making each expenditure and the general purpose for each expenditure.

Answer: MONC does not have a purchase card. MONC is part of the Executive Office of the Mayor (AA0), therefore budgeting and purchases made on behalf of the office is best reflected in EOMs responses and the testimony by Chief of Staff Lindsey Parker.

16. Please provide a chart showing the Office’s approved budget, revised budget (after reprogramming, etc.) and actual spending, by division, for Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date. Include a description and explanation for any variance between fiscal year appropriations and actual expenditures.

Answer: MONC does not have an independent budget and falls under the Executive Office of the Mayor (AA0), therefore budgets for the office is best reflected in EOMs responses and the testimony by Chief of Staff Lindsey Parker.

17. For Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date, please identify any special purpose revenue funds maintained, used, or available for use by the Office. For each fund identified, please provide:

- The revenue source name and code;
- Legal authority for the fund (i.e. D.C. Code or DCMR citation);
- A description of the program that generates the funds;
- The amount of funds generated by each source or program;
- Expenditures of funds, including the purpose of each expenditure; and
- The current fund balance.

Answer: MONC has no special purpose revenue funds.

18. For Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date, please list all intra-District transfers to or from the Office. For each transfer, include all the following details:

- The program and activity codes and names in the sending and receiving agencies’ budgets;
- Funding source (i.e., local, federal, SPR);
- Description of memoranda of understanding (“MOU”) services;
- Total MOU amount, including any modifications;
- Whether a letter of intent was executed for Fiscal Year 2024 or Fiscal Year 2025, and if so, on what date;
- The date of the submitted request from or to the other agency for the transfer;
- The dates of signatures on the relevant MOU; and
- The date funds were transferred to the receiving agency.

Answer: MONC has had no intradistrict transfers to or from the office.

19. Please list any additional intra-District transfers planned for Fiscal Year 2025, including the anticipated agency(ies), purposes, and dollar amounts.

Answer: There are no planned intra-District transfers for FY2025

20. Please list each contract, procurement, lease, and grant (“contract”) awarded, entered into, extended, or option years exercised, by the Office during Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date. For each contract, please provide the following information, where applicable:

- The name of the contracting party;
- The nature of the contract, including the end product or service;
- The dollar amount of the contract, including amount budgeted and actually spent;
- The status of deliverables;
- The term of the contract;
- The Certified Business Enterprise status;
- Whether the contract was competitively bid;
- The name of the Office’s contract monitor and the results of any monitoring activity; and
- The funding source.

Answer: MONC has not entered into any contracts, procurements, leases and grants awarding in FY24 or FY25 to date.

21. Please list all MOU entered into by the Office during Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date, as well as any MOU currently in force. For each, indicate the date entered and the termination date.

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Answer: MONC has not entered into any MOUs within FY24 or FY25 to date.

22. 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 Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date.

Answer: MONC does not have any collaborations with outside District agencies, federal agencies, or non-governmental organizations in FY24 or FY25 to date.

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23. Please identify all recommendations identified by the Office of the Inspector General, D.C. Auditor, or other federal or local oversight entities during the previous 3 years. Please provide an update on what actions have been taken to address these recommendations. If the recommendation has not yet been implemented, please explain why.

Answer: MONC has not received any recommendations by the Office of the Inspector General, DC Auditor, or other federal or local oversight entities within the past 3 years.

24. Please describe any anticipated spending pressures for Fiscal Year 2025. Please include a description of the pressure, the estimated amount, and any proposed solutions.

Answer: MONC does not have an independent budget and falls under the Executive Office of the Mayor (AA0), therefore spending for the office is best reflected in EOMs responses and the testimony by Chief of Staff Lindsey Parker.

25. Please list all capital projects in the financial plan and provide an update on all capital projects under the Office’s purview in Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date, including the amount budgeted, actual dollars spent, and any remaining balances. In addition, please provide the following:

- An update on all capital projects begun, in progress, or concluded in Fiscal Year 2023, Fiscal Year 2024, and Fiscal Year 2025, to date, including the amount budgeted, actual dollars spent, and any remaining balances;

- An update on all capital projects planned for Fiscal Year 2025 through Fiscal Year 2030; and
- Whether the capital projects begun, in progress, or concluded in Fiscal Year 2023, Fiscal Year 2024, or Fiscal Year 2025, to date, have an impact on the operating budget of the Office. If so, please provide an accounting of such impact.

