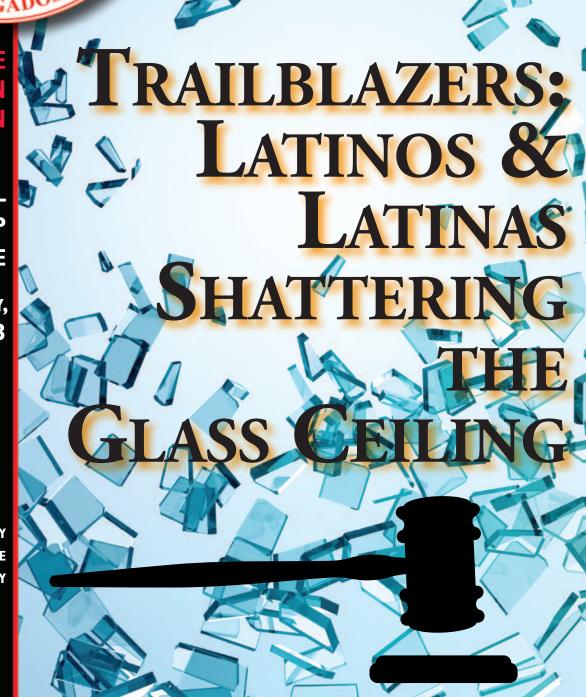


THE DOMINICAN BAR Association

I OTH ANNUAL
SCHOLARSHIP
DINNER DANCE

Tuesday, June 11th, 2013

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
FACULTY HOUSE
NEW YORK CITY



SIMPSON THACHER



We Proudly Support

The Dominican Bar Association's Tenth Annual 2013 Scholarship Dinner Dance

and Congratulate Our Partner

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Jaime Mercado

on This Well-Deserved Recognition

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Pelcome friends and colleagues to the Dominican Bar Association's Tenth Annual Scholarship Dinner Dance. This year's theme is "Trailblazers: Latinos & Latinas Shattering the Glass Ceiling." Please join us in celebrating the achievements of our colleagues who have broken the glass ceiling and proven that the sky's the limit for our community.

I am extremely proud to have served as President of the Dominican Bar Association for two terms. It has been a great honor to work with such talented colleagues and friends who have been so instrumental and supportive in helping this Organization to better serve our community.



I am proud to say that as an Organization, we have been very pro-active, and instrumental in helping our community to have more representation on the judicial bench, in major law firms and government. The number of Judges of Dominican descent in New York have increased, in part, as a result of our encouragement and support.

We are also proud that we can now boast that our student membership is at an all-time high, with 55 new student members in the past year alone. I can proudly say that my fellow colleagues have provided a wonderful role model for our future Dominican/American Lawyers who also aspire to greatness.

Congratulations to our distinguished Honorees, Cristina Mercado, who is the first Latina tenured Professor at Yale Law School; Jaime Mercado, the first partner of a major law firm, Simpson, Thacher & Bartlett, LLP, who is of Dominican descent and Hon. Rolando T. Acosta, the first Justice of Dominican descent to sit in a Court of Appeals.

They have demonstrated that it is possible for our community to *Shatter the Glass Ceiling*.

In addition, I want to thank Assemblyman Carl E. Heastie and Assemblyman Keith L.T. Wright and recognize their efforts, in helping our community achieve their professional goals. To each of you, I personally thank for your contribution.

To all of you, we thank you for your support and we want you to know that we recognize that you are the ultimate role models in our profession and our community.

Thank you all for joining us at our Tenth Annual Scholarship Dinner Dance.

Yours truly,

Bianka Perez, President

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Welcoming RemarksZahire D. Estrella, Esq., DBA Recording Secretary and Gloribelle J. Perez, Esq., Vice President

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS TO HONOREES

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THE DOMINICAN BAR ASSOCIATION (DBA) is an incorporated, non-profit, national association representing the interests of Dominican-American, native Dominican and Latino attorneys, judges, law professors, and law students in the United States and the Dominican Republic. Founded in New York City in 1990 as The American Society of Dominican Attorneys, DBA has grown to represent thousands of Latino attorneys and law students across the country.

