

# NATIONAL POLICY

SUMMIT 2026

February 25-27, 2026

## ADVANCING ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT THROUGH LEGISLATIVE ACTION FOR **ALL**

**Emerging U.S. policy is being shaped without the voices of working families.**

Engage with policymakers, advocates, and innovators shaping forward-looking policies to advance economic equity. By working together, we can dismantle systemic barriers and drive lasting, meaningful change.

Join us at the nation's leading national policy workshop and play a direct role in shaping policy positions that will impact millions of families and businesses across the country.

### THE ISSUES

- Economic Empowerment
- Technology Inclusion
- Energy Opportunities
- Sports, Entertainment & Hip-Hop
- International Issues (networking & sustainability)
- Antitrust Policy Reform
- Housing & Lending
- Government Contract Distribution
- Healthcare Inclusion
- AI Blockchain & Metaverse
- AI Workforce Displacement & Opportunity

**February 25 - 26**

**Policy Summit**

9am - 5pm

National Press Club

Washington, D.C

**February 27**

**Town Hall**

11am - 1pm

Rayburn House Bldg.

Room #2044

Washington, D.C



presented by:

**FSIC**  
Financial Services  
Innovation Coalition



[FSICoalition.org](https://FSICoalition.org)



# Master of Ceremonies

**NATIONAL  
POLICY  
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**Kevin B. Kimble, Esq.**  
Founder and CEO, FSIC

As founder of the Financial Services Innovation Coalition (FSIC), a DC-based economic empowerment platform and think tank, Mr. Kimble is in a unique position to create connections between government, nonprofits, and corporations and facilitate the organization, funding, and integration of programs dedicated to financial wellness and accessibility. His extensive network of contacts in Congress and pertinent regulatory agencies facilitates this work.

Mr. Kimble is a 30-year veteran of Capitol Hill and has held positions as chief of staff for a senior member of Congress and chief lobbyist for one of the nation's largest financial services firms. As the current DC Bureau Chief for the national chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), Kevin has unparalleled access to minority communities and civic leaders around the country. He is routinely called upon and advises members of Congress on policy and legislative issues and has been asked to speak to state and local government and testify at hearings.

# Principal Event Organizer



**Brady J. Buckner**  
President, FSIC

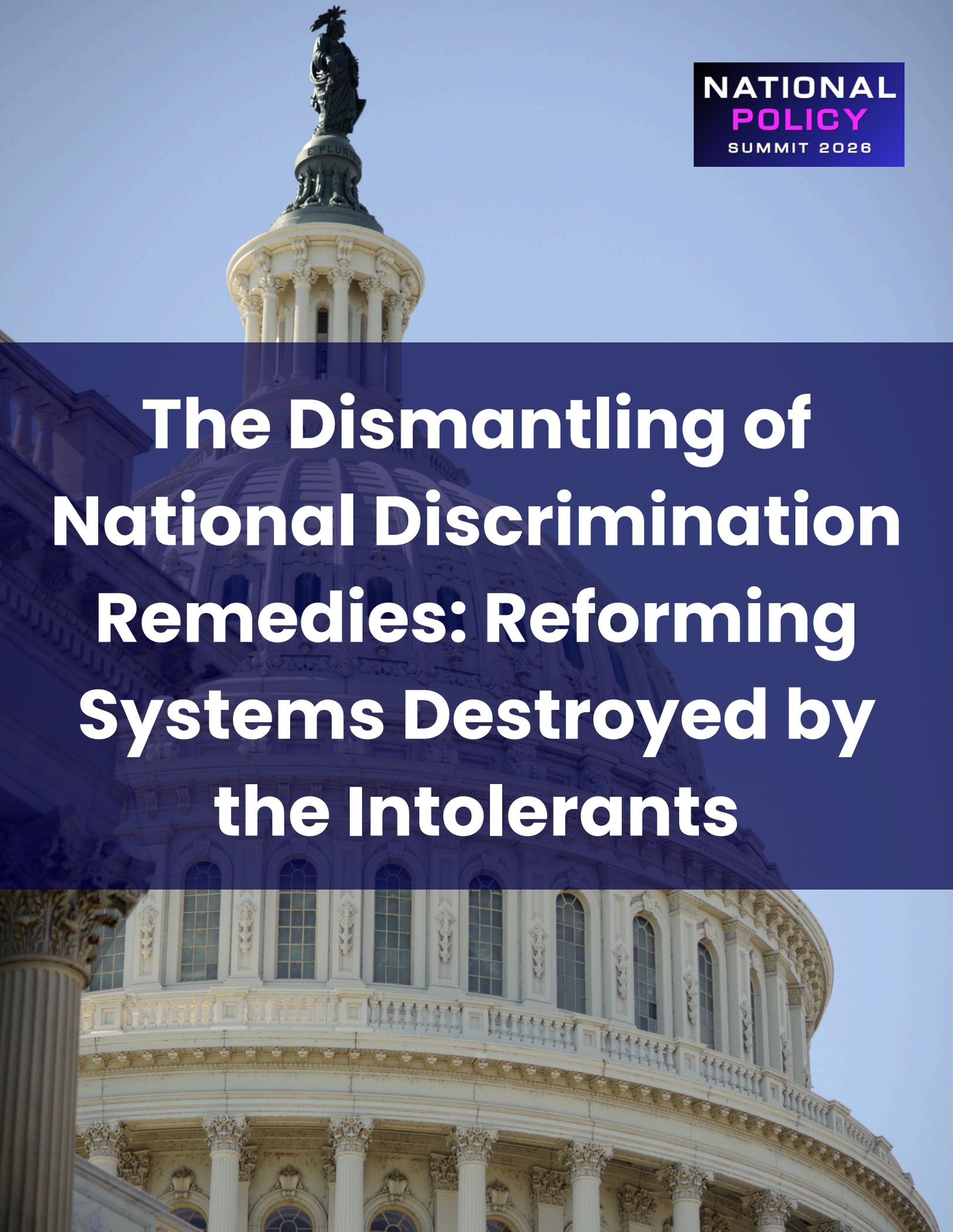
Mr. Buckner has been an officer with FSIC for over ten years and currently serves as its President. He has designed and managed programs for Nonprofit organizations and for-profit companies seeking to improve the lives of disadvantaged individuals through economic empowerment. He is a financial services expert and has worked in the brokerage and banking industries for over 30 years.

