



The Hispanic Bar Association
of the District of Columbia

Equal Justice Awards Ceremony

Mandarin Oriental Hotel
Thursday, November 4, 2010

Our Mission

The Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia (HBA-DC), a non-profit organization, was founded in 1977 as the Hispanic Lawyers Association. Its membership includes hundreds of lawyers practicing in Washington D.C., Maryland, and Virginia, Latino students attending local law schools, and other non-lawyers who join as associate members. The HBA-DC is an affiliate of the Hispanic National Bar Association, a national network of Hispanic lawyers and bar associations, which honored the HBA-DC with its “Affiliate Organization of the Year” award in 2006.

The HBA-DC is dedicated to the following principles:

- Advancing and developing Latinos in the legal profession;
- Promoting equal justice and opportunity for all Hispanics;
- Educating the Hispanic community about relevant legal issues;
- Promoting the professional development of Hispanic lawyers and law students;
- Encouraging Latinos to enter the legal profession; and
- Promoting the appointment of Hispanics to leadership positions in federal, state, and local governments, in the judiciary, and in other areas.

For additional information about the HBA-DC, please visit our website at www.hbadc.org.

PROGRAM

6:30 – 8:00 PM Cocktail Reception

8:00 – 9:00 PM Awards Ceremony

Welcome Remarks Kenia Seoane Lopez,
President

Sponsor Recognition Lyzka P. DeLaCruz
Vice President-External
Affairs

**A Salute to Hispanics
in the Judiciary** Kenia Seoane Lopez

William Alvarado Rivera,
President-elect

Awards Susan Santana,
Past President

Judge Ricardo M.
Urbina Lifetime
Achievement Award Judge Ricardo M. Urbina

Hugh A. Johnson, Jr.
Award (Organization) William Alvarado Rivera

Hugh A. Johnson, Jr.
(Individual) Kenia Seoane Lopez

Rising Star Award Leonor Velazquez,
Secretary

**Recognition of HBADC
2010 Board of
Directors** Kenia Seoane Lopez

Closing Remarks William Alvarado Rivera



HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

November 4, 2010

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the thirty-third Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia (HBA-DC) Equal Justice Awards Ceremony. We are delighted to have you join us, as we celebrate the HBA-DC's past, present, and future and honor our awardees' unwavering commitment to equality of opportunity and social justice in the District of Columbia.

Tonight, it is our honor and privilege to recognize some of the most devoted and inspiring members of the D.C. community, whose historical accomplishments and future promise embody the principles underlying the mission of the HBA-DC. We will present Equal Justice Awards to: **The Honorable Rufus G. King, III**, Chief Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia (Judge Ricardo M. Urbina Lifetime Achievement Award); **The Esperanza Education Fund** (Hugh A. Johnson, Jr., Memorial Award (Organization)); **Yvonne Martinez-Vega**, Deputy Director of the Criminal Division, D.C. Superior Court (Hugh A. Johnson, Jr., Memorial Award (Individual)); and **Alejandra Castillo**, National Deputy Director of the Minority Business Development Agency, U.S. Department of Commerce (Rising Star Award).

We present these awards within our broader theme for the evening – “A Salute to Hispanics in the Judiciary,” which reflects the HBA-DC's great pride in the remarkable achievements and dedicated public service of the nine Hispanic judges here in the District of Columbia. The HBA-DC is honored to have endorsed and supported their appointments to the bench and even more humbled by their never-ending graciousness and selfless support of the HBA-DC and its members.

We hope that this year's Equal Justice Awards will inspire you to continue and expand your support for the HBA-DC, its mission, and equal justice for all. ¡Bienvenidos!

Sincerely,

Kenia Seoane Lopez
President

William Alvarado Rivera
President-Elect

Hugh A. Johnson, Jr. Award (Organization)

The Esperanza Education Fund

The Esperanza Education Fund, Inc., is an all-volunteer, community-financed college scholarship founded and operated by a diverse group of



young professionals in the capital region. Launched with the support of 12 community organizations in early 2009—including the Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia—Esperanza includes lawyers, doctors, consultants, musicians, designers, documentary filmmakers, and journalists.