The DBA invites all Latino attorneys as well as others within the profession who subscribe to the goals and philosophy of DBA to become members.

DBA'S MISSION STATEMENT:

To increase professional opportunities for Dominican-American, native Dominican and Latino attorneys in the U.S. legal profession;

To assist native Dominican lawyers and attorneys of other nationalities in meeting the requirements for the practice of law in the U.S., including assisting foreign attorneys in obtaining the Foreign Legal Consultant License issued by the Court of Appeals of the State of New York and its counterpart in other U.S. states;

To assist in the recruitment and retention of Dominicans and Latinos in U.S. law schools and provide students with mentoring, scholarships and other assistance;

To partner with other bar associations, governmental agencies and community groups to foster greater participation in the U.S. legal system by the Dominican and Latino communities;

To address Issues of concern to the Dominican and Latino communities in the U.S.;

To safeguard the civil rights of the Dominican and Latino communities and to empower said communities to fully participate in American society through public education and outreach; and,

To ensure fairness and diversity in judicial appointments by serving art various judicial screening panels and committees.

HONOREE CRISTINA M. RODRÍGUEZ



Professor Rodríguez



ristina M. Rodríguez became Professor of Law at Yale Law School in January 2013. From 2011-2013, she served as Deputy Assistant Attorney General in the Office of Legal Counsel in the U.S. Department of Justice, and from 2004-2012 she was on the faculty at the NYU School of Law. Professor Rodriguez also has been a non-resident fellow at the Migration Policy Institute in Washington, D.C., a term member on the Council on Foreign Relations, and a visiting professor at Harvard Law School. Before entering academia, she served as a law clerk to Justice Sandra Day O'Connor of the U.S. Supreme Court and Judge David S. Tatel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.

Professor Rodriguez's fields of research and teaching include immigration law and policy; constitutional law and theory; administrative law and process; language rights and language policy; and citizenship theory. Her most recent works include Transnational Regulation of Migration (2013); Immigration, Civil Rights, and the Formation of the People (2013); Non-citizen voting and the extra-constitutional construction of the polity (2010); Constraint through Delegation (2010); The President and Immigration Law (2009); and The Significance of the Local in Immigration Regulation (2008).

Originally from San Antonio, Texas, Professor Rodriguez earned a B.A. in History from Yale College in 1995, a Master of Letters in Modern History in 1998 from Oxford University, where she was a Rhodes Scholar, and a J.D. from Yale Law School in 2000, where she was an Articles Editor on the Yale Law Journal and was a co-recipient of the Benjamin Scharps Prize for the best paper written by a third-year student.

HONOREE JAIME MERCADO



Mr. Jaime Mercado, Esq., Partner

SIMPSON THACHER Jaime Mercado is a Partner in the Firm's corporate department and co-head of the Firm's São Paulo office. Mr. Mercado's practice focuses on public and private sector crossborder corporate finance and business transactions, with particular focus on capital markets, liability management, project finance and merger and acquisition transactions.

Mr. Mercado regularly represents clients in Latin American transactions that have included debt and equity financings, acquisitions and dispositions, restructurings, privatizations and infrastructure developments. Mr. Mercado regularly advises financial institutions in debt and equity transactions throughout the Americas such as Banc of America Merrill Lynch, Banco Popular Dominicano, Banco BHD, Bradesco BBI, BTG Pactual, Citigroup, Credit Suisse, Deutsche Bank, Goldman Sachs, JP-Morgan, HSBC, Itaú-BBA, Morgan Stanley, Santander and UBS. He represents corporate entities in transactions in Latin America including ACS Dragados, Aeropuertos Dominicanos, Andrade Gutierrez Concessões, Agencias Universales – AGUNSA, Cable Onda, Cap Cana, CardNet, Ceagro Agricola, Grupo Monge, IM-COPA, Lopes Consultoria, MBJ Airports, Mibanco, Tractebel Energia, and YVR Airport Services, among others, in capital markets, credit, project finance and acquisition transactions.