Formerly, he has acted as the VP of Sales and Marketing for Alliance Capital, an Investment Analyst with the Consulting Group at Smith Barney, an Account Executive with CIBC Oppenheimer, a Senior Financial Sales Consultant with PNC Bank, and an RIA Administrator with Pacific West Financial. Brady is currently the President of FSIC and the FSIC American Innovation and Opportunity Fund (AIOF).

Brady believes that the U.S. Economy would work better for ALL Americans if it were more inclusive.

The logo for the National Policy Summit 2026 is located in the top right corner. It consists of a dark blue rectangular box containing the text "NATIONAL POLICY" in white, with "POLICY" in a larger, pink font, and "SUMMIT 2026" in white below it.

**NATIONAL  
POLICY**  
SUMMIT 2026

The background of the entire page is a photograph of the U.S. Capitol dome. The top portion of the image is overlaid with a dark blue gradient, which serves as a background for the title text. The dome's architecture, including its columns and the Statue of Liberty on top, is visible in the background.

# **The Dismantling of National Discrimination Remedies: Reforming Systems Destroyed by the Intolerants**

## Spotlight 1

### Current Economic Indicators and Regular Americans:

The Numbers Are Not Good but There is Hope

The Issues: Wages, Jobs, Affordability, Economic Outlook

The macroeconomic data tell one story; kitchen-table economics tells another. Unemployment is low, but underemployment is rampant. Wage growth exists on paper, but inflation has devoured purchasing power. The affordability of housing, healthcare, childcare, and education has become the defining economic challenge, yet it barely registers in the GDP calculations that policymakers celebrate. This session refuses both toxic optimism and fatalistic despair. Yes, real wages have stagnated and cost of living has outpaced income growth.

### Speaker



**Michael Cunningham**  
Creative Investment Research  
Founder and Chief Economist

### Schedule

9:40 AM

Discussion



### Introduction

**Brady J. Buckner**  
President, FSIC

## Antitrust Policy Reform

**Reducing Anticompetitive Behavior:** How Monopolistic Actions are Hurting Minority Businesses

The Issues: The increase of Monopolistic behavior, Failing Anti-competitive vs Antitrust policy, Legislation for Unwinding Anti-competitive Mergers, Stopping other Anticompetitive Behavior.

America's antitrust laws were designed to prevent monopolies and protect consumers. Instead, decades of lax enforcement and narrow interpretations have allowed corporate consolidation to reach levels unseen since the Gilded Age. This panel argues that current antitrust enforcement has failed, and asks what comes next. Should we unwind recent mergers that concentrated market power? Do we need new legislation specifically targeting digital platforms? Or can existing laws be reinterpreted and aggressively enforced?