Esperanza offers immigrant high school students in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia \$5,000 and \$10,000 scholarships to attend public colleges and universities. Esperanza serves all immigrants regardless of national origin, ethnicity, and immigration status.

Because Esperanza has no salaried staff or office overhead, almost all of each dollar donated goes to students. Thanks to generous gifts from Paul & Daisy Soros, the Inter-American Development Bank, the District of Columbia Mayor's Office of Latino Affairs, and Esperanza's own grassroots fundraising, by the end of 2010, Esperanza has awarded \$125,000 to immigrant students in the region.

On Monday, December 6, Esperanza will hold its second-annual winter gala, a private chamber concert with a Russian-born master of Spanish classical and flamenco guitar, Grisha Goryachev, to be followed by a champagne reception featuring the classical oil paintings of American-born and Florentine-trained artist Teresa Oaxaca. For more information about the Esperanza Education Fund, visit www.esperanzafund.org.

Hugh A. Johnson, Jr. Award (Individual)

Yvonne Martinez-Vega

Deputy Director of the Criminal Division, D.C. Superior Court



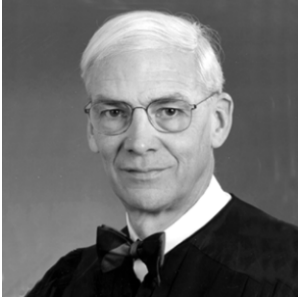
Yvonne Martinez-Vega joined the District of Columbia Superior Court's Criminal Division as the Deputy Director in July, 2004. Prior to joining the Court, Yvonne served as the Executive Director of Ayuda, Inc. Ayuda, Inc., is a legal service organization that serves the Latino and immigrant community of the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area in the areas of immigration and domestic violence.

Yvonne dedicated 30 years of her life working at Ayuda. She was born and raised in Camden, New Jersey. Her family is from Puerto Rico. Yvonne received her Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from Douglass College at Rutgers University. She took executive courses at the Kennedy School of Government and the Center for Creative Leadership. Yvonne's work experience includes grant writing, management, program development and review. Yvonne has served as a hearing examiner for the D.C. Bar's Board of Professional Responsibility and also helped organize the first Open House for the Latino Community sponsored by the D.C. Courts. Yvonne has served as a board member with the National Council of La Raza, the Latin American Youth Center; the Visitor's Services Center and is a founding member of Impact Silver Spring, a nonprofit organization in Silver Spring, Maryland that works with communities to work around issues of common concern. Yvonne is a strong advocate for ensuring that the needs of low-income members of the Latino and immigrant communities are met. She is the proud mother of two children, Louisette and David, and she is married to David Vega, attorney at law.

Lifetime Achievement Award

The Honorable Rufus G. King, III

Chief Judge, D.C. Superior Court



Judge King was appointed to the Superior Court in 1984, where he served in the Criminal, Civil and Family Court Divisions of the Court. He served as Deputy Presiding Judge of the Civil Division, (1994-1996) and as Chair of the Division (1997-1998). In October, 2000 he was designated Chief Judge, and he served in that capacity until his retirement in September, 2008. He continues to serve as a senior judge.

Judge King was born in New Haven, Connecticut and grew up in the Washington area, where he attended the Landon School. In 1966, he received a B.A. degree from Princeton University. He received a J.D. degree from Georgetown University Law Center in 1971, and was admitted to the District of Columbia Bar in that year. He was admitted to the Supreme Court Bar in 1975 and the Maryland State Bar in 1984.

Following law clerkships with the late Judge Austin L. Fickling and Judge William C. Pryor, he entered the private practice of law with various small firms, ultimately forming a partnership with his father, Rufus King, Jr. which later merged with Berliner and Maloney. His was a general litigation practice in nearby state and federal courts.

Before joining the Court, Judge King served on and chaired numerous committees of the District of Columbia Bar and presented numerous panels on arbitration at annual meetings of the Bar and the District of Columbia Judicial Conferences. He helped organize and served on the Fee Arbitration Board, including a term as its first chair.

