



# The State of Environmental Justice in America 2009 Conference

**May 27–29, 2009**

Howard University School of Law (Washington, DC) on May 27, 2009  
Crystal City Doubletree Hotel (300 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, VA 22202) on May 28 and 29, 2009



The Third Annual State of Environmental Justice in America Conference will convene at the Howard University School of Law on May 27, and the Crystal City Doubletree Hotel in Crystal City, Virginia, on May 28 and 29. The 2009 conference is moving to larger quarters to provide greater services to participants. This year's conference will concentrate on climate change, community benefits, and youth involvement. The conference continues to bring together participants from Federal agencies, academia, business and industry, non-profit organizations, and faith-based organizations, as well as local community activists and citizens to participate in dialogue on achieving equality of environmental protection.

**To register for the conference, visit [www.ejconference.net](http://www.ejconference.net)**

## Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen Agrees to Headline Health Disparities Workshop

Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen has agreed to speak at the State of Environmental Justice 2009 Conference Health Disparities Workshop. Congresswoman Christensen is a Delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives from the U.S. Virgin Islands and a former family physician. She also serves as the Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust and Chair of the Public Health Subcommittee of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation. Congresswoman Christensen continues to promote the importance of open dialogue to raise awareness about the disproportionate burden of sickness and the need to mobilize a stronger and more unified advocacy to eliminate the health disparities that plague millions of Americans.



## Meet the Agencies

One of the recommendations from the 2008 State of Environmental Justice in America Conference was to provide participants an opportunity to engage in short-but-informative conversations with representatives of various Federal agencies. It was noted that the conference is one of few occasions for many local community participants to obtain an audience with high-level Federal officials. Since one of the stated purposes of the conference is to bring together diverse groups of individuals interested in environmental justice through a process of substantive and honest dialogue and learning from each other, this recommendation supports the very

*"Meet the Agencies is a unique opportunity for individuals and government officials to participate in an open discussion about environmental justice issues."*

– Melinda Downing,  
Department of Energy  
Environmental Justice  
Program Manager

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reason the conference exists. To that end, conference planners have allocated the afternoon of the first day of the conference to the first Meet the Agencies event.

Meet the Agencies will allow conference participants to establish a 20-minute appointment with participating agencies to discuss specific matters of interest to the individual participant, and as well broader issues of mutual concern. Each agency will be assigned to a location that will provide privacy and allow uninterrupted conversation. The highest-level agency officials with environmental justice responsibility and decision-making authority will be invited to participate in this activity. Registered conferees will make requests for interviews and appointments in advance of the conference in order to give the agencies prior notice and an opportunity to have the most appropriate agency personnel available for the discussions.

All conferees requesting agency appointments will do so through the conference registration process. While the individual agencies will grant or deny the appointments and interviews, conference staff will maintain the agency schedules, monitor the appointment activity, and provide an evaluation of the event to the agencies.

To request an appointment with a Federal agency on Thursday, May 28, 2009, please complete the application and return it to

EJ Conference, Inc.  
1629 K Street, Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20036

or [ejinamerica@hotmail.com](mailto:ejinamerica@hotmail.com) no later than May 1, 2009. Requests received after May 1, 2009, will not be considered.

## **Conference Registration is Required.**

### **Conference Contact Information**

For additional information, please contact John Rosenthal at [ejinamerica@hotmail.com](mailto:ejinamerica@hotmail.com).