



News Release

For immediate release

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MAWOCC Annual Meeting Celebrates Eight Years and Lays Foundation for 2024

January 17, 2024 - The Massachusetts Women of Color Coalition (MAWOCC) will host its Annual Meeting and Celebration featuring keynote speaker Representative Brandy Fluker Oakley and a legislative panel discussion with Congressman James McGovern and Senator Robyn Kennedy on Saturday, January 20th from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. at College of the Holy Cross Hogan Center, 1 College Street in Worcester.

Fluker Oakley, Esq. is a State Representative for the 12th Suffolk District serving parts of Dorchester, Hyde Park, Mattapan, and Milton. She serves as the House Co-Chair of the Ellen Story Commission on Postpartum Depression, Vice-Chair of the Racial Equity, Civil Rights, and Inclusion Committee, and is a member of The Judiciary Committee, the Transportation Committee, and the Revenue Committee. Fluker Oakley also serves on the Women's Caucus executive board as Treasurer and is an engaged member of the MA Black and Latino Legislative Caucus.

MAWOCC President & CEO Celia Johnston Blue said: "Representative Brandy Fluker Oakley exemplifies the relentless pursuit of progress that MAWOCC is committed to, breaking down systemic barriers that exist for women of color to ascend and remain in leadership roles. Her dedication to justice, equity, and inclusion resonates with our mission, making her an inspiring choice as the keynote speaker for our Annual Meeting and Celebration. We are honored to have her share her insights and experiences with us."

Johnston Blue added that Congressman McGovern and Senator Kennedy are avid supporters of MAWOCC's mission, having secured earmark funding for the organization. "We are also excited to hear from Congressman McGovern and Senator Kennedy as they share insights and experiences during our legislative panel discussion," she said.

The MAWOCC Annual Meeting and Celebration serves as an opportunity to share MAWOCC's 2023 achievements, which include the launch of an Intergenerational Leadership Academy, significant progress with pay equity legislation, trainings, collaborations and more. It also serves to identify the organization's priorities for 2024. The event invites women of color and high school girls of color, members, allies, and supporters and is free of charge for students. **Registration is required** at bit.ly/celebrateMAWOCC.

About MAWOCC

Established in 2015, the Massachusetts Women of Color Coalition Inc. is dedicated to eradicating the racial inequities among women of color created by structural, institutional, interpersonal, and internalized racism. MAWOCC addresses racial inequities through authentic inclusion in the areas of politics and civic leadership, education justice, economic power & sustainability, criminal justice reform, health, and wellness. Our success is designed to maximize the benefits and contributions for all aggrieved communities of color and the Commonwealth as a whole. MAWOCC is a non-partisan organization; we do not support or oppose any candidate or political party.

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