Answer: MONC has no capital projects.

26. Please provide a list of all budget enhancement requests (including, but not limited to, capital improvement needs), for Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date. For each, please include a description of the need and the amount of funding requested.

Answer: MONC does not have an independent budget and falls under the Executive Office of the Mayor (AA0), therefore budgets for the office is best reflected in EOMs responses and the testimony by Chief of Staff Lindsey Parker.

27. Please list, in chronological order, every reprogramming in Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date, which had an impact on the Office, including those which moved funds into, out of, and within the Office. For each reprogramming, please list the date, amount, rationale, and reprogramming number, and indicate whether a reprogramming impacted the Office’s ability to carry out a directive or recommendation of the Committee. Please also include the program, activity, and CSG codes for the originating and receiving funds. Finally, provide the revised, final budget for the Office after reprogramming for Fiscal Year 2024.

Answer: There has been no reprogramming for MONC in FY 24 or 25 to date.

28. Please list each grant or sub-grant received by the Office in Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date. List the date, amount, and purpose of the grant or sub-grant received. Additionally, provide the following:

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- Whether any FTEs are dependent on grant funding and, if so, how many; and
- A description of the terms of this funding, and, if it is set to expire, what plans, if any, are in place to continue funding.

Answer: MONC has not received any grants or sub-grants in FY24 or FY25 to date.

29. Please describe any grant the Office is, or is considering, applying for in Fiscal Year 2025.

Answer: MONC is not considering applying for grants in FY25.

30. Please list any pending lawsuits that name the Office as a party. Please identify any lawsuits that could potentially expose the District to significant financial liability and/or result in a change to the Office practices, and please include the current status of the litigation. Please provide the basis and extent of each claim, regardless of its likelihood of success. For those identified, please include an explanation of the issues involved in each case.

Answer: MONC is not a named party in any pending lawsuits in FY24 or FY25 to date.

31. Please list all settlements entered into by the Office, or by the District on behalf of the Office, in Fiscal Year 2024 or Fiscal Year 2025, to date. Include 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.).

Answer: MONC has not entered any settlements in FY24 or FY25 to date.

32. Please list and describe any ongoing investigations, audits, or reports on the Office or any employee of the Office, including, but not limited to, personnel complaints, or any investigations, studies, audits, or reports on the Office or any employee of the Office that were completed during Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date, along with the Office's compliance or non-compliance with any recommendations.

Answer: MONC is not party to any ongoing investigations, audits or reports in FY24 or FY25.

33. Please provide the total number of administrative complaints or grievances filed against the Office in Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date, broken down by source. Please describe the process utilized to respond to any complaints and grievances received and any changes to the Office policies or procedures that have resulted from complaints or grievances. As it relates to a constituent challenging the Office's response to grievances, please indicate:

- Whether a formalized process is in place to request a hearing;
- If so, whether the decision is appealable; and
- If there is a formalized hearing process, whether that process is described on the Office's website.

Answer: MONC falls under the Executive Office of the Mayor (AA0), therefore any administrative complaints or grievances filed against the office would be reflected in EOMs responses and the testimony by Chief of Staff Lindsey Parker.

34. Please describe the Office's procedures for investigating allegations of sexual harassment or misconduct committed by or against its employees. Please list and describe any allegations received by the Office in Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date, and whether those allegations were resolved.

- Has the Office identified a primary and alternate sexual harassment the Officer ("SHO") as required by Mayor's Order 2023-131 ("Sexual Harassment Order")? If not, why not? If yes, please provide the names of the primary and alternate SHOs.
- Has the Office received any requests from staff in an otherwise prohibited dating, romantic, or sexual relationship for a waiver of the requirements of provisions of the Sexual Harassment Order? What was the resolution of each request? If a waiver has been granted, are there limitations on the scope of the waiver?