+ Base on research & statistics.

## Speaker



**Kristian Soltes**  
Zebra Technologies  
Senior Counsel, Commercial & Antitrust

*Solutions and opinions from professional research and statistics.*

## Schedule

**Wednesday**  
**February 25, 2026**

10:05- 10:50 am

Policy Discussion



**Moderator**  
**Kevin B. Kimble, Esq.,**  
Founder and CEO, FSIC

# Panel Discussion 1

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## Technology and Artificial Intelligence

### AI and Job Displacement: A Policy Strategy to Redefine the Workforce

The Issues: Artificial Intelligence Workforce Displacement and Reintegration Opportunities, Future Literacy.

Artificial intelligence isn't coming, it's here, and it's already reshaping the workforce. Truck drivers, radiologists, customer service representatives, paralegals, journalists, and accountants all face potential displacement by AI systems that operate faster, more cost-effectively, and without benefits. This panel confronts the uncomfortable questions: What do we do with millions of displaced workers?

## Speakers



**Arthur Sidney**

The Sidney Group  
Founder



**Biff Wayne Clark**

Coefficient Technologies, LLC  
Managing Partner



**Jenelle Leonard**

Coefficient Technologies, LLC  
Co-Chair Digital Empowerment  
Task Force

+ Base on  
research &  
statistics.

## Schedule

Wednesday  
February 25, 2026

11:00 - 11:50 am

Panel



## Moderator

Brady J. Buckner  
President, FSIC

# Working Luncheon

Wednesday February 25, 2026

12:00 -1:00

## Civil Rights in the Age of Intolerance: Revealing the Theft of Civil Rights Protections

Civil rights protections built over sixty years are being dismantled with alarming speed, voting rights gutted, fair housing defunded, and employment discrimination remedies reinterpreted into irrelevance. Opponents don't call it rollback; they call it "colorblindness" and "merit-based policy." This session cuts through the euphemisms to examine what's being lost.

### Speakers

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**Victor S. Angry**  
Neabsco District Supervisor  
Entrepreneur and Author



**Dr. Wendy Muhammad**  
Healthcare Business and Real  
Estate Developer

### Introduction

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**Kevin B. Kimble, Esq.**  
FSIC  
Founder and CEO

## Government Contracting and Infrastructure

**What Steps Can Be Taken to Address the Systemic:** Assault Against Remedies to Discrimination in Contract Distribution?

**The Issues:** Disparity Studies, Small and Minority Contracting, OCIP, MBEs, SBA 8a Program

Decades of legal frameworks were built to ensure fair distribution of government contracts and address historical discrimination against minority-owned businesses. Today, those remedies face coordinated attacks through litigation, policy rollbacks, and procedural obstacles. Disparities studies documenting ongoing discrimination are being challenged or ignored. Programs designed to support small and minority-owned contractors are being dismantled under the guise of "merit" and "efficiency."

This panel examines how Owner-Controlled Insurance Programs (OCIP) and other mechanisms can exclude minority business enterprises (MBEs) while appearing race-neutral. What steps can advocates take to defend and rebuild these remedies before they're eroded beyond recognition?

+ Base on research & statistics.

### Speakers



**Dr. Floyd Jeter**  
City of Jersey City  
Chief Diversity Officer



**Markita Brooks**  
Kindom Wealth, LLC  
Founder and Owner



**Martin Mason**  
Rapid Runs Transportation  
VP Sales & Marketing

### Schedule

**Wednesday**  
**February 25, 2026**

1:00 - 2:10 PM

Panel



### Moderator

**Kevin B. Kimble, Esq.,**  
Founder and CEO, FSIC

Wednesday February 25, 2026

2:20 – 3:00 PM

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## Spotlight 2

# Housing & Lending

## Home Ownership: Why Minority Families Continue to be Systematically Denied Access

**The Issues:** Housing Prices, Housing Availability, Housing Affordability

Homeownership, the traditional pathway to middle-class wealth, has become a mirage for millions of Americans. Housing shortages drive prices beyond reach. Interest rates fluctuate wildly, turning mortgages into moving targets. But the crisis goes deeper than supply and demand: discriminatory appraisal practices systematically undervalue properties in minority neighborhoods. A home appraised at \$250,000 in a white neighborhood might be valued at \$180,000 across town because of the appraiser's bias. This session examines the compounding barriers to homeownership: insufficient housing stock, prohibitive mortgage rates, and predatory lending practices targeting vulnerable buyers. Can policy interventions create meaningful change, or has the American Dream of homeownership become obsolete for an entire generation?

