



**Maryland State Conference NAACP**  
**P.O. Box 9702**  
**Arnold, Maryland 21012**

Dear Branch President:

Many students and parents in your communities who are African American, other minority, or poor confront special education and discipline matters and are unprepared to handle the situations. To address this problem, the Maryland State Conference NAACP will conduct a one-time training for local branches on how to provide help to parents of students with special needs and discipline issues. The training is scheduled for May 20, 2017, from 9:45 AM till 3:00 PM at the Loyola University Graduate Center in Timonium, Maryland. (See flyer, agenda and directions attached.) The presenter is Nicole Joseph, Esq., an attorney with Disability Rights Maryland who represents students in the special education and school discipline processes.

During the year, the Maryland State Conference receives calls from parents regarding their children related to discipline in special education in the various school districts. Often parents need help in the form of advice, advocacy, or just direction on where to go for further assistance. To assist branches, the MSC is sponsoring this important training to equip branches with knowledge about processes and available services so they may provide the best help to parents and children locally.

At this point, we have arranged for the training to accommodate up to 75 persons. **Each branch should send up to 3 participants, including the branch education chair and two other individuals.** Some branches have requested additional slots. If some branches do not use their allotted spaces, other branches will be eligible to increase their numbers.

To reserve place(s) at the conference, please email Dr. Barbara Dezmon at [bdezmon@verizon.net](mailto:bdezmon@verizon.net) or phone her at 410-998-1007. **Deadline for conference registration is May 12, 2015.**

**IMPORTANT!** If you wish to come into town a day early on May 19<sup>th</sup>, the MSC has made special arrangements for rates with the Radisson Hotel that is adjacent to the Loyola graduate Center. To reserve a room(s) at the special rate of \$90.06 (all taxes included), call the hotel at 410-252-7373, ask for reservations, and inform the staff that you are with the Maryland State NAACP Training group. **Cutoff for room reservations at special rate is May 5, 2017.**

It is important that all branches send representatives to this training

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,  
Gerald G. Stansbury, President  
Wandra Ashley Williams, First Vice-President



**Maryland State Conference NAACP**  
**Special Education and Discipline Training**  
**Loyola University Graduate Center**  
**May 20, 2017**

**AGENDA**

**Presenter: Nicole Joseph, Esquire**

<b>9:45 AM – 10:00 AM</b>	<b>Greetings and Introduction – Barbara Dezmon, Ph.D. MSC Education Chair</b>
<b>10:00 AM – 11:30 PM</b>	<b>General Special Education: Rights and Process – Nicole Joseph</b>
<b>11:45 PM – 12:30 PM</b>	<b>Lunch (Will be provided)</b>
<b>12:40 PM – 1:50 PM</b>	<b>School Discipline Process and Civil -- Nicole Joseph</b>
<b>1:50 PM – 2:00 PM</b>	<b>Wrap-up – Barbara Dezmon</b>

**About Nicole Joseph**

**Nicole Joseph is an attorney with Disability Rights Maryland who represents students in the special education and school discipline processes. Ms. Joseph advocates for children with disabilities in the development of statewide special education, school discipline and police policies, and formerly focused her practice on children with special health care needs. She is the author of *The Civil Rights Crisis in Our Schools*, Maryland Bar Journal (September 2016) and attended the University of Maryland School of Law and Oberlin College.**

## **Directions to Loyola Graduate Center and Radisson Hotel:**

### **Loyola University Graduate Center**

2034 Greenspring Drive  
Timonium, MD 21093  
Phone: (410) 617-1500

- Take I-695 to exit 24, I-83 (Baltimore/Harrisburg Expressway) north.
- Go to the first exit, 16A, Timonium Road East.
- Stay in the extreme right-hand lane on Timonium Road.
- Make the first right onto Greenspring Drive.
- You will first see the Red Roof Inn on the corner. The Graduate Center parking lot is just beyond it on the right. (As you exit from I-83, you can see the building and a large parking lot on your right; that is the Graduate Center's parking lot.)

### **Radisson Hotel**

2004 Greenspring Drive  
Timonium, MD 21093  
Phone: 410-252-7373

- The Radisson Hotel is just south of the Loyola University Graduate Center on the right-hand side of the road (same side as the Graduate Center.)