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May 5, 2011

General News

Hispanic National Bar Association Leaders Nominated to the Federal Bench

Washington, D.C. - The **Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA)** commends **President Barack H. Obama** for his nomination yesterday afternoon of **The Honorable Yvonne Gonzalez-Rogers** to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California; **Edgardo Ramos** for the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, and **The Honorable Robert Scola** to the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida.

Diana S. Sen, HNBA President, noted that, "The HNBA is proud to support the nomination of these highly qualified candidates, and we now look to the U.S. Senate to take the necessary steps to advance these qualified nominees speedily through the confirmation process. Given the current judicial vacancy crisis in our federal courts, the HNBA is hopeful that they will be confirmed without delay." Click [here](#) for the full press release.

HNBA Announces Candidates & Opens Election Petition Nominations

E-Noticias

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ATTENTION:

**HNBA 2011 Legislative
Day & Capital Awards
Dinner**

**May 10-12, 2011
Washington, DC**

**HNBA 36th Annual
Convention**

**August 31-September 3,
2011
Dallas, TX**

Washington, D.C. - On April 30th, the Nominations Committee announced that it has nominated the individuals listed below to stand for election to the HNBA Board of Governors during the 2011-2012 Association year. The Nominations Committee met and made its nominations in compliance with the provisions of Article XI of the HNBA Bylaws.



Join Our Mailing List!

Additional candidates may be nominated by the HNBA membership on or before May 31st, 2011 through the process specified in Art. XI, § 5(b) of the Bylaws (*see below*).

To vote in the 2011 HNBA Election, you must pay your HNBA dues before 11:59 p.m. EST on June 1st. Please visit www.hnba.com.

I. Candidates for the Board of Governors Nominated by the Nominations Committee

NATIONAL OFFICERS (EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE)

President-Elect

Sean Andrade (Los Angeles, CA)

Peter M. Reyes, Jr. (St. Paul, MN)

Vice President- Regions

Miguel A. Pozo (Roseland, NJ)

Vice President- Programs

Lawrence Valdivieso (Los Angeles, CA)

Vice President- External Affairs

Celeste Villareal (Austin, TX)

Mauro Wolfe (Mountainside, NJ)

Vice President- Sections and Committees

Cynthia Mares (Denver, CO)

Vice President- Membership

Elia Diaz-Yaeger (New Orleans, LA)

Liz M. Lopez (Washington, DC)

Secretary

Karen Perez (Denver, CO)
Christina Vigil (Albuquerque, NM)

REGIONAL PRESIDENTS

Region I (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI,VT) - Vacant

Region III (NJ) - Anna Maria Tejada

Region V (DC, MD, VA, WV)
Daniel D. Santos
Juan M. Sempertegui

Region VII (AL, GA, MS) - Vacant

Region IX (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin) - Dorothy Parson

Region XI (IA, MN, MO, ND, SD) - Melisa Lopez Franzen

Region XIII (CO, KS, NE, WY) - Meshach Rhoades

Region XV (NM, UT) - Roxie de Santiago

Region XVII (Northern CA, HI)
Helen Santana
Edward Torpoco

Region XIX (Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands) - Vacant

II. Nomination by Petition

Pursuant to Art. XI, Section 5(b) of the Bylaws, any Regular Member in good standing wanting to seek election to the Board of Governors may be nominated by petition of the membership in the manner specified below. A Regular Member seeking to be elected as an Officer of the Association may be nominated upon the written endorsement by no less than twenty-five (25) Regular Members or Affiliate Members in good standing. A Regular Member seeking to become a Regional President may be nominated upon the written endorsement by no less than ten (10) Regular Members or Affiliate Members in good standing residing or located in the Region where the candidate resides. Signed petitions must be submitted to the Secretary by **no later than 11:59 p.m. on May 31st, 2011**, via e-mail to **Javier Vargas** at: jvargas@courts.state.ny.us.

PETITIONS RECEIVED AFTER May 31st WILL BE VOID AND WILL NOT BE PLACED ON THE BALLOT. The Nominations Committee will review all petitions to determine whether each candidate meets all the qualifications for the office and whether the candidate and those endorsing his or her petition are Regular Members or Affiliate Members in good standing.

For further information concerning the process for nominations by petition, please visit www.hnba.com.