### Speakers

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#### Josephine Mourning

SCLC

President, SCLC PG County Chapter



#### Thaddaus Dawson

10K Black Appraisers

Founder

### Moderator

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#### Kevin B. Kimble, Esq.

FSIC

Founder and CEO

# Policy Discussion 3

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## Global Policy

From the Continent to the Diaspora in the Era of Chaotic Foreign Policy

**The Issues:** Foreign Aid and Development Assistance, Digital Sovereignty, Developing Trade Opportunities

In an interconnected world, international agreements, trade policies, and global conflicts shape American legislation in ways voters rarely see. From trade deals that affect domestic manufacturing jobs to international human rights frameworks influencing civil rights law, global policy isn't abstract, it's personal. This panel decodes how international dynamics flow into U.S. policy debates: climate accords that impact energy costs, immigration treaties that shape border policy, and foreign conflicts that drive defense spending and domestic surveillance. Attendees will gain tools to trace domestic policy decisions back to their international origins and hold legislators accountable for commitments made on the world stage.

## Speakers



**Angelle Kwemo**

Deputy Chief of Staff

Rep. Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick (D-FL)



**Arthur Sidney**

The Sidney Group

Founder

+ Base on research & statistics.

## Schedule

Wednesday  
February 25, 2026

3:10 - 3:50 PM

Discussion



**Moderator**

Kevin B. Kimble, Esq.

FSIC

Founder & CEO

## Advocacy and Voting Rights

### Building and Exercising Your Political Power

The Issues: Coalitions, State Advocacy Efforts, Preserving Voting Rights

Political power isn't given, it's built, exercised, and defended. Voting rights face relentless assault through voter ID laws, purged rolls, eliminated polling locations, and gerrymandered districts designed to dilute minority votes. Yet state-level advocacy efforts continue to win: ballot initiatives passing despite legislative opposition, coalition-built campaigns flipping districts, grassroots organizing protecting access. This session examines how effective coalitions form across race, class, and issue lines without collapsing into lowest-common-denominator politics. It will address the hard questions: How do you preserve voting rights when courts won't help? How do you build durable political power in communities that have been systematically excluded? When do coalitions strengthen movements, and when do they dilute them? Practical strategies for state advocacy, voter protection, and converting organizing into tangible political wins.

### Speaker

+ Base on research & statistics.



**Matt Angle**

The Lone Star Project  
Founder

## Schedule

Wednesday  
February 25, 2026

4:00 - 4:25 PM

Discussion



### Moderator

Kevin B. Kimble, Esq.,  
Founder and CEO, FSIC

# Policy Discussion 4

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## Advocacy and Legislative Earmarks

Policy and Advocacy: How to Develop a Call to Action

**The Issues:** Advocacy strategy

Advocacy without strategy is just noise. With legislative earmarks making a comeback, there are renewed opportunities, and renewed challenges, for communities to secure targeted funding. But earmarks aren't free money; they require savvy navigation of congressional procedures, relationships with legislators, and clear articulation of community needs. This conversation offers a masterclass in turning advocacy into results.

## Speakers



**Yardly Pollas Kimble, Esq.**

Venable, LLP

Entrepreneur and Author



**Arthur Sidney, Esq.**

The Sidney Group

Founder

+ Base on research & statistics.

## Schedule

**Wednesday**  
**February 25, 2026**

4:35 – 5:15 PM

Discussion



**Moderator**

Kevin B. Kimble, Esq.

FSIC

Founder & CEO

Reception 5:15- 7 PM

Please join us for a  
**Networking Reception**  
from 5:15-7 pm, directly  
after day one of **NPS26**.

**THANK YOU!**

We recognize & celebrate  
our FSIC Network  
Members who have  
demonstrated  
exceptional dedication to  
advocacy and  
community service,  
making this summit  
possible.

**TOGETHER** WE CAN  
ADVANCE ECONOMIC  
**EMPOWERMENT** THROUGH  
LEGISLATIVE ACTION FOR  
**ALL!**

## Schedule

**Wednesday**  
**February 25, 2026**

5:15	Closing Remarks
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### Facilitator

**Brady J. Buckner**  
President, FSIC

## Policy Discussion 1 Education

### Change in Education Policy: An Opportunity for Fairness in Resource Distribution

**The Issues:** Funding for Public Schools, How to Get Better Results for Students, a Plan for the Future of Educating our Youth

With the Department of Education sidelined, America's education system is in flux. Funding formulas tied to property taxes perpetuate inequality. School choice debates pit charter schools against traditional public schools. Achievement gaps persist despite decades of reform. This panel reframes education policy around a provocative premise: the current shifts in policy, whether driven by federal, state, or local changes, represent an opportunity for fairness in resource distribution. Can we finally break the cycle in which ZIP codes determine educational quality? Panelists will explore funding mechanisms, accountability metrics, and what "better results for students" actually means when measured beyond test scores.

