

COLOR OF LAW – Sam Cary Bar Association Black History Month Event

A look at how local, state and federal laws created systematic disenfranchisement in housing and how we can combat the problem

2026 Black History Month CLE¹ and Community Event

February 28, 2026

Zion Community Center, 5151 E 33rd Ave, Denver, CO 80207

AGENDA

9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. – Registration and check in

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. – Angela Hutton-Hall, Esq. Attorney, City Park Law Group and Managing Broker of City Park Realty, LLC

“The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America”, by Richard Rothsteinz

- Attorney Hutton Hall will discuss the statutory and local authority used to allow housing discrimination, including redlining, racialized zoning, homeowner’s and other associations. She will discuss how those specific schemes were instituted in Colorado using the historic Black neighborhoods of Park Hill, Lincoln Park and Montbello as examples.

11:00 a.m. – Noon – Elisabeth (“Lisi”) Owen, Esq. - Founder and Chief Vision Officer of The Vanguard Collective LLC and principal of Vanguard Justice LLC, an anti-corruption law firm.

¹ 2 EDI credits applied for.

- Attorney Owen will talk about the relationship between the extreme race- and class-based segregation in Denver Public Schools and the District's extractive and exploitative economic activity over the course of at least forty years. She will explain how, since 1984, DPS has been using a shell corporation to unlawfully mortgage Denver school buildings for the purpose of generating investment income for a host of private actors, such as banks, private investors, brokers, and others, and how race- and class-based segregation has facilitated this decades-long shell game. Attorney Owen currently represents an organization called Mamás de DPS in a lawsuit against Denver Public Schools and a number of private actors that arises from this conduct.

Noon – 1:00 p.m. – Lunch sponsored by Texana Bank – Presentation by Mortgage Loan

Originator – Tina Lombard

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Panel Discussion

Moderator – Yarkenda Payne - Director of Justice for Black Coloradans

a. Bianka Emerson, J.D. – Colorado Black Women for Political Action

Ms. Emerson will discuss contributions to blight in communities of color and its impact on housing discrimination.

b. Michele LeFlore, Esq.

Attorney LeFlore will discuss the importance of voting in all elections with a focus on local elections and will explain voter registration.

c. City Councilwoman Shontel Lewis -

Councilwoman Lewis will discuss what local efforts are being taken to combat housing discrimination and support Black home ownership.

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Panel Discussion – the Current State of the Real Estate Market and Available Resources

Moderator – Regina Jackson – Compass - Action Jackson Realty LLC

- a. Ashton William, President for Denver chapter of the National Association of Real Estate Brokers (NAREB).
- b. Greg Brown - Business Development Specialist at Colorado Housing and Finance Authority (CHFA)
- c. Reba Jones, Board President, Project I See You
- d. Aisha Weeks - Executive Director Dearfield Fund

Attorney QR code for registration



Non-attorney QR code for registration