Answer: MONC follows the policies and procedures set forth in Mayor's Order 2023-131, dated October 31, 2023. MONC is part of the agency Executive Office of the Mayor, and hence the EOM SHO process, including review and investigation summary and findings and recommended personnel actions is conducted by the EOM SHO, General Counsel and Human Resources team.

In FY24 and FY25 to date, no allegations reported to the EOM SHO from MONC.

35. Please provide the number of FOIA requests received by the Office during Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date. Please include the number of requests which were granted, partially granted, denied, or pending. Please also provide the average response time, estimated number of FTEs required to process requests, and the estimated number of hours spent responding to these requests.

- For FOIA requests disposed of because no records or the Office records containing the requested information exist, please describe the nature of the request.

Answer: MONC falls under the Executive Office of the Mayor (AA0), therefore any FOIA requests placed for the office would be handled by EOM's FOIA Officer and would be reflected in EOMs responses and the testimony by Chief of Staff Lindsey Parker.

36. Please provide a list of all studies, research papers, reports, and analyses that the Office prepared, or contracted for, during Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date. Please state the status and purpose of each and attach a copy.

Answer: There are no studies, research papers, reports, and analyses that MONC prepared or contracted for in FY24 or FY25.

37. Please list all reports or reporting currently required of the Office by the District of Columbia Code or Municipal Regulations. Please indicate whether the Office complies with these requirements, and if not, why (e.g., the purpose behind the requirement is moot, etc.).

Answer: The MONC is mandated to produce an annual report for the Mayor and Council on activities for the office. No report has been promulgated yet but is being worked on.

38. Please describe how the Office solicits feedback from customers.

- Please explain what the Office has learned from this feedback, including specific examples; and
- Explain how the Office has changed its practices due to such feedback.

Answer: The Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture solicits feedback from stakeholders through various engagement methods, ensuring that the needs of the nightlife and hospitality community are heard and addressed. These methods include:

- Community Meeting & Roundtables – Hosting discussion with business owners, residents and industry professionals to gather input on key issues.
- Stakeholder Surveys- Conducting surveys to assess challenges, opportunities, and areas for policy improvement.
- Direct outreach & Site visits- Engaging with businesses and organizations through in-person visits to understand their concerns first hand.
- Partnerships with industry groups- collaborating with business associations, advocacy groups and other agencies to collect feedback and align efforts.

39. Please attach copies of the required annual small business enterprise (“SBE”) expenditure reports for the Office for Fiscal Year 2023, Fiscal Year 2024, and Fiscal Year 2025, to date.

- D.C. Official Code § 2-218.53(b) requires each District agency to submit supplemental information with their annual SBE expenditure report, including a description of the activities the Office engaged in to achieve their fiscal year SBE expenditure goal and a description of any changes the Office intends to make during the next fiscal year to achieve their SBE

expenditure goal. Has the Office submitted the required information for Fiscal Year 2024? If so, please provide a copy as an attachment. If not, please explain.

Answer: MONC falls under the Executive Office of the Mayor (AA0), therefore the SBE report for the office is best reflected in EOMs responses and the testimony by Chief of Staff Lindsey Parker.

- 40. Please provide a copy of the Office's Fiscal Year 2024 performance plan. Please explain which performance plan objectives were completed in Fiscal Year 2024 and whether they were completed on time and within budget. If they were not, please provide an explanation.**

Answer: See attached FY24 Look Ahead Document

Personnel

- 41. Is the Office operating under a full or partial hiring freeze? If so, why?**

Answer: The Office is not operating under any type of hiring freeze

- 42. Please separately list each the Office employee whose salary was \$100,000 or more in Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date. Please provide the name, position number, position title, program number, activity number, salary, and fringe for each. In addition, please state the amount of any overtime or bonus pay received by each employee on the list.**

Answer: See above Schedule A.

