HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOUNDATION

2011 ANNUAL REPORT

The HBA-DC Foundation was established in 1995 by the Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia as a 501c3 non-profit organization. The Foundation was led by three directors in 2011.

I. BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HBA-DC FOUNDATION

Robert Raben, President and Treasurer
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Co-chair: Fundraising and PASOS Committees

Linda M. Estrada, Vice President and Secretary
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Committees: Fellowships and PASOS Committees

Loretta Garcia, Board Member
c/o P.O. Box 1011
Washington, DC 20013-1011
EM: attorneygarcia@verizon.net
Committees: Fellowships

Please see Attachment A for the list of Committee members.

II. 2011 FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The mission of the Foundation includes supporting the law student community by providing fellowships for law students working during the summer for public interest legal organizations principally serving the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan area. These fellowships allow students to gain valuable work experience and exposure to an area of public interest law. At the same time, these students assist with providing legal services to individuals or groups served by the legal service entities. Sponsoring organizations are non-profit, non-governmental
organizations in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area that provide legal services at little or no cost to clients.

A. The NCLR and Patton Boggs Fellowship:

In 2011, the Foundation awarded this fellowship in the amount of $10,000. The fellowship, which has been administered by the HBA-DC Foundation since 2007, is funded by Patton Boggs LLP and is intended to provide funding for a law student working for the summer with a public interest entity in a position that is otherwise not compensated. To be eligible for consideration, an applicant must be: (1) a first-year Latino/a law student; (2) actively enrolled in, and attending, any accredited law school in the United States or Puerto Rico; and (3) accepted to work for a minimum of eight weeks with the sponsoring entity. The sponsoring entity may be a not-for-profit organization or a governmental agency, and must be located in any of the following cities in the United States: the Washington DC metropolitan area; Denver, CO; Newark, NJ; New York, NY; Dallas, TX; or Anchorage, AK. Preference will be given to students working with entities whose client base includes the Hispanic/Latino community.

B. The HBA-DC Foundation Fellowships:

In 2011, the Foundation awarded four fellowships of $5,000 each. These fellowships are intended to support a law student for work with a public interest organization in the DC-metropolitan area in a position that is otherwise not compensated by the sponsoring entity. To be eligible in 2011, an applicant had to be: (1) a first or second year law student (2) actively enrolled in, and attending, one of the following accredited law schools located in the District of Columbia or its immediate suburbs: Columbus School of Law at the Catholic University of America, George Mason University Law School, George Washington University’s National Law Center, Georgetown University Law Center, Howard University School of Law, the David A. Clarke School of Law at the University of the District of Columbia or the Washington College of Law at American University; and (3) with an arrangement to work full-time for a minimum of eight weeks with a sponsoring entity. The sponsoring entity must be: (1) a not-for-profit, non-governmental organization; (2) located in the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan area; (3) providing direct legal services; and (4) at low cost or no cost to the clients. Preference was given to students working with organizations serving the D.C. Latino community among the client base and this information was included in the application.

C. The criteria (not in ranked order) used to evaluate applicants for the NCLR/Patton Boggs Fellowship:

1. Applicant’s commitment to public interest law;

2. Benefit to the sponsoring organization;
3. Contribution of the placement to the applicant's professional development;
4. Benefit to DC's Hispanic community;
5. Quality of applicant's writing; and
6. Transcripts and grades.

D. The criteria (not in ranked order) used to evaluate applicants for the HBA-Dc Foundation Fellowships:

1. Applicant's commitment to public interest law;
2. Benefit to the sponsoring organization;
3. Contribution of the placement to the applicant's professional development;
4. Benefit to DC's Hispanic community;
5. Financial need of the applicant;
6. Quality of applicant's writing; and
7. References.

E. Selection Process:

For the first time, the Fellowship Program was conducted through an online application process. Through the HBA-DC website, the Foundation was assigned an electronic mailbox solely for the receipt of electronic fellowship applications. Thirty applications were received representing the highest number of applications to date. The Chairs of the Fellowship Committee sorted the applications and distributed them via email to Committee members for the review process.

The Committee was divided into two subcommittees, one for selection of the HBA-DC Foundation fellowships, and the other for selection of the Patton Boggs/NCLR fellowship. Each subcommittee member reviewed all the applications assigned to that subcommittee. The applicants were ranked according to the selection criteria noted above. Some applicants were eligible for both the HBADC Fellowship and the NCLR-Patton Boggs Fellowship. The Committee conducted its deliberations by email and telephone.

For the NCLR/Patton Boggs Fellowship, the Committee ranked the top three candidates and provided a summary on the background of each student to
Patton Boggs along with the rankings of the Committee. Patton Boggs made the final selection.

Recipients were notified by phone. A follow-up letter was sent providing additional information about issuance of the funds to them. Letters were also sent to the sponsoring organization confirming whether they would be willing to receive the fellowship funds to disburse to the recipient and then willing to issue the Form 1099 the following tax year to the student. Written confirmations were requested from each sponsoring organization if they were in agreement with the Foundation’s process for issuing the funds.

**2011 Fellowship Recipients:**

National Council of La Raza (NCLR)/Patton Boggs 2011

**Estefania San Juan** is a rising second-year law student at the Washington College of Law (WCL) at American University, where she is an Emma Gillet & Emma Spencer Fellow. During her undergraduate tenure at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, she was on the Dean’s List and earned her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. Ms. San Juan’s sponsoring organization is the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF), one of the nation’s leading Latino legal civil rights organization, which promotes social change through advocacy, communications, community education, and litigation in the areas of education, employment, immigrant rights and political access. She will be working on litigation and legislation in these five areas in the MALDEF office in Washington, DC.