On the Court, he chaired the Superior Court Child Support Guidelines Committee (1988-89), and chaired the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council from 1994 to 1995. He chaired the Committee on Technology and Automation from its inception in 1986 until October 2000, and has been a major contributor to the Court's technology development efforts.

Judge King was a founding member of the District of Columbia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and co-chaired with Judge Brook Hedge its Information Technology Advisory Committee. While Chief Judge, he oversaw the complete restructuring of the court's IT system. He is a member of the Bar Association of the District of Columbia, the Washington Bar Association and the American Law Institute, where he organized and served on the Judges' Advisory Group on a project to develop Principles of the Law of Family Dissolution, published in 2002. In 2007, Judge King served on a panel presenting US Courts to the judiciary in Kosovo for comparison and discussion. In 2008, he presented a discussion of insurance litigation in US courts in Argentina.

Since retirement, Judge King has been appointed D.C. Director of Professional Development for the McCammon Group, a private mediation and arbitration service. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the National Center for State Courts, and he is Chairman of the National Conference of Metropolitan Courts. He also serves on the Research Advisory Council of the National Center for State Courts.

Rising Star Award

Alejandra Castillo

National Deputy Director of the Minority Business Development Agency



Ms. Alejandra Castillo has recently been appointed to serve as National Deputy Director of the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA). In this role, Ms. Castillo will serve as the principal advisor to the MBDA National Director and will assist in managing the day-to-day activities of the Agency. Prior to her appointment with MBDA, Ms. Castillo served as Special Advisor to the Under Secretary for the U.S. Department of Commerce's International Trade Administration (ITA) where she was responsible for

business outreach and development of policy initiatives geared at trade promotion and enforcement of U.S. trade laws.

Prior to joining the Obama Administration, Ms. Castillo served as the Interim Executive Director of the Hispanic National Bar Association headquartered in Washington D.C. During her tenure at the HNBA, she was instrumental in support of the nomination and confirmation process to the Supreme Court of Justice Sonia Sotomayor.

Ms. Castillo served in the Clinton Administration as a Senior Policy Analyst to the Deputy Director at the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). In her position, Ms. Castillo was responsible for developing and analyzing White House initiatives on drug control policies in areas of drug trafficking interdiction, anti money laundering, as well as drug prevention and treatment programs. Before joining the White House, Ms. Castillo served as key staff for the Democratic National Committee Chairman, Don Fowler, and then joined the Clinton Gore Re-election campaign as Deputy Director for Special Projects.

Ms. Castillo holds a Bachelor Degree of Arts from the State University of New York at Stony Brook in economics and political science. Ms. Castillo holds a Master's degree in Public Policy from the Lyndon Baines Johnson School of Public Affairs, University of Texas at Austin and has a Juris Doctorate degree from American University (AU)-Washington College of Law. She is active in a number of civic and professional organizations, including the Hispanic National Bar Association, the Hispanic Bar Association of DC, the American Bar Association, and serves as a Board Member of the Dominican American Society of Queens.

Salute to Hispanics in the Judiciary

The Honorable Sonia Maria Sotomayor **Associate Justice, United States Supreme Court**



Justice Sotomayor was born in the Bronx, New York, on June 25, 1954. She earned a B.A. in 1976 from Princeton University, graduating summa cum laude and receiving the university's highest academic honor. In 1979, she earned a J.D. from Yale Law School where she served as an editor of the Yale Law Journal. She served as Assistant District Attorney in the New York County District Attorney's Office from 1979–1984. She then litigated international commercial matters in New York City at Pavia & Harcourt, where she served as an associate and then partner from 1984–1992. In

1991, President George H.W. Bush nominated her to the U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York, and she served in that role from 1992–1998. She served as a judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit from 1998–2009. President Barack Obama nominated her as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court on May 26, 2009, and she assumed this role August 8, 2009.

The Honorable Laura A. Cordero
Associate Judge, D.C. Superior Court



Judge Laura A. Cordero has devoted her entire legal career to public service. In 2005, she was confirmed by the U.S. Senate as an Associate Judge of the Superior Court for the District of Columbia. She is currently assigned to the Family Court where she is deeply committed to the Family Court's mission of strengthening families in our City. She currently presides over involuntary civil commitments for persons diagnosed with mental illness and mental retardation, juvenile delinquency cases and abuse and neglect matters. Judge Cordero has also presided over Domestic Relations Matters and the Juvenile

Drug Court. Since her appointment, Judge Cordero has presided in more than ninety-five trials and over seven thousand hearings.

