

CONSUMER FEDERATION OF AMERICA'S

Fiftieth Annual Awards Celebration

December 8, 2022



Program

SUSAN WEINSTOCK

CEO, CONSUMER FEDERATION OF AMERICA

WELCOME

JANET DOMENITZ

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MASSPIRG

CHAIR, CONSUMER FEDERATION OF AMERICA

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THE HONORABLE KARL RACINE

ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR THE DISTRICT OF

COLUMBIA

PHILIP HART

PUBLIC SERVICE

AWARD

PRESENTED BY

NATALIE LUDAWAY

CHIEF GROWTH & LEGAL OFFICER, CINQCARE

IRA RHEINGOLD

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL

ASSOCIATION OF CONSUMER ADVOCATES

(NACA)

ESTHER

PETERSON

CONSUMER

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PRESENTED BY

RICH DUBOIS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL CONSUMER LAW

CENTER

RACHEL WEINTRAUB

LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR AND GENERAL COUNSEL

CONSUMER FEDERATION OF AMERICA

CONSUMER

CHAMPION

AWARD

PRESENTED BY

NANCY COWLES

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, KIDS IN DANGER

2022 Award Recipients

PHILIP HART PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

Karl A. Racine became the District of Columbia's first elected Attorney General in 2015. Since taking office, AG Racine has fought relentlessly for all residents— but particularly for the most vulnerable— to help build a stronger, more just, and more equitable District for today and tomorrow. He has prioritized preserving affordable housing, employing evidence-based juvenile justice reforms, cracking down on slumlords, holding unscrupulous employers accountable for wage theft, and protecting consumers from scams and abusive business practices. To protect all District consumers, Attorney General Racine established the Office of Consumer Protection (OCP). OCP receives consumer complaints, mediates disputes, educates residents, and if necessary, files enforcement actions against individuals and companies who defraud District residents.

Attorney General Racine draws on over 25 years of legal and leadership experience in his work on behalf of District residents. Over the course of his career, he has worked at the D.C. Public Defender Service, served as Associate White House Counsel to President Bill Clinton, and worked on criminal cases and complex civil litigation at private firms. While in private practice, he was elected managing partner of his firm, Venable LLP, and became the first African American managing partner of a top-100 American law firm.

Born in Haiti, Attorney General Racine came to the District at the age of three. He attended D.C. public schools. He earned a B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania, where he was captain of the basketball team, and a J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law, where he volunteered in a legal clinic supporting the rights of migrant farm workers. His commitment to equal justice was inspired by his parents, who fled authoritarian rule in Haiti to start a better life in the United States, and by the lawyers of the Civil Rights Movement, who used the law to make positive social change.

CFA is pleased to present the Philip Hart Public Service Award to Attorney General Racine in recognition of his distinguished career and his contributions to protecting the District's and the country's consumers.

2022 Award Recipients

ESTHER PETERSON CONSUMER SERVICE AWARD

Ira Rheingold is the Executive Director of the National Association of Consumer Advocates (NACA), an organization dedicated to protecting consumers from unfair and deceptive business practices, which Rheingold has led for the last twenty-one years. At NACA, Rheingold has testified before both Houses of Congress on mortgage lending and consumer finance issues, offered commentary before federal agencies charged with regulating financial service industries and protecting consumers, helped draft amicus briefs on issues of vital concern to consumers before the nation's highest courts, and spoken at consumer-focused events and to national governments across Europe and in southern Africa. While at NACA, Rheingold also managed the Institute for Foreclosure Legal Assistance, a joint project of NACA and the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL).

Ira Rheingold currently serves on the Steering Committee of the Trans-Atlantic Consumer Dialogue (TACD), as Chairman of the Board of CRL, and is a Board Member of the Montgomery County, Maryland Consumer Protection Commission. He is also an active pro-bono attorney for the Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless.

Ira Rheingold is an experienced Executive Director dedicated to creatively serving the needs of consumers and low- and moderate-income communities and a skilled attorney who has designed and implemented innovative litigation, legislative, and programmatic strategies.

Rheingold's efforts on behalf of American consumers have had a profound impact on public policy, consumer protection, and marketplace fairness. He has provided effective leadership on a wide array of critically important consumer issues throughout his career. His commitment, leadership, and strong advocacy on pivotal consumer issues make Ira Rheingold an incredibly worthy recipient of the Esther Peterson Consumer Service Award, which CFA is honored to present to him.

2022 Award Recipients

CONSUMER CHAMPION AWARD

Rachel Weintraub is the Legislative Director and General Counsel for Consumer Federation of America (CFA). Weintraub has worked for CFA for over twenty years with a primary focus of advocacy on product safety issues. Weintraub's work has had a profound impact on public policy, consumer protection, product safety, and the consumer community at large. Her advocacy has led to improved regulation of our consumer products, greater product protections for children and their families, and improved safety in the marketplace, all of which have saved countless lives.

Weintraub represents CFA on behalf of consumers before the Consumer Product Safety Commission, Congress, state legislatures, and within voluntary standard setting organizations. Additionally for CFA, she oversees all of CFA's legislative and regulatory efforts and works on civil justice and financial services issues as well as with a wide range of internal legal issues. She has led CFA's involvement in and leadership of the Coalition for Sensible Safeguards, a group focused on ensuring that our country's system of regulatory safeguards should secure our quality of life, pave the way for a sound economy, and benefit us all. Weintraub serves on the F 15 Executive Committee of the American National Standards Institute (ASTM). Rachel is a past board member of ASTM and past president and board member of the International Consumer Product Health and Safety Organization.

Prior to her work for CFA, Weintraub was a consumer advocate with the U.S. Public Interest Research Group, the national lobbying office for the state PIRGs representing consumers on product safety and health care issues.

Weintraub graduated from the Boston University School of Law (JD). She spent her last year of law school at the Georgetown University Law Center where she also worked as a research assistant for the Federal Legislation Clinic. Weintraub graduated Phi Beta Kappa and Magna Cum Laude from Binghamton University (BA).

Rachel Weintraub has provided effective leadership on a wide array of critically important issues throughout her career and has represented CFA with exemplary skill, competence, and professionalism. Her mentorship has inspired and helped guide countless consumer protection advocates across issue areas.

In recognition of her remarkable accomplishments during her tenure at the Consumer Federation of America and her commitment, leadership, and effective advocacy on pivotal consumer protection issues including product safety, civil justice, regulatory reform, and financial services, CFA is thrilled to present Rachel Weintraub with the Consumer Champion Award.

About CFA

CFA is an association of non-profit consumer organizations, established in 1968 to advance the consumer interest through research, advocacy and education. Today, over 250 of these groups participate in the Federation, working to protect consumers on the national, state, and local level. CFA's broad range of activities include Banking & Credit, Communications, Competition & Regulation, Consumer Protection, Energy, Food & Agriculture, Housing, Insurance, Investor Protection, Privacy, Product Safety, and the America Saves program.

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WHAT THE HACK WITH ADAM LEVIN PODCAST