HBA-DC Foundation Fellowship Recipients (listed in alphabetical order):

**Clarissa Arevalo** is a rising second-year law student at the WCL. She earned a Bachelor of Arts with a double major in Film and Media Studies and Criminology from the University of California, Irvine where she was on the Dean’s Honor List. Ms. Arevalo’s sponsoring organization is Ayuda in Washington, DC, a non-profit, community based organization offering legal and social services to low income immigrants in the field of immigration, domestic violence, family law and human trafficking. She will be assigned a caseload in the Immigration Unit assisting clients seeking a variety of immigration benefits.

**Elana Baurer** is a rising second-year law student at the Georgetown University Law Center (GULC). She earned her Bachelor of Arts in African American Studies from Wesleyan University, where she was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, an academic honors society. Ms. Baurer will work to provide legal services to detained immigrants and asylum seekers at the Capital Area Immigrants’ Rights (CAIR) Coalition, her sponsoring organization. The CAIR Coalition brings together community groups, pro bono attorneys, volunteers and immigrants from the District of Columbia, Virginia and Maryland working to ensure that all
immigrants are treated with fairness, dignity and respect for their human and civil rights.

**Brittany Hightower** is a rising third-year law student at the GULC. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in English with a minor in Spanish from Texas State University, San Marcos, where she received the Texas Brightest Star Award. Ms. Hightower’s sponsoring organization is also the CAIR. The CAIR Coalition gives presentations for detained immigrants in Virginia and parts of Maryland on their rights, the detention and removal process, and their legal options. CAIR also conducts pro se workshops in detention centers and jails for detainees to apply for relief and represent themselves in Immigration Court. For qualified detainees, CAIR will either help find pro bono attorneys or represent them in applying for immigration relief.

**Lucia Macias** is a rising third-year law student at the WCL, where she served as a student attorney in the Immigrant Justice Clinic. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a minor in Public Policy at the University of California, Berkeley. Ms. Macias’s sponsoring organization is Ayuda in Washington, DC. During her fellowship with the Immigration Unit, she will work to assist clients seeking a variety of immigration benefits.

**III. PASOS 2011**

The Foundation also holds an annual graduation celebration called PASOS, which takes place in the spring of each year. The PASOS event is a celebration attended by graduating law students, their families and friends, members of the Hispanic Bar, and others from the community. We acknowledge the many Hispanic students who are graduating that year from all law schools in the DC area: Washington College of Law at American University; Georgetown University Law Center; George Washington University’s National Law Center; Columbus School of Law at Catholic University of America; Howard University School of Law; and the David A. Clarke School of Law at the University of the District of Columbia. In addition, we recognize and introduce the Foundation fellowship recipients.

PASOS 2011 took place May 20, 2011 at the Washington College of Law at American University in Washington, DC. The Honorable Marisa Demeo of the Superior Court for the District of Columbia was the keynote speaker.

Twenty students and their families participated for a total attendance of over 150 people. The Washington College of Law generously supported the event by donating the venue, food and beverage for approximately 100-150 persons. The Washington College of Law also provided the photographs of the event taken by their photographer. Some of those photos were uploaded to the Foundation webpage. The Foundation retained the disc with remaining photos.
IV. FOUNDATION FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

The Foundation raised $33,657.00 in 2011. The Foundation’s expenses, including payment of the five fellowships, were $31,694.00 for the five fellowships and administrative expenses. Please see Attachment B for the 2011 Foundation Financial Report.

V. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

The Foundation held several meetings throughout 2011 by telephone, via email and in person. The Foundation held a wrap up meeting of the 2011 activities on June 27, 2011.


VI. WEBSITE

The Foundation has a page on the website of the Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia website. The page can be accessed at: http://www.hbadc.org/site/page/foundation. This is at no cost to the Foundation.

2011 HBA-DC Foundation Annual Report:

[Signature]

President
December 7, 2011
ATTACHMENT A

2011 HBA-DC Foundation Committee Roster

2011 Committee Members:
Jocelyn Nieva
jnieva@iaf.gov or nieva4544@yahoo.com
Committees: Fellowships

Kenia Seoane López
Kenias@yahoo.com
Committees: Fellowships

M. Lucero Ortiz
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Committees: Fellowships

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wpatten@post.harvard.edu
Committees: Fellowships

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Committees: PASOS, Fellowships

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Committees: Fellowships

Maria G. Mendoza
g.maria.mendoza@gmail.com
Committees: Fellowship

Leonor Velazquez Davila
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Committees: Fellowship

Yamil Jaskille
yamiljaskille@yahoo.com
Committees: PASOS

Rosa Mendoza
rmendoza@rabengroup.com
Committees: PASOS
## Donations Received

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**Personal Donations**

|                  | Juan M Sempertegui                        | 05/20/11 |          | 50.00    |

**Fundraiser**

|                  | HBA-DC Foundation fundraiser             | 07/12/11 |          | 257.00   |
|                  | Website Donation                          | 03/23/11 |          | 100.00   |

**Total** $33,657*

*In Kind Contribution from the Washington College of Law for sponsorship of PASOS 2011 worth approx. $2000-$2500.00 is not included in the above revenue figure.*
## EXPENSES

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### PASOS 2011: Expenses

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**TOTAL EXPENSES:** $31,694.00

**BALANCE:** $1,963.00