



# FINANCIAL SERVICES PROFESSIONALS

## BECOME A MEMBER!

[Click Here to Join](#)

Memberships renew annually on your anniversary date, until cancelled.

## GET INVOLVED!

Contact Committee Chairs to help shape content and programming of FSP events and resources by sending an email to [FSPProfessionalsdc@gmail.com](mailto:FSPProfessionalsdc@gmail.com) indicating which committee you would like to join.

### Standing Committees and Committee Chairs:

[Career Development](#)

Todd Cranford

[Planning](#)

Quincy Enoch

[Young Professionals](#)

Cortney Coutreyer

Tealanie Baldwin

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Greetings FSP!!

I am excited to introduce the first edition of FSP's bi-monthly newsletter. It is our way of keeping our members informed about FSP activities, resources, member achievements, and other newsworthy information. In addition, it will feature a member showcase. To kick off our brand-new publication, let me first recognize our Editor in Chief, Board member Tamara King and Co-Editor, Board Member Alane Dent. You are invited to read it and tell us what you think. This publication is an added benefit to FSP membership, another tool designed to provide networking, educational, and career advancement support to Black financial services professionals.

Throughout the spring and summer, FSP has had to adapt like every other person and entity in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. Nonetheless, we have been productive. We hosted a virtual forum on the impacts of COVID-19 on the Black Community. In addition, the Young Professionals hosted an event entitled "I Can't Breathe".

Finally, we published two thoughtful statements from the Board. One expressed our condemnation for the George Floyd and other senseless murders of Black people.

[www.financialservicesprofessionals.org/corporate/business-needs-customers](http://www.financialservicesprofessionals.org/corporate/business-needs-customers).

The second statement was a tribute to the Honorable John Lewis and expressed our sadness and condolences over the loss of a giant in the Civil Rights Movement. That statement can be viewed on the opening page of our website:

[www.financialservicesprofessionals.org/](http://www.financialservicesprofessionals.org/).



Looking ahead, we are working to reschedule our meeting with SEC Chairman Jay Clayton. Our plan is to host Chairman Clayton in September. We are positioning FSP as a

resource to provide Black talent, in the event there is a change of Administration. In addition, several private companies looking to increase their diversity, have reached out and asked to collaborate with FSP.

We appreciate your involvement and encourage you to go to our website and join FSP so that you can access all of the benefits of membership. The link to join is here: [www.financialservicesprofessionals.org/membership-levels](http://www.financialservicesprofessionals.org/membership-levels).

## FSP VIRTUAL FORUM - COVID-19: ECONOMIC IMPACTS IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY



FSP hosted a virtual forum, moderated by Board Member Quincy Enoch, on May 26th entitled COVID-19: Economic Impacts in the Black Community. Honored guests included Congressman Marc Veasey, D-TX, Member of the House Small Business and Energy & Commerce Committees; Renee Sattiewhite, Pres. & CEO, African American Credit Union Coalition; Kenneth Kelly, CEO, First Independence Bank and Chairman, National Bankers Association; and C. Earl Peek, CPA, business owner and former Treasury official. “Timely and informative” best describe the valuable

insights shared by our guest speakers, highlighting the disparate economic impacts of the pandemic on communities of color and, more importantly, discussing how best to address the disparities. The full recording of that program can be found here: [www.financialservicesprofessionals.org/covid-19-economic-impacts-in-the-black-community-virtual-forum/](http://www.financialservicesprofessionals.org/covid-19-economic-impacts-in-the-black-community-virtual-forum/)

