

HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOUNDATION 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

The HBA-DC Foundation (“Foundation”) was established in 1995 by the Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia (“HBA-DC”) as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

I. BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HBA-DC FOUNDATION

The following attorneys served as members of the Board of Directors of the Foundation:

Officers:

President: Robert Raben

Vice President: Linda M. Estrada

Secretary: Kenia Seoane-Lopez

Treasurer: Jilma Lasso

At Large Directors:

Leila Jade Levi (HBA-DC Representative)

Maria Holleran Rivera

Jocelyn Nieva

Attachment A sets forth the list of the 2017 Foundation Committee members.

II. 2017 FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

One of the primary missions 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 and advocacy 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 or advocacy at little or no cost to clients.

The fellowships are intended to support a law student, who works with a public interest organization in the DC-metropolitan area, in a position that is not otherwise compensated by the sponsoring entity. To be eligible in 2017, 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.

The following criteria (not in ranked order) was used to evaluate applicants for the Foundation's 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.

Through the HBA-DC website, the Foundation is assigned an electronic mailbox solely for the receipt of electronic fellowship applications. The Foundation received several applications, which were reviewed by the 2017 Fellowship Committee.

In 2016, the Foundation established the Claudio Grossman Public Interest Fellowship. This fellowship honors the many contributions by Dean Claudio Grossman to the law including as Dean of the Washington College of Law. The Foundation established this fellowship to express its gratitude to Dean Grossman for his friendship and many years of support. The fellowship will be awarded to a qualified, first or second year law student from the Washington College of Law, who will be working unpaid for the summer at a public interest organization in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan.

III. 2017 HBA-DC FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

The Foundation Fellowship recipients are noted below:

Stefan Babich HBA-DC Public Interest Fellow

Stefan Babich was a rising 2L at Georgetown University Law Center. In the summer, Stefan worked for Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C., Immigration Legal Services, which provides pro bono legal assistance to clients in the field of

immigration. He assisted with interviewing clients, conducting legal research for briefs and oral arguments, and drafting affidavits. Stefan has also served as a volunteer with the Employment Justice Center, with El Barrio Workforce Development Center in Cleveland, Ohio, and with College Bound St. Louis, in St. Louis, Missouri. He is a graduate of Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio, where he earned his Bachelor of Arts in History, with a Minor in Creative Writing, and was awarded the John Fredericks Oberlin Scholarship for Academic Achievement.

Silvia Calderon
Eversheds Sutherland Public Interest Fellow

Silvia Calderon was a rising 2L at the Georgetown University Law Center. In the summer, Silvia worked for Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C., Immigration Legal Services, which provides pro bono legal assistance to clients in the field of immigration. She assisted clients applying for immigration benefits and seeking cancellation of removal. She previously served as a Legal Assistant at Christopher House, a transitional living program for men in recovery in Lake Worth, Florida and as a Legislative Intern in the Office of Florida Senator, Maria Sachs in Delray, Florida. She has also served as an English as a Second Language tutor and as a volunteer with Hospice by the Sea in Boca Raton, Florida. She graduated *summa cum laude* from Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Florida, where she earned her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science.

Tamara Castro-Marquez
HBA-DC Public Interest Fellow

Tamara Castro-Marquez was a rising 2L at American University, Washington College of Law. In the summer, Tamara worked for AYUDA providing direct legal services in the field of immigration. She has previously served as a Communications Intern for the Embassy of El Salvador; as an Administrative Assistant with the National Hispanic Council on Aging; and as Assistant Camp Director for the YMCA Aquatics Camp. Tamara is a graduate of the University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Government and Politics and a Certificate in Latin American Studies.

Luis Enrique Salazar
HBA-DC Public Interest Fellow

Luis Enrique Salazar was a rising 2L at American University, Washington College of Law. In the summer, Luis Enrique worked for Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C., Immigration Legal Services, located in Silver Spring, Maryland, which provides pro bono legal assistance to clients in the field of immigration. He assisted with preparing Immigration Court filings, researching immigration issues, taking client statements, maintaining case files and applying for immigration benefits. He has previously served as a GED tutor with the Latin American Youth Center, as a tutor with D.C. Reads and as a volunteer with D.C. Doors, where he assisted with daily tasks to find housing for immigrant women with children in Washington, D.C. Luis Enrique is a

graduate of American University, in Washington, D.C., where he earned his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and received the William Randolph Hearst Scholarship.

