



NEWS RELEASE

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**Former United States Attorney General Loretta Lynch
to Address Lawyers Club at June 7, 2018 Annual Dinner**

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Former U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch will be the keynote speaker at the Lawyers Club of San Diego's Annual Dinner in June, where she will receive the Lawyers Club Icon Award. The Icon Award has been bestowed on only seven prior recipients, in recognition of "exceptional achievement by individuals furthering the advancement of women in the law and in society," and to honor those who share Lawyers Club's values of justice, inclusion and progress.

The annual dinner, themed "Inspire to Rise," will mark Lawyers Club's 46th anniversary and is set for Thursday, June 7, 2018.

"I am excited to have Former Attorney General Loretta Lynch as our speaker," Lawyers Club president Olga Álvarez said. "She embodies this year's theme of leadership by not only having obtained the highest legal position in the country, but by also demonstrating the courage to lead by fighting for the American people."

Lynch was appointed by President Barack Obama to serve as Attorney General in 2015. She was the first African-American female Attorney General and only the second woman to be confirmed to the post.

Prior to her appointment, Lynch served in the U.S. Attorney's Office as well as in private practice. A graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law School, Lynch spent her early legal career in private practice, then joined the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York in 1990. Born in Greensboro, N.C., Lynch considers Brooklyn her adopted home.

At the U.S. Attorney's Office, Lynch forged an impressive career prosecuting cases involving narcotics, violent crimes, public corruption, and civil rights, including the high-profile case of Abner Louima, a Haitian immigrant who was sexually assaulted by uniformed police officers in a Brooklyn police precinct in 1997.

Lynch was appointed to lead the Eastern District of New York office as United States Attorney in 1999 and held the post until 2001.

In 2002, she joined Hogan & Hartson LLP (now Hogan Lovells) as a partner in the firm's New York office. While in private practice, Lynch performed extensive pro bono work for the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, which was established to prosecute those responsible for human rights violations in the 1994 genocide in that nation. As Special Counsel to the Tribunal, she was responsible for investigating allegations of witness tampering and false testimony.

Lynch returned to the U.S. Attorney's Office in 2010, resuming her post as U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of New York. Under her direction, the office successfully prosecuted numerous corrupt public officials, terrorists, cybercriminals and human traffickers, among other important cases.

"Ms. Lynch's success as a leader epitomizes the goals many Lawyers Club members wish to achieve, and makes her an ideal speaker to support the dinner's theme, 'Inspire to Rise,'" said Annual Dinner co-chair Tracy Schimelfenig, a Lawyers Club board member.

Annual Dinner co-chair Elvira Cortez, also a Lawyers Club board member, added that she hopes Lynch will inspire Lawyers Club members to aim high in their own legal careers.

"Ms. Lynch's elevation to the pinnacle of legal advocacy, United States Attorney General, makes her a valuable role model to inspire women to overcome gender barriers and succeed at the highest levels," Cortez said.

The Annual Dinner is set for Thursday, June 7, at the Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina, 333 W. Harbor Dr., downtown San Diego. Registration begins at 5:30 p.m., and the dinner and program are set for 6:30-8 p.m. Tickets are now on sale for both Lawyers Club members and the general public.

Local media may contact Lawyers Club to inquire as to arrangements for the press. No recordings by the media are permitted without first contacting Lawyers Club.

Founded in 1972, Lawyers Club is San Diego's largest specialty bar association, comprised of more than 1,300 men and women, including attorneys in the private and public sectors, judges, the San Diego District Attorney, the San Diego City Attorney, the president and many past presidents of the San Diego County Bar Association, community leaders, law school students, and other members of the legal community who embrace the mission to advance the status of women in law and society. For more information regarding Lawyers Club, go to www.lawyersclubsandiego.com.