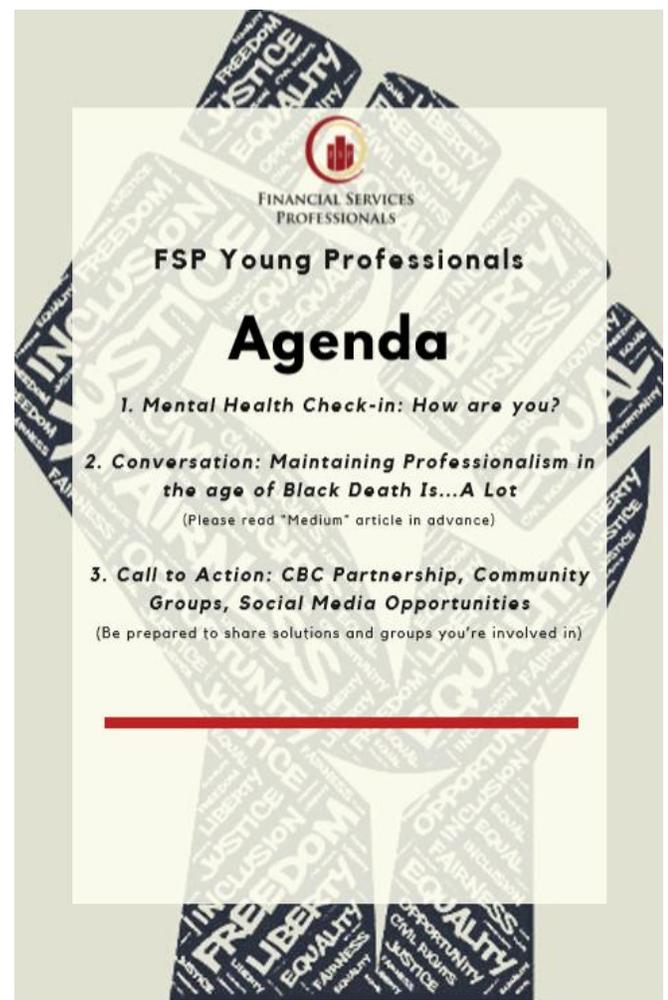
## FSP YOUNG PROFESSIONALS - VIRTUAL EVENT

In June, the FSP Young Professionals Committee hosted “I Can’t Breathe”, a virtual mental health and wellness check-in for members. In the midst of the unjustified killings of unarmed Black men and women, on top of the taxing pandemic, the young professionals committee convened a robust conversation on how to maintain professionalism in the age of Black trauma and how to be an advocate, while also protecting your mental wellness. The hour long session was well attended by our members from diverse professional backgrounds and sparked a great dialogue about how FSP members can drive change personally and professionally. Be on the lookout for more virtual sessions from the Young Professionals Committee as we continue to adjust to new ways of connecting! Have ideas on events you would like to see from us? Send them to [FSPprofessionalsdc@gmail.com](mailto:FSPprofessionalsdc@gmail.com).

## FSP JOB BANK

Did you know that FSP has a Job Bank exclusively for its members? We post job announcements and maintain a repository of resumes accessible to our sponsors. Look for recent postings or post your resume here:

[www.financialservicesprofessionals.org/resume-bank](http://www.financialservicesprofessionals.org/resume-bank).



## MEMBER SHOUT OUTS



In March, FSP Board Member Alane Dent became the founder and President of Dent Strategies, a boutique government relations firm specializing in federal and state advocacy for financial services firms. Immediately prior to launching Dent Strategies, Alane served as ACLI's Senior Vice President for Federal Relations.



In April, De'Ana Dow became Chair of the DC Bar Corporation, Finance and Securities Law Community Subcommittee on Diversity and Inclusion in Business and Finance. The D&I Subcommittee was formed to address and promote diversity and inclusion among lawyers and within entities in the business and finance sectors.

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FSP wants to celebrate the achievements of our members. Let us know if you or one of your FSP colleagues has received a promotion, changed jobs, or had another career achievement that we can celebrate as a community. Send announcements to [FSPProfessionalsdc@gmail.com](mailto:FSPProfessionalsdc@gmail.com).

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## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT – MEET TODD L. CRANFORD



**What is your current role and why do you enjoy it?**

I am the Head of Government Affairs & External Relations for the Financial Accounting Foundation, a Connecticut-based not-for-profit that oversees the FASB and GASB, the two organizations tasked with developing and improving generally accepted accounting principles, better known as GAAP. I enjoy my role with FAF because while accounting may be considered a little dry, the policy issues surrounding accounting standards are interesting and I have gained valuable insight into the critical role they play for investors and our capital markets. The FAF is also a great organization. This, and similar roles, allow me to combine my legal training and my

love of advocacy and policy.

