

Caribbean-American Political Action Committee (C-PAC)

District of Columbia – 2026 Candidate Questionnaire

Office Sought: DC Council At-Large

Candidate's Name: Leniquadominique Jenkins

Current Occupation: Small Business Owner, Author, Educator, Former ANC Commissioner

Party: Democrat

Campaign Website: [VoteJenkinsForDC.com](http://VoteJenkinsForDC.com)

1. If elected, how would you proactively and consistently engage with Caribbean-American constituents, groups, local leaders, and organizations in your constituency?

As an At-Large Councilmember, I will establish a Caribbean Community Advisory Roundtable that meets quarterly to ensure policy decisions reflect the needs of Caribbean residents across the District. My international experience studying abroad in Spain and engaging with diverse global communities informs my belief that government must meet people where they are. I will regularly attend Caribbean cultural events, support community forums, and maintain open communication with Caribbean chambers of commerce, churches, and advocacy organizations to ensure their voices are reflected in policymaking.

2. How would your office address barriers Caribbean immigrants face when accessing public services such as healthcare, safe, affordable housing, education or social programs that disproportionately affect them?

Many Caribbean immigrants face challenges navigating government systems due to language barriers, immigration concerns, or lack of information. I will advocate for expanded language access services, community navigators, and culturally competent outreach so residents can confidently access healthcare, housing programs, and social services. My platform emphasizes prevention, support, and community-based solutions, ensuring families receive the help they need before issues escalate.

3. How do you ensure culturally responsive services for Caribbean-American residents across agencies?

Culturally responsive government requires both training and representation. I will push for cultural competency training across District agencies and ensure agencies hire staff who reflect the communities they serve. Additionally, I will support data collection and community feedback mechanisms to ensure agencies respond effectively to the needs of Caribbean residents.

4. What initiatives will you lead and/or support that benefit Caribbean-American small business owners and workers?

As a small business owner myself, I understand the barriers entrepreneurs face. I will advocate for expanded access to capital, technical assistance, and commercial rent stabilization policies that protect neighborhood businesses. I will also support procurement pathways that help Caribbean-owned businesses secure District contracts, allowing local entrepreneurs to grow and create jobs within their

communities.

5. What support would you provide for Caribbean-American students and parents, including language assistance and help navigating the school system?

As a former educator who taught Spanish in DC, I understand the importance of accessible education. I will support expanded language access in schools, culturally inclusive curricula, and stronger parent engagement programs. Additionally, my literacy initiatives—including community book programs and early childhood reading efforts—aim to ensure all students, including Caribbean youth, develop strong literacy skills and confidence in their identity.

6. How would you advance partnerships with Caribbean-American community organizations to promote mental health, chronic disease prevention, or other wellness initiatives?

Health equity requires trusted partnerships. I will collaborate with Caribbean churches, nonprofits, and community leaders to create community-based health education initiatives focused on mental health awareness, diabetes prevention, and chronic disease management. These programs must be culturally responsive and accessible in community spaces where residents feel comfortable seeking support.

7. How will you build trust and conduct robust oversight on local law enforcement to protect the rights, security, and safety of Caribbean-American residents?

Public safety must prioritize trust, transparency, and prevention. I will support strong oversight of law enforcement while investing in community-based violence prevention programs, restorative justice initiatives, and youth engagement strategies. My approach centers on safety through prevention and community partnership, ensuring residents feel both protected and respected.

8. What programs, funding opportunities, or policy efforts will you champion that are aimed at improving outcomes for Caribbean-American communities?

I will champion policies that expand small business development, workforce training, language access, and immigrant support services. I will also advocate for increased investment in cultural programs and economic development initiatives that celebrate and strengthen the Caribbean community's contributions to Washington, DC.

9. How will you ensure that the Mayor's Office of Caribbean Community Affairs is fully funded, adequately staffed, and realizes its mission?

Oversight and budget priorities are essential. I will work with the Council to ensure the office receives adequate funding, clear performance benchmarks, and strong community engagement mandates. The office should serve as a central hub connecting Caribbean residents to resources, cultural programming, and economic opportunities.

10. Washington, D.C. adopted the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022. How will you support awareness and implementation of this law?

Democracy works best when everyone understands their rights and opportunities to participate. I will support community education campaigns in partnership with trusted organizations to ensure eligible residents understand their voting rights in local elections. My office will prioritize outreach in immigrant communities so residents are informed, empowered, and encouraged to participate in the civic life of

the District.