+ Base on research & statistics.

## Speakers



**Jenelle Leonard**  
Digital Empowerment Task Force  
Co-Chair



**Wela Blegay**  
Prince George's County  
At Large Council Member  
Candidate US Congress (MD-5)



**Dr. Searetha Smith-Collins**  
SEA-S Consultants  
President and Sr. Executive Education  
Strategist and Thought Leader

## Schedule

Thursday  
February 25, 2026

10:00 – 11:00 AM

Discussion



## Moderator

**Carrie Gibson**  
Marketing &  
Communications  
Manager  
FSIC

# Spotlight 1

Thursday February 25, 2026  
11:10 - 11:40 AM

# ADVOCACY & POLITICS

## Speaker



### Robert Slater

Slate Table and Bar

Owner

Candidate US Congress (TX-29)

## Guest



### Kelly Mikel Williams

Black Politics Today

Creator, Executive Producer, Host

Candidate - US Congress, DC

**The Issues:** Political Candidates, Local vs. National Issues, Party Gridlock

**Legislation and Policy:** From Local to Federal Government Elections matter, but which ones matter most? This keynote challenges the hierarchy of political attention, arguing that grassroots change often originates at the local level and scales upward. Political candidates promise solutions, but how do we distinguish between genuine policy commitments and empty rhetoric?

## Introduction



### Tracey Harvey

Leading Ladies of RVA

Founder

TCT Design Firm

Director of Marketing

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# Working Luncheon

Thursday February 25, 2026  
12:00 – 1:00 PM

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## Healthcare

**The Business of Healthcare:**  
The Future of Pharmacy  
Benefit Managers

## Introduction



**Brady J. Buckner**  
President  
FSIC

**The Issues:** Patient Care Advocates and their community involvement / impact

Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs) were created to control drug costs and streamline prescription coverage. This working luncheon explores the hidden mechanisms of PBMs: rebate schemes, spread pricing, and formulary manipulation. Attendees will grapple with whether PBMs can be reformed or whether their entire business model needs dismantling. It's a rare chance to understand the plumbing of American healthcare, and why your prescriptions cost what they do.

## Speakers



**Greg Baker**  
AffirmedRx  
CEO



**Megan Mullaney**  
AffirmedRx  
VP of Client Success and  
Patient Care Advocacy

## Healthcare – Consumers and Patients

**Obamacare is Now Unaffordable:** Solutions to Reducing Costs and Improving Access

**The Issues:** 340B, PBM, Drug costs, Health Deserts (pharmacy, insurance, medical facilities), Healthcare as a Public Utility

The Affordable Care Act promised to make healthcare accessible, yet premiums, deductibles, and prescription costs have soared beyond reach for many who were supposed to benefit most. This panel takes a critical look at what went wrong and what can be done. From the controversial 340B drug pricing program to pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) extracting profits from the system, to entire communities designated as health deserts, lacking pharmacies, insurance options, or medical facilities, the healthcare landscape is fractured. Should healthcare be reconceived as a public utility, guaranteed and regulated like electricity or water? Or do market-based solutions hold the key to reducing costs and improving access? Expect a frank discussion that challenges both progressive and conservative sacred cows

## Speakers

+  
Base on  
research &  
statistics.



**Greg Baker**

AffirmedRx  
CEO



**Dr. Ray**

League of United Latin American  
(LULAC)  
National Director of Research & Policy



**Brenda A. Leath DPS,  
MHA, PMP**

Leath & Associates, Inc.  
President and CEO



**Dr. Wendy Muhammad**

Healthcare Business and Real  
Estate Developer

## Schedule

**Thursday  
February 26, 2025**

1:00 – 2:10 PM

Discussion



**Moderator**

Kevin B. Kimble, Esq.  
FSIC  
Founder & CEO

# Policy Discussion 2

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## The Consumer and Tax Reform - The Economy Isn't Working for Most of Us:

Why GDP and Unemployment Numbers Don't Reflect Reality for Families

**The Issues:** Tax Policy, HR 2927, Consumer Debt (Crisis of Credit Cards, Car Loans (repossessions), Student Loans, Affordability

While headlines tout low unemployment and GDP growth, millions of Americans face a starkly different reality: maxed-out credit cards, repossessed vehicles, crushing student debt, and housing costs that devour paychecks. Panelists will examine proposals such as HR 2927 alongside consumer debt trends, questioning whether current tax policy serves the prosperity it's meant to generate or simply perpetuates a system that appears healthy on paper while families struggle to stay afloat.