**How did you start your career in the financial services industry?**

I was going to be a career criminal prosecutor. I spent a summer with the Brooklyn D.A.'s office and just knew that prosecuting would be my future. God, however, had a different plan. I relocated from New York to Washington, DC in the mid-90s to join the enforcement division at the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC); not because I was interested in securities, but because I wanted to be in DC. The SEC was the first good offer I received, and I thought it would be beneficial to spend a couple of years there before moving on to a prosecutor's office. Nine years later, I was still at the SEC and loving it. I learned a great deal about how our capital markets operate (or don't) and I was struck by the amount of influence the industry wielded. Not surprisingly, I also quickly realized that there were far too few Blacks and other people of color operating in this space. So, I did what I could to encourage more Blacks to think about the financial services sector and to elevate those who were already in the industry. Since leaving the SEC, I have satisfied my policy jones working on the Financial Services Committee, represented financial services firms in private practice and have worked "in-house" for the past 7 years. I never become a prosecutor, but I have been blessed with a great career in financial services as a regulator, policymaker and advocate. And while Black representation in this space is still not what it should be, it is better than it was when I started nearly 30 years ago.

**How has your work changed and how have you adapted during the COVID-19 pandemic?**

Fortunately, the pandemic has not adversely impacted FAF's or my work. Like many people, I have been working remotely from home (a blessing in and of itself) and I have been able to do my job. This is a transformative period in time that has been foisted upon us. For better or worse, we will never again do business in quite the same way and all sectors will have to adjust to our new



## Suggestion Box

Here is your opportunity to share your recommendations for future FSP events, programs, and resources, as well as newsletter content. Send your thoughts to: [FSPProfessionalsdc@gmail.com](mailto:FSPProfessionalsdc@gmail.com)



## Contact Us

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environment and expectations. Although I think there is an undeniable benefit to being able to meet with people physically, technology has softened the blow of our inability to do so and I imagine that it will remain a prominent part of our landscape going forward, if for no other reason than it allows us to hold more meetings!

### Why are you involved with FSP?

Several years ago, FSP's chairwoman, De'Ana Dow, and others began organizing informal events that give Black financial services professionals opportunities to network. As FSP's visibility and effectiveness grew, its activities and purpose became more structured and intentional. FSP is now an incorporated nonprofit. Although "network" can have negative connotations in DC, I think FSP's greatest asset is its ability to bring together Black professionals and students from a broad cross-section of the financial services sector to engage in thoughtful conversation, professional development and industry awareness. We promote excellence *and* knowing each other. The opportunity to engage with other Black professionals in this industry is beneficial and, hopefully, will increase collaboration and success.

### "When I'm not working, I'd rather be..."

Striking work/life balance has always been very important to me. When I am not working, I love spending time with my family. A very close second is smoking BBQ on my Big Green Egg and sharing it with friends, which I hope to be able to do again soon.

### Final thoughts?

"It must be borne in mind that the tragedy of life doesn't lie in not reaching your goal. The tragedy lies in having no goals to reach." – Dr. Benjamin E. Mays.

## MISSION STATEMENT

FSP is a non-partisan independent, volunteer association founded to enrich the careers of its members by sharing the resources of a broad network of professionals in the financial services industry.

The purposes of the organization are to:

- Advance the excellence of professionals in the public and private financial services industry.
- Provide a pipeline of diverse candidates for public and private financial services positions and a repository of financial services industry opportunities for FSP members.
- Build a strong, effective network of financial services professionals to open pathways to career development and business opportunities.
- Provide educational platforms and policy forums for the continued intellectual growth of professionals in the financial services industry.
- Provide a forum for developing relationships and sharing information to enhance individual economic power through tangible business and professional advancement.

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