- 43. Please list, in descending order, the Office's top 25 overtime earners during Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date. For each, please state the employee's name, position number, position title, program number, activity number, salary, fringe, and the aggregate amount of overtime pay earned.**

Answer: No MONC staff has received overtime in FY24 or 25 to date.

- 44. Please provide each collective bargaining agreement that is currently in effect for the Office employees and include the bargaining unit and the duration of each agreement.**

Answer: MONC has no staff members under a collective bargaining agreement.

- 45. Does the Office conduct employee satisfaction surveys or otherwise solicit such information from employees? If so, please explain how such information is collection and evaluated, including whether responses are anonymous and/or confidential. Please explain what steps are taken to ensure that all employees are comfortable in the work environment.**

Answer: MONC does not solicit satisfaction surveys from staff.

- 46. Please provide the total number of complaints or grievances from employees or former employees that the Office received or was made aware of in Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date, including, but not limited to, matters concerning program implementation and work environment.**

Answer: There are no complaints or grievances filed by current or former employees that MONC is aware of in from FY24 or FY25 to date.

47. Please provide a list of any additional training or continuing education opportunities made available to the Office employees. For each, provide the subject of the training, the names of the trainers, and the number of the Office employees who participated. Please discuss whether the Office accepts requests from employees to engage in training opportunities.

Answer: Employee training is coordinated by the EOM Human Resources Advisor, to ensure all staff comply with ethics and other polices.

- All staff – During new employee orientation and frequently during meetings, EOM staff are encouraged to take personal and professional skill development sessions offered by DCHR, both electronic via Percipio and in person.

- Staff also complete the following training / refresher courses annually:
 - Government ethics
 - Sexual harassment prevention
 - Cultural Competency
 - Cybersecurity

- EOM Managers / Directors attend monthly training designed to build management skills related to employee performance, goal setting, and other sessions.

48. Please discuss any training deficiencies the Office identified during Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date, and any plans the Office has to address those deficiencies.

Answer: There are no training deficiencies that the office has identified.

Agency Operations

49. Please list each new program implemented by the Office during Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date. For each initiative, please provide:

- A description of the initiative;
- Funding required to implement the initiative and the source of such funding; and
- Any documented results of the initiative.

Answer: There are no new programs implemented by the office from FY24 or FY25 to date.

50. Please explain the impact on the Office of any legislation passed at the federal level during Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date, which impacted the Office operations. If regulations are the shared responsibility of multiple agencies, please note.

Answer: There have been no impacts from federal legislation to the office for FY24 or FY25 to date.

51. Please list all regulations to which the Office is subject at the federal level. Please explain how the Office complies with those regulations and explain any non-compliance or lapses in compliance.

Answer: The office follows EOMs guidance on federal policies and procedures.

52. Please list all regulations for which the Office is responsible for oversight or implementation in the District. Please list by chapter and subject heading, including the date of the most recent revision.

Answer: The office is not responsible for oversight or implementation of any regulations within the District.

53. Please identify any statutory or regulatory impediments to the Office's operations.

Answer: There are no statutory or regulatory impediments to MONC's operations.

54. Please identify all electronic databases maintained by the Office, including the following:

- A detailed description of the information tracked within each system;
 - The age of the system and any discussion of substantial upgrades that have been made or are planned to the system; and
 - Whether each system is publicly accessible, in whole or in part.
- Answer: MONC utilizes an internal excel chart to track stakeholder engagements. The system is not public.

55. Please provide a detailed description of any new technology acquired by the Office in Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date, including the cost and its purpose. Please explain if there have been any issues with implementation.

Answer: MONC has not acquired any new technology in FY24 or FY25 to date.

56. Please describe any efforts by the Office in Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to date, to improve the transparency of the Office operations.

Answer: Transparency and open government are priorities of the Bowser administration. Where possible, EOM and MONC processes are made available to the public, including members of boards and commissions, results of grant making processes and invitations to MONC events.

57. Please list the top five priorities for the Office and provide a detailed explanation for how the Office expects to achieve or work toward those priorities in Fiscal Year 2025.