HNBA Announces Law Day Mock Trial Program Grant

Washington, D.C. - On April 28th, the HNBA announced that HNBA affiliates may apply for the *Law Day Mock Trial Program Grant* for an event held in May-June 2011. Click [here](#) for application. The deadline to apply is **Friday, July 15th by 5:00 PM EST**. One (1) successful Affiliate program will be chosen and announced by Monday, August 1st to receive the \$3,000.00 grant award. HNBA Affiliates shall follow the recommendations and guidelines in the [HNBA Law Day Mock Trial Program](#). A webinar will be announced soon so stay tuned. Until then, if you have any questions regarding the HNBA Law Day Mock Trial Program, please contact: **Sean Andrade**, HNBA National Vice President of Programs, at sandrade@bautelaw.com.

Upcoming Events

HNBA Sponsors Cinco de Mayo Celebration

On May 5th, the **HNBA** and the **Hispanic Bar Association of DC (HBA-DC)** will join with other local Latino organizations in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area to co-host *Latin VIP's 10th Annual Cinco de Mayo* celebration at **Eden**, located at 1716 I Street, NW, Washington, D.C. The celebration will offer a complimentary buffet from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., and will feature a live Mariachi band. Co-Hosts include: **Latino/a Alumni Association of the Washington College of Law, National Society of Hispanic MBAs, Association of Latinos in Finance and Accounting, Hispanic Lobbyist Association**, and the **Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute 2010-2011 Fellows Class**.



An Evening with Ramona Romero, General Counsel, U.S. Department of Agriculture

On May 19th, **HBA-DC** will host an evening with **Ramona E. Romero**, HNBA Past President (2008-2009), at **Barnes & Thornburg LLP**, located at 1717 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. The event will take place from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Please RSVP at www.hbadc.org/events. Ms. Ramona E. Romero was recently appointed to serve as General Counsel of the **U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)** - the first Latina to fill this role. Before joining the USDA, Ms. Romero was Corporate Counsel for **E.I. Du Pont de Nemours & Company (DuPont)**. Ms. Romero has been widely recognized for both her professional achievements and her leadership in advancing the interests of women and minorities. She also has received many distinguished honors, including *Hispanic Business Magazine's* recognition as one of the 100 most influential Hispanics in the U.S. in 2007.

American Bar Association Commission on Hispanic Legal Rights and Responsibilities Hearing

On May 20th, the ABA's **Commission on Hispanic Legal Rights and Responsibilities** will hold its South East region hearing in Miami, FL, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the **Miami Dade College, Wolfson Campus, Room 3210, Chapman Conference**

Center, 300 Northeast 2nd Avenue, Bldg. 3, 2nd Floor. Please consider submitting testimony for this hearing at http://www.americanbar.org/advocacy/commission_on_hispanic_legal_rights_responsibilities/southeastern_hearings.html.

Hispanic Bar Association of DC Hosts Networking Workshop

On May 24th, **HBA-DC** will host a workshop on *How to Network Effectively*, presented by **Ellen Ostrow**, Ph.D., CMC, and Founding Principal of Lawyers Life Coach. Dr. Ostrow will provide a presentation and networking exercises that will explain what "networking" is; help you understand the resources embedded in relationships; teach you how to build, maintain, and assess your network; and give you a roadmap to effectively plan your networking activities to fill gaps in your network and ultimately to help meet your career goals. The workshop will begin at 6:00 p.m. Advanced registration: free for HBA-DC members, \$10 for non-members; at the door registration: \$5 for HBA-DC members, \$15 for non-members. Go to www.HBADC.org for more details and to register.

HNBA Legal Education Fund to Host Reception in Chicago

On May 24th, **HNBA** and the **HNBA Legal Education Fund (The Fund)** will host a reception from 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at **McAndrews Held & Malloy, Ltd** located at 500 W. Madison Street, 34th Floor, Chicago, IL. The Fund is the only IRS Section 501 (c) (3) foundation that is affiliated with the HNBA. The Fund supports the HNBA's educational and charitable missions, including identifying and providing financial assistance to worthy programs that address education and the law within the U.S. Hispanic community and legal profession. There is no cost to attend, but there is a suggested minimum contribution of \$100 per person. Please RSVP to **Sarah Ramirez**, HNBA Membership Relations Manager, at sramirez@hnba.com.

