



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE HISPANIC NATIONAL BAR FOUNDATION WILL HONOR LATINO LEADERS DURING ITS 2010 ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER TO BE HELD IN WASHINGTON D.C.

Washington D.C., June 23, 2010 – The Hispanic National Bar Foundation (HNBF) will honor three Latino leaders for their exceptional contributions to the community, legal profession, and education during its Annual Awards Dinner. The celebration dinner will take place on Thursday, July 8, 2010 starting at 6:30 p.m. at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel, 1330 Maryland Ave., S.W., Washington D.C. 20024. The dinner co-chairs are Tami Azorsky (partner at Mckenna Long & Aldridge) and Richard Lorenzo (partner at Hogan Lovells).

The HNBF is a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering the Hispanic community through education and impacting diversity in the legal profession. The HNBF hosts innovative programs to support and encourage Hispanic students to achieve their academic and professional goals. One of its marquis programs is the Future Latino Leaders Law Camp. Each year, the HNBF brings 25 high school students from around the country to spend a week on the campus of Georgetown University and learn about the value of pursuing a legal education. Participants of the HNBF Law Camp will be in attendance at the dinner.

The HNBF awards dinner is another success for the organization with an impressive line-up of distinguished guests. **Juan Sepúlveda**, Director of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans, will deliver the keynote address.

This year, the HNBF will recognize the achievements of the following leaders:

- **Cruz Reynoso** (Boochever and Bird Chair for the Study and Teaching of Freedom and Equality Professor of Law at UC Davis School of Law; former associate justice of the California Supreme Court; recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom) to receive the *HNBF Lifetime Leadership Award*;
- **Natalie M. Gomez-Velez** (Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Professor, CUNY Law School) to receive the *HNBF Academic Leadership Award*; and
- **Judge Vanessa Ruiz** (Associate Judge for the D.C. Court of Appeals) to receive the *HNBF Judicial Leadership Award*.

“Celebrating the achievements of these distinguished Americans is an honor for us,” says HNBF President Mayda Prego. Prego adds: “The accomplishments of each of these leaders are inspirational, and we are thrilled that our students and guests will have the opportunity to meet the honorees as they are role models for all.”

The HNBF is proud to have the support of leading corporate and law firm sponsors also committed to celebrating the achievements of Latino leaders and promoting the goal of diversity that include Walmart, General Motors, Southwest Airlines, Comcast, Chevron, Hogan Lovells, Mckenna Long & Aldridge, and K&L Gates.

About the HNBF

Founded in 1985, the HNBF is a 501(c) (3) organization headquartered in Washington D.C. The HNBF believes that knowledge and diversity benefit everyone. Lack of opportunities, role models, information, and financial support prevent many Hispanics from becoming leaders and contributing their voices on issues that affect our communities. The HNBF provides diversity pipeline programs to inspire and encourage young Latinos to pursue careers in the legal profession. We provide the tools and resources necessary to ensure full and equal opportunity for Hispanics to become leaders in the global community, thereby ensuring a brighter future for all.

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