## Speakers



**Adaeze Amaram**

YHWH Enterprise  
CPA, Founder



**G. Michael Flores**

Bretton Woods, Inc.  
CEO



**Michael Lusko**

Association for Consumer Debt Relief  
Head of Government Affairs



**Stephanie Fauntleroy**

Baker's Tax Service  
CPA, IRS Enrolled Agent

+  
Base on  
research &  
statistics.

## Schedule

Thursday  
February 26, 2025

2:20 - 3:30 PM

Discussion



**Moderator**

Kevin B. Kimble, Esq.  
FSIC  
Founder & CEO

# Day 2 – Spotlight 1

Thursday February 26, 2025  
3:40 PM

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## Environmental Justice

### The CA Fires: Investing in the Rebuild of Minority Neighborhoods

The Issues: Fair Distribution of Disaster Relief and Rebuilding Resources

Natural disasters don't discriminate, but disaster recovery does. The California fires devastated communities across income and racial lines, yet rebuilding follows a predictable pattern: wealthy neighborhoods recover quickly while minority communities face bureaucratic delays, inadequate aid, and predatory contractors. Federal disaster relief exists, but navigating FEMA, insurance claims, and rebuilding permits requires resources many families don't have. This session examines whether California's rebuild will replicate historical inequities or correct them.

### Speaker



**William Michael Cunningham**  
Global Risk Managers, Inc.  
President & CEO

### Introduction



**Brady J. Buckner**  
President  
FSIC

# Policy Discussion 3

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## Advocacy: Building a Community Advocacy Organization

### Power in Our Hands – Why Communities Must Advocate for Themselves

**The Issues:** The urgency of grassroots advocacy, Strategies for sustainable advocacy, barriers communities face, Cannabis equity advocacy efforts

**No one is coming to save your community**, and that's both terrifying and liberating. This panel argues that effective advocacy can't be outsourced to politicians, nonprofits, or national organizations. Change requires communities organizing themselves, understanding their own needs, and applying sustained pressure. Barriers are real: lack of resources, political experience, time, and access to decision-makers. Yet grassroots movements continue to win, from environmental justice campaigns to cannabis equity advocacy efforts creating pathways for communities harmed by the war on drugs.

## Speakers



**Jennifer L. Martin**  
Shattered Ceilings  
Founder and Executive Director



**Monique Buchanan**  
Eagle's Nest Transitional  
& Emergency Housing  
VP Sales & Marketing



**Martin Mason**  
Rapid Runs Transportation  
VP Sales & Marketing

+ Base on  
research &  
statistics.

## Schedule

Thursday  
February 25, 2026

4:00 - 4:50 PM

Discussion



**Moderator**  
Kevin B. Kimble, Esq.  
FSIC  
Founder & CEO

**5:00–5:30 PM**

# Networking Q&A Letter Sign-ons



## Facilitator

**Kevin B. Kimble, Esq.,**  
Founder and CEO, FSIC

**5:30 – 6:00 PM**

# Recap **NPS26** **NPS27** Preview



## Facilitator

**Brady J. Buckner**  
President, FSIC

# NATIONAL POLICY

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## Town Hall

# Government Contract Distribution

Discrimination in Government Contracting:  
What Will Emerge from the Breakdown of Remedies

## THE ISSUES

- Disruptions to the SBA 8(a) and DOT DBE/ACDBE Programs
- State Government Contract Distribution Studies
- Building Effective Discrimination Remedies
- Improving Minority Contractor GC Participation
- Government Contract Distribution Exclusion Methods

## February 27

11am - 1pm

Rayburn House Bldg. #2044

Washington, D.C

**REGISTER  
TODAY!**



**Emerging U.S. policy is being shaped  
without the voices of working families.**

Engage with policymakers, advocates, and innovators shaping forward-looking policies to advance economic equity. By working together, we can dismantle systemic barriers and drive lasting, meaningful change.

**[NPS26 REGISTRATION LINK](#)**

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Financial Services  
Innovation Coalition

# NPS26

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