Dominican Bar Association Hosts 8th Annual Scholarship Dinner Dance

On May 25th, the **Dominican Bar Association** will host its 8th *Annual Scholarship Dinner Dance* at **Maestro's** located at 1703 Bronxdale Avenue, Bronx, NY, from 6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. The theme of this Year's Scholarship Dinner Dance is "*Celebrating Community Activism and Promoting Social Justice*". Honorees include: the **Hon. Rita Mella**, Criminal Court Judge, New York County; and **Rafael Lantigua**, M.D., Associate Director/Medical Director, New York Presbyterian Hospital, and Co-Founder of *Alianza Dominicana*. Eric DeCamps will be the Master of Ceremonies, he has won many accolades including "Magician of the Year", and the "Gold Medal of Excellence for Close Up Magic" by the Society of American Magicians (only the second magician in the 109-year history of the organization to receive this prestigious award). Tickets are: DBA Member ticket

(\$150.00), table of 10 (\$1,400.00); Non-DBA Member ticket (\$175.00), table of 10 (\$1,650.00). RSVP by May 15th to altinunez@netscape.net or plcedeno@perezandcedeno.com.

2012 Corporate Counsel Conference To Take Place in New Jersey

Save the date for next year's *HNBA 2012 Mid-Year and Corporate Counsel Conference and 17th Annual Uvaldo Herrera National Moot Court Competition*, March 28- 31, 2012 at the Westin Jersey City, Newport, NJ. The 2012 HNBA Mid-Year Conference Host committee includes: **Miguel Alexander Pozo**, Partner, Lowenstein Sandler PC; **Nuris Portuondo**, Vice President and Assistant General Counsel, JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.; and **Susan L. Blount**, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, Prudential Financial.

Avanzando Nuestra Gente

Liz Lopez Selected for Prestigious Spanish Government Fellowship Program

Liz Lopez, HNBA National Vice President of Membership and Of Counsel with **Barnes & Thornburg LLP**, has been selected as one of 15 Hispanic leaders nationwide for a fellowship program sponsored by the *Fundación Carolina*, an initiative of the Spanish Embassy. This year's award recipients are leaders in their respective fields, which include law, business, and academia, among many others. In its 12th year of existence, the U.S. Hispanic Leaders Fellowship Program consists of a one-week visit to Spain in May where participants attend meetings with government representatives, Spanish leaders, business entities and many others. The goal is to familiarize participants with the social, cultural, economic, and political realities of contemporary Spain and thereby building greater bonds between Hispanic professionals and the government of Spain. Click [here](#) for the press release.

Edwin Reyes Receives Vanguard Award

On April 20th, **Edwin Reyes**, one of the founding members of the **Puerto Rico Bar Association (PRBA)**, received the **2011 Vanguard Award** in recognition for his efforts to make the legal profession more accessible to and reflective of the community. Mr. Reyes is an attorney with the law firm of **Briskman, Briskman, and Greenberg** in Chicago, IL, where he specializes in the areas of workers' compensation and personal injury. Last year at the annual PRBA Scholarship Banquet, Mr. Reyes was recognized for his unwavering commitment to raising funds for Latino law students' scholarships. In attendance at this event were **Liz Lopez**, HNBA National Vice President of Membership; **Frank Santilli**, HNBA Region IX President; and **Karina Ayala-Bermejo**, HNBA Latina Commissioner.



(L-R): Liz Lopez, HNBA National Vice President of Membership; Edwin Reyes, Award Recipient; Mrs. Reyes; Frank Santilli, HNBA Region IX President; and Karina Ayala Bermejo, HNBA Latina Commissioner.

Regional News

Diana Sen Moderates Panel by Network of Bar Leaders Inc.

On April 27th, **Diana Sen**, HNBA President, moderated a panel of elected officials by the **Network of Bar Leaders Inc.** in New York City at the Federal Courthouse. The panel discussed topics regarding recent legislation and policies instituted designed to protect New York residents who have recently experience foreclosure, credit, or other issues, who have been prevented from obtaining housing, loans, and mortgages, important home improvement repairs, and even common household goods without a down-payment or credit check. Topics included: Sewer Service Legislation 2011, New Foreclosure Verification Requirements for Mortgages, Tenant Blacklist Legislation of 2010, Retail Sales, and Home Repair and Construction. Ms. Sen also highlighted the HNBA's **Street Law En Español Program** before the panel discussion.