Gabriela Sevilla
HBA-DC Public Interest Fellow

Gabriela Sevilla was a rising 2L at Howard University School of Law. In the summer, Gabriela worked for Advocates for Justice and Education, Inc., a non-profit organization, which seeks to empower families, youth, and the community to be effective advocates to ensure that children and youth, particularly those who have special needs, receive access to appropriate education and health services. This includes providing pro bono legal representation to families in matters involving special education, school discipline, and school pushout issues. She previously worked as a teaching and program assistant with the Rutgers Future Scholars Program, planning college tours and workshops for students and families of first-generation precollege students; as a bilingual tutor and English Language Arts Teaching Assistant with AmeriCorps at the Great Oaks Charter School in Newark, New Jersey; and as an intern with the Children's Defense Fund: Freedom School in Newark, New Jersey. She is a graduate of Rutgers University in Newark, New Jersey, where she earned her Bachelor of Arts in Public and Non-Profit Administration with a Minor in Political Science.

IV. PASOS 2017

In addition to administering the Fellowship Program, the Foundation also organizes and hosts an annual graduation celebration called PASOS, which takes place in the spring of each year. PASOS is a celebration attended by graduating law students, their families and friends, members of the Hispanic Bar, and others from the community.

Through this event, the Foundation acknowledges the many Hispanic students, who are graduating that year from all law schools in the DC area, namely, the 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; the David A. Clarke School of Law at the University of the District of Columbia; and the George Mason University School of Law.

PASOS 2017 took place on Friday, May 19, 2017, at the Washington College of Law, American University and was attended by over 100 guests including the graduates, their families and members of the local legal community. The Foundation "graduated" over twenty-five law students.

The keynote speaker for the event was the Hon. Hiram E. Puig-Lugo, Associate Judge for the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. The Foundation is grateful to Dean Camille Nelson and The Washington College of Law for their support and financial contribution to PASOS 2017.

V. HBA-DC SCHOLARSHIPS

The HBA-DC is committed to the advancement and progress of Latinos in the legal profession. To further its commitment, HBA-DC established a scholarship for 3L students. In 2017, HBA-DC, awarded four \$2,500.00 scholarships to eligible 3L students. The Foundation administered the scholarships. The recipients of the 2017 scholarships are:

Christopher Pascual, a 3L student at the David A. Clarke School of Law, Roxanna Vasquez, a 3L student at the George Washington University School of Law; Amy Lopez, a 3L student at the George Washington University School of Law and Jonathan Ross, a 3L student at the George Washington University School of Law.

VI. FOUNDATION FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

In 2017, the Foundation raised a total of \$ \$40,391. The Foundation awarded \$25,000 in fellowships. The Foundation also awarded four scholarships of \$2,500 sponsored by HBA-DC. Attachment B sets forth the list of donors to the Foundation in 2017.

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

The Foundation held board meetings and committee meetings throughout 2017 in person and via telephone and email.

VIII. WEBSITE

The Foundation's home page is available through the website of the Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia at: <http://www.hbadc.org/site/page/foundation>. This is at no cost to the Foundation.

2017 HBA-DC Foundation Annual Report:



President

ATTACHMENT A

2017 FOUNDATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Fellowships Committee

Jocelyn Nieva (Co-Chair)
M. Lucero Ortiz (Co-Chair)
Adrian Alvarez
Jose Campos
Linda M. Estrada

PASOS Committee

Edgar Class
Erin Darbouze
Ben Hernandez-Stern
Linda M. Estrada
Leila Jade Levi
Jilma Lasso
Robert Raben
Hon. Kenia Seoane López

PASOS Volunteers

Savina Tapia
Gidget Benitez

ATTACHMENT B

2017 Donors to the HBA-DC Foundation

Platinum Fellowship Sponsors:

Hispanic Bar Association of DC (HBA-DC)

Eversheds Sutherland

Platinum Sponsors:

Price Waterhouse Coopers ("PWC")

Gold Fellowship Sponsors:

O'Melveny

Silver Fellowship Sponsors:

Covington & Burling, LLP

Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, LLP

Wiley Rein, LLP

The Washington College of Law, American University

Additional Donors:

The Honorable Vanessa Ruiz

Eliel Aguillon

Maricela Lechuga

Angela Mojica Madrid

Judith Avner

Arnold & Porter

Gray, Plant Mooty