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Mr. Mercado was recognized as a leading Latin American investment lawyer in Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business 2010, which commented that "he does a phenomenal job representing his clients and is extremely knowledgeable about local issues." Mr. Mercado received his B.A. in 1989 from Columbia University and his J.D. in 1995 from New York University School of Law. In addition to English, Mr. Mercado is fluent in Spanish and Portuguese and is admitted to the New York bar.

HONOREE ROLANDO T. ACOSTA



Justice Rolando T. Acosta



Appellate Division
First Department



The Hon. Rolando T. Acosta, elected as a New York State Supreme Court Justice in New York County in 2002, was appointed by Governor Spitzer to the Appellate Division, First Department in January 2008. He has the distinction of being the first and only Dominican to sit on a state appellate court in this country. A prolific writer, Justice Acosta has authored hundreds of decisions on complex and novel criminal and civil matters. For example, in Williams v New York City Housing Authority, 61 AD3d 62 (2009), he analyzed for the first time New York City Human Rights Law claims separately and independently from analogous federal and state laws, eliminating federal and state requirements that harassing conduct needed to be "severe or pervasive" to create liability. Williams has been adopted by various appellate courts, most recently by the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

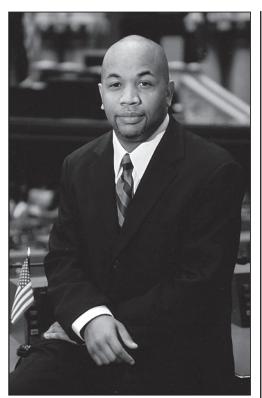
Justice Acosta is a 1979 graduate of Columbia College and a 1982 graduate of Columbia University School of Law. He is the recipient of Columbia University's "Medal for Excellence," and is a member of Columbia's Athletic Hall of Fame. He currently serves as a Trustee of Columbia University and as a member of The Dean's Council of Columbia Law School, assisting Dean Schizer with the challenging issues facing the profession and the education of future lawyers.

Justice Acosta served as the President of the Association of Judges of Hispanic Heritage from 2004 to 2007 and was awarded the Association's 2008 John Carro Award for Judicial Excellence. He was selected as the 2004 Judge of the Year by the National Hispanic Bar Association. Justice Acosta is currently a member of the New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct, the Chief Judge's Task Force to Expand Access to Civil Legal Services in New York, and a Fellow of the New York Bar Foundation.

Justice Acosta has been active in the development of the Washington Heights/Inwood social service infrastructure for over thirty years. He helped found the Community Association of Progressive Dominicans and the Latino Commission on AIDS. He has also served as legal adviser to the founding board of Alianza Dominicana and as treasurer and Chair of the Policy Committee of the Hispanic Federation. He is a founding board member of the Upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone (EZ). Until 1999, Justice Acosta served on the EZ's Executive Committee and chaired its Human Capital Development Committee, which he led in considering and recommending to the EZ Board all human capital and quality of life proposals.

Justice Acosta was raised in the South Bronx and Washington Heights, after having immigrated from the Dominican Republic at the age of 14. Prior to his judicial service, he held various posts with the Legal Aid Society, including Attorney-in-Charge of the largest civil trial office and Director of Government, where he was responsible for developing the Society's legislative agenda and addressing government attacks on the Society and the poor. Justice Acosta has also served as Deputy Commissioner for Law Enforcement for the New York City Commission on Human Rights. In this role, he was responsible for directing all of the Commission's investigatory and prosecutorial functions, including the planning and execution of litigation strategy.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION CARL HEASTIE



Assemblyman Heastie



arl E. Heastie, Assemblyman for the 83rd A.D. in the Bronx, was elected in 2000. Assembly Member Heastie has been called one of the most active Assembly Members by his colleagues. Carl E. Heastie is the Chairman of the New York Assembly Committee on Cities.

Since taking office, Assemblyman Heastie has become one of the lead negotiators for the construction of new schools in his district. He has secured funds for his district in the areas of housing, education, after school programming, health and human services, job readiness and computer training. Assembly Member Heastie was the author of the Wage Theft Prevention Act which provided stiffer penalties for employers that steal wages from employees. Assemblyman Heastie passed a law that prohibited the sale of Nico-water to children under 18 years old. Carl Heastie also authored a law to help victims of domestic violence be released from lease obligations if it is found that if they remain in the residence it would keep them in a dangerous situation.