Prior to her appointment, Judge Cordero served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia. In 2002, Judge Cordero was named Executive Assistant U.S. Attorney for External Affairs. In that capacity, she was responsible for coordinating an extensive community engagement network, involving a full range of community-based programs and initiatives for youth and adults specifically aimed at reducing violent crime in the District of Columbia.

Judge Cordero joined the DOJ in 1991 under the Attorney General's Honor Law Graduate Program. As a trial attorney in the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division, Judge Cordero was responsible for all aspects of litigation and administrative enforcement of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. This included conducting investigations of violations of voting rights and monitoring polling place and other Election Day activities across the U.S., in order to ensure the right to vote of racial and language minorities. During her tenure at the U.S. Attorney's Office and the Civil Rights Division, Judge Cordero received numerous awards and commendations, including being named U.S. Attorney's Office Senior Litigation Counsel and receiving the U.S. Attorney's Award for Creativity and Innovation.

Judge Cordero earned her law degree from Harvard Law School in 1988, and earned her B.A. with highest honors from DePaul University. In 2009, Judge Cordero had the distinct honor of receiving the Ricardo M. Urbina Lifetime Achievement Award from the Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia.

The Honorable Marisa Demeo
Associate Judge, D.C. Superior Court



In March of 2009, President Barack Obama nominated Marisa J. Demeo to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. The Senate confirmed her nomination, and she was sworn in on May 10, 2010.

Judge Demeo graduated from Princeton University in 1988, where she received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Politics with a concentration in Latin American Studies. In 1993, she received her Juris Doctor from New York University School of Law (NYU), where she served on the *Law Review*. At NYU, Judge Demeo was selected as a Root-Tilden Scholar for her academic achievement and commitment to public interest.

After graduating from law school, Judge Demeo served with distinction as an Honors Program trial attorney in the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division, where she prosecuted public employers for pattern or practice employment discrimination in federal courts around the country and received two awards for her work. In 1997, she began working for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF), and after a short period as a staff attorney, Judge Demeo was promoted to head the MALDEF D.C. office, where she served as the national advocate for MALDEF on a wide array of Latino civil rights issues. During her MALDEF tenure, she received numerous community service and leadership awards, including from the Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia.

In 2004, Judge Demeo joined the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia (USAO), where she served in the Misdemeanor Trial Section, the Felony Trial Section, the Grand Jury Section, and the Sex Offense/Domestic Violence Trial Section.

In 2007, Judge Demeo was appointed as a Magistrate Judge. From August of 2007 through 2009, she served as a criminal trial judge and presided over 120 trials involving criminal traffic and minor misdemeanor charges. In 2010, before becoming an Associate Judge, she handled over 300 preliminary and detention hearings for misdemeanor and felony cases.

The Honorable José M. López
Associate Judge, D.C. Superior Court



José M. López serves as a judge on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. He was appointed by President George H. Bush in 1990. Judge Lopez's trial experience includes Civil, Criminal, Family Matters, Tax and Probate. Currently, he is presiding over the Domestic Violence Unit. For nearly seven years he chaired the Superior Court Judicial Education Committee

and he is a member of the Rules Committee.

He has been a faculty member at the National Judicial College, Reno, Nevada, and board member at the Leadership Institute in Judicial Education, out of the University of Memphis, Tennessee. In his teaching experience has traveled to Angola, Mexico and Chile regarding judicial system assessment, methods of civil delay reduction, mediation and Biotechnology. He is past President and Co-founder of the Charlotte E. Ray, American Inn of Court.

Prior to taking the bench, Judge López was in Private Practice, a member of the D.C. Traffic Adjudication Appeals Board and member of the D.C. Board of Appeals and Review. Before that, he was Attorney Advisor to the Benefits Review Board, U.S. Department of Labor.