- **How did the Office address its top five priorities last year?**
 - i. **Public Safety:** The Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture held a seat at the Multi-Agency Nightlife Task Force, which met weekly. This task force brought together various agencies, including law enforcement, public health, and city officials, to address safety concerns within the nightlife sector. By actively participating, the office ensured that safety measures were well-coordinated and effective in creating a secure environment for both patrons and business owners in nightlife and hospitality establishments.
 - ii. **Downtown Recovery:** The Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture focused on partnering with and supporting the Business Improvement Districts (BIDs). This collaboration involved working closely with BIDs to drive initiatives that attracted people back to the downtown area, such as improving public spaces, enhancing

safety, and organizing events. By supporting BIDs, the office aimed to foster a vibrant, well-maintained downtown that encouraged local commerce, tourism, and community engagement.

- iii. **Responsive Entry Point for the Industry:** The office established a more efficient and accessible entry point for businesses, particularly those in hospitality and nightlife, to navigate regulations and access resources. This included providing clear guidance on permits, licenses, and other business requirements, offering consistent support, and addressing industry concerns. The goal was to streamline processes and ensure businesses could operate smoothly.
- iv. **Policy Advising:** The Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture focused on advising policymakers on best practices and policies affecting the hospitality and entertainment sectors. This included gathering industry feedback, conducting research, and engaging with stakeholders to inform decisions that supported the sustainable growth of these sectors in the city.
- v. **Supporting Pathways to Hospitality Employment:** The office worked to create and expand career pathways in hospitality through partnerships with local educational institutions, job training programs, and workforce development initiatives. These efforts helped fill gaps in the hospitality sector while providing opportunities for local residents to enter and succeed in the industry.

58. Please identify any legislative requirements that the Office lacks sufficient resources to properly implement. Please identify any statutory or regulatory impediments to your agency's operations or mission.

Answer: The Office has sufficient resources to implement any legislative requirements.

59. Please describe the Office's current legislative priorities, whether consideration by the Committee is warranted, and if the Office foresees introducing additional measures for the Council's consideration during Fiscal Year 2025.

Aligned with Mayor Bowser's vision for a strong economy, public safety, and government efficiency, MONC's legislative priorities for Fiscal Year 2025 include:

- **Strengthening Compliance & Enforcement:** Supporting the Mayor's public safety initiatives, MONC is collaborating with enforcement agencies to develop a more structured approach to addressing illegal operators while protecting the integrity of DC's nightlife economy.
- **Improving Business Support & Regulatory Efficiency:** Advancing Mayor Bowser's commitment to economic opportunity, MONC will work on initiatives to **simplify business licensing and permitting processes** to help small businesses grow and create jobs.
- **Enhancing Public Safety & Quality of Life:** In line with the Mayor's public safety agenda, MONC is working on nightlife safety initiatives, including **improved transportation access, harm reduction strategies, and safer public spaces.**

AGENCY PROGRAMS

- 60. Please discuss the role the Commission on Nightlife and Culture has played or is currently playing with the Nightlife Community. How has the Commission assisted the Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture and any other District agencies in addressing the challenges for small businesses this past year?**

Answer: The Commission on Nightlife and culture acts as advisors for MONC for nightlife business owners and provides insight on best practices for that community.

- 61. Please discuss the number of times the Commission convened a meeting in fiscal years 2023, 2024, and 2025, to date. What issues are most prevalent to the Commission or most reoccurring?**

Answer: Since fiscal year 2023, the commission has convened two meetings. Due to challenges in reaching quorum, the commission was unable to hold additional meetings during this period. Once reappointments and new appointments are confirmed by the council we will resume the quarterly meetings.

- 62. 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.**

Answer: The Committee is supposed to convene once a quarter (or every three months) and meets with MONC at that time. There are no scheduled monthly meetings between the commission and the office.

- 63. Please share the recommendations the Commission has provided to the Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture for fiscal years 2023, 2024, and 2025, to date, and share the ones that have been implemented.**

Answer: There are no new recommendations.