Connecticut Hispanic Bar Association Elects New Officers and Board Members

On April 26th, the **Colorado Hispanic Bar Association (CHBA)** announced its new slate of officers for 2011-2012. During the CHBA's annual meeting, the following individuals were elected to office: **Maria Garcia**- President-Elect, Law Clerk, Honorable Holly B. Fitzsimmons, U.S. District Court for the District of Connecticut; **Erick I. Díaz**- Vice President, Managing

Attorney, Law Office of Erick I. Díaz LLC; **Alex Toribio**- Treasurer, Associate at McCarter & English LLP; **Cristina Madry**- Secretary, Associate, Jackson Lewis LLP; and **Elizabeth Salsedo-Surovov**- Director of Communications, Senior Client Manager, Westlaw Thompson Reuters. **Virginia McGarrity**, Associate, Robinson & Cole LLP, succeeds **Sara C. Bronin**, Associate Professor, University of Connecticut School of Law, as President of the CHBA. In addition, **Walter Menjivar**, CHBA member, will serve as President of the Law Student Division.

HNBA Attends MALDEF Annual Dinner in Chicago

On April 21st, the **Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF)** held its *2011 Chicago Awards Gala*. This year's honorees included the **Honorable Ruben Castillo**, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, who received the Lifetime Achievement, Excellence in Legal Service Award; **Gloria Castillo**, Chicago United, and **Luis Gutierrez**, Latinos Progresando. In attendance at this event were **Liz Lopez**, HNBA National Vice President of Membership; **Frank Santilli**, HNBA Region IX President; **Leopoldo Sastre**, President of the Hispanic Lawyers Association of Illinois; **Charles Romaker**, President of the Puerto Rico Bar Association of Illinois; and **Edwin Reyes**, Board member of the Puerto Rico Bar Association of Illinois.



Left (L-R): Ruben Castillo Sr.; Martin Montes, MALDEF board member; the Hon. Ruben Castillo; Liz Lopez, HNBA National Vice President of Membership; and Alan Mills, Barnes & Thornburg LLP. Right: HNBA attendees with Tom A. Saenz, MALDEF President and General Counsel

Diana Sen Speaks at Women of Color Workshop Series in New York City

On April 21st, **Diana Sen**, HNBA President, spoke at the **New York City Bar Association's** Women of Color Workshop Series. The inspirational goal of the series is to help women of color develop strategies for reaching their career goals.

HNBA Co-Hosts Reception for John Trasviña in Portland

On April 20th, **HNBA Region XVI** (AK, ID, MT, OR, WA) co-sponsored "The Fair Housing Welcome Reception" for **John Trasviña**, Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity. Attendees were able to interact with Mr. Trasviña and with **Román D. Hernández**, HNBA Immediate Past-President. The reception was held in Portland, Oregon at City Hall. Several distinguished guests attended the invitation-only reception, as well as **Jesse Valdez**, HNBA Region XVI President; **Kevin Diaz**, HNBA Region XVI Deputy Regional President, board members of the **Oregon Hispanic Board Association (OHBA)**, and other Regional leaders. The event highlighted the presence of the HNBA in the Northwest, and attracted additional members.

HNBA Co-Sponsors Northrop Grumman Recruiting & Networking Event

On April 7th, **HNBA Region V** (DC, MD, VA, WV) co-sponsored a recruiting and networking event with Northrop Grumman. **Hannah Breshin-Otero**, Region V (DC, MD, VA, WV) President, met with members of **Northrop Grumman's** senior executive leadership team to discuss job opportunities for HNBA members. During the event, HNBA members in attendance learned about career opportunities available at Northrop Grumman's Corporate Office in Northern Virginia and Information Systems Sector.

Law Student Division

Jessica Zamora Wins LALSA Orgullo Latino Scholarship from Seton Hall Law

In April, **Jessica Zamora**, Seton Hall Law student, was announced the recipient of the **LALSA Orgullo Latino Scholarship** at the *Seton Hall Law 2nd Annual Diversity Banquet* for the 2011 school year, for a written essay where she responded to the question, "How does the legal system impact the Latino Community?" Essay submissions were reviewed by **Professor Maldonado**, and **Professor Caraballo**, who awarded Ms. Zamora the scholarship, as well as a \$500.00 Barbri Gift Certificate. To view the essay click [here](#).