Judge López received his B.A. from Middlebury College, Vermont and a law degree from Suffolk University Law School, Boston, Massachusetts. While in law school, he was Associate Editor of the Law Review, Vice President of the Hispanic American Law Student Association, and President of the Black American Law Students Association. Judge López is the 1997 Recipient of the Award for Judicial Excellence, presented by the American Bar Association National Conference of State Trial Judges. He is a native of the Dominican Republic, his wife is Sheron and his children are Melissa and José.

The Honorable Hiram E. Puig-Lugo

Associate Judge, D.C. Superior Court



Hiram E. Puig-Lugo joined the Superior Court of the District of Columbia in 1999. He has handled criminal felony, juvenile delinquency, criminal misdemeanor, child abuse and neglect, domestic relations, and domestic violence calendars.

From 1996 to 1999, Judge Puig-Lugo was a trial attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Civil Rights Division, Criminal Section, where he investigated and prosecuted matters involving police brutality, hate crimes, and involuntary servitude in the United States and its territories. While at DOJ, he reviewed complaints of civil rights and guest worker abuses in the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands and Guam. His investigation uncovered an operation that transported women to the Northern Marianas Islands and forced them into prostitution. He secured a federal grand jury indictment that led to the conviction of the responsible parties.

Judge Puig-Lugo worked with the D.C. Public Defender Service from 1988 to 1996, representing indigent clients in juvenile, adult and appellate proceedings. The majority of his caseload during his time with the Public Defender Service consisted of serious felonies such as homicides, assaults, robberies, and sex crimes.

Judge Puig-Lugo has been an instructor for legal education projects in Spain, El Salvador, Venezuela, Argentina, México, Chile, Ecuador, Perú, Colombia, and the Federated States of Micronesia. He has taught at the American University Washington College of Law, the University of the District of Columbia School of Law, the George Washington University Law School, and the National Judicial College Pacific Islands Law Institute.

In 1998, Judge Puig-Lugo received the United States Department of Justice Special Recognition Award for his work in prosecuting inmate abuse in a Puerto Rican prison facility. In 1996, he received the District of Columbia Courts Hispanic Heritage Celebration Committee Legal Community Award for his service to the Latino community.

Judge Puig-Lugo graduated from the University of Wisconsin Law School, where he was the first Latino member of the University of Wisconsin Law Review.

The Honorable Aida L. Melendez
Magistrate Judge, D.C. Superior Court



Aida Melendez was installed as a Magistrate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia on April 7, 1997. Judge Melendez graduated from John Jay College of Criminal Justice in 1978 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice. She received her Juris Doctorate from the Potomac School of Law in 1982. She was also a cadet in the Saint John's University ROTC program, where she received the Distinguished Military Student and Distinguished Military Graduate awards. In 1978, she received her officer commission in the United States Army Reserves.

Following law school, Judge Melendez worked as a Tax Law Specialist with the Internal Revenue Service for three years. She then worked as a solo practitioner, representing clients before the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, the Office of Workers' Compensation, the Industrial Commission of Virginia, and the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

From 1988 to 1996, Judge Melendez served as a Trial Attorney for the District of Columbia Office of the Corporation Counsel, renamed the Office of the Attorney General (OAG), first in the Family Division and then in the Criminal Division. She then served as an Attorney Advisor with the Office of Legal Counsel of the Office of the Corporation Counsel. Her most recent position prior to her appointment in the Superior Court was as the Chief of the Office's Child Support Section.

As a judge in the Superior Court, Judge Melendez serves on several court committees. She previously served as a member of the Strategic Leadership Planning Committee and as Chair of the Stakeholders Subcommittee and received a Certificate of Appreciate. She is currently active in the Standing Committee on Fairness and Access to the District of Columbia Courts.

Judge Melendez retired from the military on June 5, 2006. During her military career, she served as the General Counsel for the Selective Service System National Headquarters and as unit Commander of the Selective Service System, Region I. Her last assignment was at the Pentagon.