Prior to taking office, Assemblyman Heastie was employed as a budget analyst in the New York City comptroller's office where he researched, prepared and authored reports on the City's spending patterns. This experience in budget analysis is one of the strongest skills Assemblyman Heastie brings to the New York State Legislature.

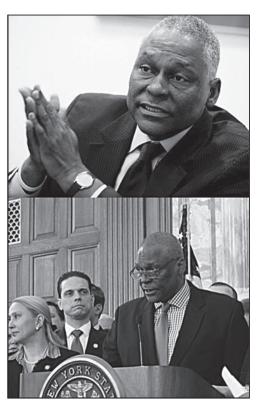
Assemblyman Heastie is second to none when it comes to his ability to evaluate numbers. This skill was learned at the State University of New York at Stony Brook where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Mathematics and Statistics and an MBA in Finance from the Bernard M. Baruch College (CUNY). Even as a child growing up in the New York City public school system, he has always had a love for math.

Assemblyman Heastie continues his community involvement as a member of the Williamsbridge Branch NAACP, National Council of Negro Women and Grace Baptist Church. His involvement is not just limited to memberships, though. On any given weekend, you will find him making his rounds to support block parties and street fairs, giving monetary donations and helping out wherever he can.

Assemblyman Heastie will continue to push his agenda; addressing education, economic development and furthering the interests of the elderly.

Standing Committee Assignments 2013: Education; Corporations, Authorities and Commissions; Housing; Labor; Small Business.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION KEITH WRIGHT



Assemblyman Wright



ssemblyman Keith L.T. Wright, a lifelong resident of Harlem, has earned a reputation as a dedicated and thoughtful public servant who gets results for his constituents. Active in his Harlem community, Wright has helped grow small businesses, create affordable housing, and increase economic opportunities for all New Yorkers.

Wright was elected to the Assembly in 1992, and appointed Assistant Majority Whip in 1998. As chair of the Labor Committee, Wright is currently charged with the important task of leading the fight for workers rights, increased unemployment coverage and fair pay throughout New York State. Wright was the prime sponsor of the first-in-the-nation "Domestic Workers' Bill of Rights" which ensures that domestic workers receive fair wages, working hours and benefits. Among other legislative accomplishments, Wright, as a member of the Housing Committee, was a co-sponsor of the critical legislation which protected rent controls. Wright also chairs the Subcommittee on Public Housing, where he champions the rights of tenants through extensive hearings and legislation.

A member of the Correction Committee and the Task Force on Criminal Justice Reform, Wright is a strong opponent of the death penalty and the Rockefeller Drug Laws and an advocate for criminal justice reform. Following the terrible Alberta Spruill incident, a case of mistaken identity that led to death when police stormed the wrong apartment, Wright introduced legislation that would reform "no knock" search warrants. That legislation was an integral part of the Community Relations Policing Package, which served to change the way in which the police dealt with communities of color. Assemblyman Wright also led the charge for drug and alcohol testing of police officers after they discharge their weapon in the line of duty, a policy ultimately adopted internally by the New York City Police Department.

Other committee assignments include Ways and Means, the committee which handles all budgetary legislation in the State Assembly and the Codes Committee, which handles legislation containing criminal penalties. Wright is also the former chair and current member of the Black, Puerto Rican and Hispanic Legislative Caucus and a member of the Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force. As chair of the Harlem Community Development Corporation (CDC), Wright has leveraged limited resources to make a substantial, tangible impact on economic development in Harlem, developing and renovating properties to create hundreds of units of affordable housing, grow small businesses, increase services for children and seniors and expand cultural venues. Wright is also responsible for bringing to Harlem its first High School football team in decades – the 369th Harlem Hellfighters of the Thurgood Marshall Academy.