- 64. What efforts has the office made in calendar year 2024 to amplify Go-Go Music throughout the District and beyond, as the official music of DC?**

Answer: In 2024, the Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture made significant strides in amplifying Go-Go music as the official sound of DC. We supported the launch and opening of the Go-Go Museum, a dedicated space preserving and celebrating Go-Go's cultural legacy. Additionally, we partnered with the DC Public Library to bring the 4th anniversary Go-Go concert to the Howard Theatre and continue to support Go-Go events across the city.

- 65. The past few years, the Council has passed various emergencies which allowed extended hours for licensed establishments to serve alcoholic beverages during special events like World Cup and the Olympics. What feedback did the Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture receive on during and after these events from both the business community and residents?**

Answer: The Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture received positive feedback from the business community regarding extended hours during special events such as the World Cup and the Olympics. Licensed establishments reported increased revenue, higher customer traffic, and an overall boost in business during these events. Many venues that hosted viewing parties benefited significantly from the extended hours.

Additionally, most establishments would like the extended hours to include national events, not just holidays, such as the Super Bowl, NBA All-Star Game, Halloween, and others. Businesses see these events as major economic drivers that attract large crowds and increase spending in the hospitality industry

66. What feedback did the Commission receive on the Streatery Program this past year, including its impact on the nightlife community?

Answer: The Streatery Program received largely positive feedback over the past year, particularly regarding its impact on increased foot traffic and revenue for businesses. However, concerns were raised about reduced parking availability, insufficient funding to comply with new regulations, and uncertainty about potential future regulatory changes. A key recommendation is to allocate funding to help businesses transition their physical structures to meet updated requirements

67. Last year, the Office shared that they were working with GW on a survey of the industry. Has this been completed? If so, please share the results of the survey. If not, why not?

Answer: MONC is partnering with other agencies to better develop the study and to pass that control to those agencies.

68. 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.

Answer:

Expansion on Downtown Development – Advocate for increased business presence in downtown
Public Safety – Requests for more MPD presence

Workforce Development – Increased training availability for restaurant and nightlife staff

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

Answer: There is one reminder vacancy in the commission for a visual artist and we are looking for qualified candidates.

70. What work has MONC done to help prepare the nightlife industry for World Pride this coming year?

Answer: MONC has partnered with Capital Pride Alliance to promote events like Taste of Pride and ensure nightlife businesses are prepared for large crowds. We've supported messaging from Capital

Pride and the LGBTQ Affairs Office and provided guidance on licensing, compliance, and extended hours. Our goal is to ensure a safe and successful event for businesses and the community.

71. What is MONC’s community outreach? How has MONC worked to get involved across different communities across the District?

- **Please detail the three main themes or priorities that are shared across the District for the communities surrounding nightlife corridors.**

MONC’s community outreach strategy focuses on fostering collaboration and transparency between nightlife establishments, residents, and other stakeholders throughout the District. Our outreach efforts include regular engagement with Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (ANCs), community organizations, and small business owners to ensure we’re addressing concerns and promoting responsible nightlife. Through these conversations, MONC works to balance the needs of nightlife businesses with the quality of life for residents.

Additionally, MONC collaborates with various city agencies, including MPD, DOH, and DPW, to address community concerns such as noise, safety, and traffic management. We also participate in town halls, cultural forums, and citywide events to connect with different communities, sharing information about key programs, licensing updates, and public safety initiatives. By doing so, MONC ensures that all parties are informed and involved in decision-making processes that impact both the nightlife industry and the surrounding neighborhoods.

- **Public Safety**
Ensure venues remain safe for patrons and nearby residents through coordination with law enforcement and emergency services, minimizing risks like overcrowding and disturbances.
- **Economic Support for Businesses**
Provide comprehensive financial support, including assistance with rent, grants, and tax incentives. Streamline licensing and compliance processes, advocate for extended operating hours during major events, and assist with securing funding to help businesses thrive and remain competitive.
- **Community Engagement**
Building positive relationships between nightlife establishments and local communities by addressing concerns like noise and traffic, and ensuring businesses are good neighbors while contributing to the local economy.