The Honorable Vanessa Ruiz
Associate Judge, District of Columbia Court of Appeals



Judge Vanessa Ruiz was appointed to the District of Columbia Court of Appeals in 1994 by President Clinton after serving as Corporation Counsel (now the Attorney General) for the District of Columbia and a career in private practice. Judge Ruiz was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico. She is a 1975 graduate of the Georgetown University Law Center and received her bachelor's degree in philosophy from Wellesley College.

Upon graduation from law school, Judge Ruiz began private practice at Fried Frank, focusing on international commercial transactions. When just five years out of law school, she successfully briefed and argued an important civil rights case before the U.S. Supreme Court on a *pro bono* basis, becoming one of the first women advocates to appear before the Court's first woman Justice, Sandra Day O'Connor. She later entered public service and quickly worked her way up to become the first Hispanic chief legal officer for the District of Columbia. That year, President Clinton appointed her to the D.C. Court of Appeals, and she remains today its longest-serving woman currently active on the court and the only Hispanic in the court's history.

Judge Ruiz Chairs the D.C. Courts' Advisory Committee on Judicial Conduct and is a member of the District of Columbia Access to Justice Commission. A Past President of the National Association of Women Judges, Judge Ruiz serves on the Board of Managerial Trustees of the International Association of Women Judges and is also on the Board of Trustees of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. She is a member of the American Law Institute.

In 2001, Judge Ruiz was named "Judge of the Year" by the Hispanic National Bar Association and in 2002, on the 25th Anniversary of the HBA-DC, she received the Judge Urbina Lifetime Achievement Award. In 2009 Judge Ruiz was honored with the prestigious Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award.

The Honorable Ricardo M. Urbina
District Judge, United States District Court for the District of Columbia



Judge Ricardo M. Urbina sits on the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. The Judge is a 1967 honors graduate of Georgetown University and a 1970 graduate of the Georgetown University Law Center.

Between law school and his judicial appointment, the Judge worked as a staff attorney for the D.C. Public Defender Service (1970-1972) and established his own practice with an emphasis on commercial litigation (1973-1981). Also during that period, Judge Urbina served as an associate professor at Howard University Law School.

In April 1981, Judge Urbina became President Reagan's first judicial appointment and the first Latino ever appointed to the bench in the District of Columbia. He chaired the court committee that worked with the bar and community organizations to create the court's Office of Interpreter Services, which for the first time institutionalized the practice of providing court interpreters for non-English speakers and the hearing-impaired.

In 1994, President Clinton appointed Judge Urbina to his current position as a judge on the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. Since taking the bench in July of that year, Judge Urbina has issued well over a thousand memorandum opinions.

Since 1993, he has been an adjunct professor at the George Washington University Law School, where he teaches an L.L.M.-level course on the American jury system each fall. Each spring, Judge Urbina teaches a course on trial advocacy. In addition, Judge Urbina served as a visiting professor of trial advocacy at the Harvard Law School from 1996 through 2000. In 2001, George Washington University Law School conferred upon Judge Urbina its Distinguished Adjunct Teacher Award and endowed him with the David Seidelson Chair for Trial Advocacy in 2005.

The Honorable Juan F. Vasquez
Judge, United States Tax Court



Juan Vasquez was nominated as a Judge to the U.S. Tax Court by President William J. Clinton on September 14, 1994, and confirmed by the Senate Finance Committee on March 17, 1995. He was sworn in as a Judge on May 1, 1995.

Prior to his appointment, Judge Vasquez was in private practice representing clients in tax controversies before the Internal Revenue Service and the U.S. Tax Court. He worked with the Office of Chief Counsel, IRS, Houston office, 1978-1982.

In 1984, Judge Vasquez became the first Hispanic attorney to be certified in tax law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. He received a CPA certificate from the State of Texas. He has been a member of the Austin IRS District/Practitioners Liaison Committee and its Chairperson in 1991. He served as the Treasurer of the San Antonio Mexican American Bar Association (MABA) from 1982 to 1994, and State chapter of MABA from 1986 to 1988.

Judge Vasquez is currently a member of the American Bar Association Tax Section, National Judicial College, National Hispanic Bar Association, Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia, State Bar of Texas, Texas Bar Foundation, San Antonio Bar Foundation (Life Fellow), and MABA of San Antonio.

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