

# ANITA HILL TO SERVE AS KEYNOTE SPEAKER FOR LAWYERS CLUB OF SAN DIEGO ANNUAL DINNER

*Renowned Attorney and Activist to Address Gender Justice in Society Today and the Role of the Legal Community in Women's Advancement*

## MEDIA CONTACT

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**WHAT:** Lawyers Club of San Diego Annual Dinner: "Speak Up, Speak Out, Take Action"

**WHEN:** Thursday, June 1, 2017 from 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina  
333 W. Harbor Drive, San Diego, California 92101

**SAN DIEGO** – Famed attorney, professor, and women's and civil rights advocate Anita Hill will serve as the keynote speaker for the Lawyers Club of San Diego's 2017 Annual Dinner June 1 at the Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina. Her remarks will center on the status of women at this moment in history, specifically, about sexual harassment in the workplace, sexual assault, rape culture, and related issues facing women today, as well as the intersection between race and gender. Hill will also address the role of the legal community in women's advancement in the legal profession and society.

Born the youngest of 13 children on an Oklahoma farm, Hill received her undergraduate degree in psychology from Oklahoma State University and graduated from Yale Law School in 1980. She began her legal career in Washington, D.C., where she worked in private practice and later at the U.S. Department of Education and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. In 1989, Hill became the first African American to receive tenure at the University of Oklahoma, College of Law.

Hill was thrown into the public spotlight in 1991 when she testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee's confirmation hearings for then-U.S. Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas, with whom Hill had worked at the Department of Education and Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Following that experience, she became a vocal advocate of the advancement of racial equality and gender parity. In 1995, she wrote *Speaking Truth to Power*, an autobiography that centers on her experience as a witness in Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas's confirmation hearings, and in 2011, she released *Reimagining Equality: Stories of Race, Gender, and Finding Home*, a book that focused on the devastating effects of the subprime mortgage scandal on families and communities.

Hill has more than three decades of experience teaching law to undergraduate and graduate students and is currently a University Professor of Law, Social Policy, and Women's Studies at Brandeis University, having served as senior advisor to the school's provost and interim chair of the Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies Program. She has lectured to hundreds of business, professional, academic, and civic organizations around the world about how to make campuses and workplaces more fair and equitable places, and frequently advises on class action cases involving workplace discrimination. She is a prolific writer whose work has been featured in *Time*, *Newsweek*, *The New York Times*, *The Boston Globe*, and *Ms. Magazine*, and a frequent guest on nationally televised programs including *Good Morning America*, *The Today Show*, *The Daily Show*, *Larry King Live*, *The Tavis Smiley Show*, and *Meet the Press*. Hill is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Ford Hall Forum's First Amendment Award for her work promoting race and gender equality and the Fletcher Fellowship award for her work addressing educational disparities among poor and minority students.

"Twenty-six years ago, Anita Hill bravely stood before a congressional committee composed entirely of men and testified about issues of inequity that unfortunately continue to be pervasive to this day," said Jamie Quient, president of Lawyers Club of San Diego. "Ms. Hill is truly a model of courage for women worldwide, and we are thrilled to welcome her to San Diego in June to speak to our members at what I'm sure will be a sellout event."

For more information, to RSVP for the dinner, or to schedule an interview with Jamie Quient or Annual Dinner Committee co-chairs Tara Duester or Carla Sanderson, please use the media contact above.

Local media may attend this event and record the first three minutes of Hill's remarks for b-roll footage only (video/no audio). No other recordings by the media are permitted.

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Lawyers Club is a specialty bar association founded in 1972 to advance the status of women in the law and society. We advance our mission through the work of our committees, by presenting programs and events, and through the work of our charitable foundation arm, the Lawyers Club Fund for Justice, that reaches out to the community and in particular serves at-risk women and girls.

Our more than 1,300 members include attorneys in both private and public sectors, over 75 judicial officers, the San Diego District Attorney, past presidents of the San Diego County Bar Association, community leaders, law school students, and other members of the legal community.

Earlier this year, Lawyers Club launched its #EnoughisEnough campaign to give a voice to

women and men in the community to *stand up* and *speak out* about social injustices they have experienced in the workplace and elsewhere.