Opportunities

Commission on the Status of Latinas in the Legal Profession 2011 Commission Award Open for Nomination Submissions

The Commission on the Status of Latinas in the Legal Profession has opened the nomination process for submissions through June 1st. To nominate an individual for the 2011 Commission Award, click [here](#) for the Nomination Form.

Attorneys and Volunteers Needed for Ya Es Hora *¡Ciudadania!* Workshop

On May 21st, attorneys and volunteers are asked to lend their time as the **HNBA**, **NALEO Education Fund**, Office of U.S. Representative **Nydia M. Velazquez**, **Churches United For Fair Housing**, **El Puente**, **Make the Road New York**, **Latino Justice PRLDEF**, and **AILA NY** continue their citizenship and civic involvement with a *Ya es hora ¡Ciudadania!* Workshop at John Paul II Academy at St. Barbara's Auditorium, located at 139 Menahan Street, Bushwick, Brooklyn, from 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. The workshop will provide free N-400 application assistance, photos copies, citizenship exam study materials, one-on-one attention, and access to pro-bono immigration attorneys. Due to the capacity of the program, only the first 50 applicants will be served. Volunteer training sessions will be held May 19th and May 21st. To volunteer, contact **John Degliuomini** at (212) 480-1918.

North Carolina Governor's Conference for Women Seeks Nominations for 2011 Hall of Fame

The **North Carolina Governor's Conference for Women** is seeking nominations for its *2011 Hall of Fame* class. This prestigious annual awards program recognizes a select group of women for a lifetime of accomplishments and contributions to the state of North Carolina. This year's class will be recognized on November 2, 2011 at the Charlotte Convention Center, Charlotte, NC. Nominations are due May 31st. For questions, please contact **Anda Burley** at (980) 225-1171 or by email to anda@ncwomensconference.com.

Participate in HNBA's Partnership with KIND

Founded in 2008, **Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)** was launched with the support of **Microsoft Corporation** and **Angelina Jolie**. In 2011, HNBA, with its national network of attorneys, partnered with KIND to help increase pro bono legal representation of unaccompanied children facing immigrations proceedings. The KIND office near you is looking for

attorneys to represent these children before the immigration court. KIND provides training and ongoing technical assistance during the course of the case. The HNBA has recently entered into a partnership with KIND. Attorneys interested in learning more about the cases and training opportunities, should contact **Sean Andrade**, HNBA National Vice President of Programs, (sandrade@bautelaw.com) and/or the KIND Pro Bono Coordinators in the following cities:

- Los Angeles: Lindsay Lang (llang@supportkind.org) or Gladis Molina (gmolina@supportkind.org)
- New York City: Anne Marie Mulcahy (amulcahy@supportkind.org); Wendy Wylegala (wwylegala@supportkind.org); or Chiqui Sanchez Kennedy (esanchezkennedy@supportkind.org)
- Newark: Morgan Alen (malen@supportkind.org)
- Boston: Ann Cooper (acooper@supportkind.org)
- Baltimore: Liz Shields (lshields@supportkind.org)
- Houston: Victoria Mora (vmora@supportkind.org)
- Washington, DC: Paul Lee (plee@supportkind.org) or Daria Fisher Page (dfisherpage@supportkind.org)

Job Postings

Assistant Dean, Student Affairs- University of Florida:

<http://www.hnba.com/positions-available-university-of-florida/>

Policy Associate, Economic and Employment Policy Project- NCLR:

<http://www.hnba.com/policy-associate-economic-and-employment-policy-project-nclr/>

New Senior Staff Attorney- Legal Action Center:

<http://www.hnba.com/staff-attorney-the-legal-action-center/>

Staff Attorney- Legal Action Center:

<http://www.hnba.com/staff-attorney-the-legal-action-center-2/>

Executive Director, DEU- Commodity Futures Trading Commission:

<http://www.hnba.com/executive-director-deu-commodity-futures-trading-commission/>

U.S. Magistrate Judge, Southern District of Florida- U.S. District Court (Vacancies):

http://www.flsd.uscourts.gov/?page_id=4592

**HNBA National Office
1900 L Street NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036**

**Phone: 202.223.4777
Fax: 202.223.2324**

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Hispanic National Bar Association | 1900 L Street NW | Suite 700 | Washington | DC | 20036