A graduate of Rutgers Law School, Tufts University, the Fieldston School and the Ethical Culture School, Wright credits his parents for teaching him the importance of strong values, commitment to community and defense of civil rights. Wright is the son of legendary New York Supreme Court Justice Bruce Wright and mother Constance Wright a long time educator and former principal in the New York City public school system. Prior to serving as Assemblyman, Wright held positions in the City's Human Resources Administration, the Manhattan Borough President's Office and the New York City Transit Authority.

Keith Wright lives in Harlem with his wife, Susan, and children, Jared and Jordan. He is a board member of Tufts University, and attends St. Phillips Episcopal Church.





Nacional Dominicano

(DOMINICAN NATIONAL ANTHEM)

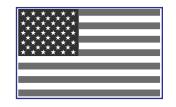
Quisqueyanos valientes alcemos nuestro canto con viva emoción y del mundo a las faz ostentemos nuestro invicto glorioso pendon

Salve el pueblo que intrépido y fuerte a Ia guerra a morir se lanzó cuando en bélico reto de muerte sus cadenas de esclavo rompió

Ningún pueblo ser libre merece si es esclavo, indolente y servil, si en su pecho la llama no crece que templó el heroismo viril

Mas Quisqueya, la indómita y brava siempre altiva Ia frente alzará que si fuere mil veces esclava otras tantas ser libre sabrá!





2013 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

XAVIER MARTINEZ





is a second year law student at New York Law School, where he is a member of New York Law School Law Review. Mr. Martinez is dedicated to social justice and volunteers his time on issues that affect marginalized communities. Mr. Martinez addressed the failures of incarceration policies in Honduras and developed an award-winning undergraduate senior thesis that addressed the failures of Honduras' incarceration policy under "Mano Dura" Laws. He has also worked on the Prosecution and Racial Justice Project.

In the summer of 2012 Mr. Martinez interned at the Kings County District Attorney's office where he gained trial experience and saw first hand the racial disparity found in today's prisons. Presently Martinez is an intern for Judge Batts in the U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York. He published a case comment on the New York Law School Law Review challenging a New York court's disposition of the Sex Offender Management and Treatment Act and is currently writing a Note that seeks to develop an equal protection challenge to the Welfare Integrity Act of 2011. Mr. Martinez has been selected as the 2013 Civil Rights Fellow and will be working on important issues impacting Latinos with Latino Justice.

We congratulate Mr. Martinez on being the recipient of the Dominican Bar Scholarship 2013. We are confident he will be an outstanding member of the legal profession.







THE LAW OFFICES OF JANETTE CORTES-GOMEZ And

THE LAW OFFICES OF GOETZ L. VILSAINT CONGRATULATE THE DOMINICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

AND THIS YEAR'S HONOREES:

CRISTINA RODRIGUEZ

JAIME MERCADO

HON. ROLANDO ACOSTA

AS WELL AS SPECIAL RECOGNITION TO:

ASSEMBLYMAN CARL E. HEASTIE

ASSEMBLYMAN KEITH L.T. WRIGHT

2013 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

VIVIANNA SCHWOERER

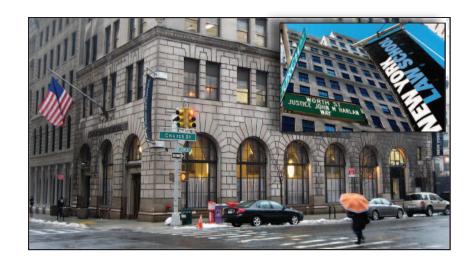
NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL



is a third year law student at New York Law School. She served as President of the Latin American Law Student Association (LALSA). As President of LALSA Vivianna organized professional networking events including, the New York Law School Diverse Law Students Alumni Reception and LALSA's Diversity Spring Banquet, where Vivian presented an award to Senior Counsel for IBM, Maria Fernandez. Vivian has been recognized for her student leadership by New York Law School. She was on the Deans' list 2012 and was a judicial intern for the

Honorable Judge Colleen Duffy 2011. Vivian served on the leadership Board for the Council of Urban Professionals, a leadership development organization with over 1,500 members and 65 corporate partners. Vivian has also worked as a law clerk for Pardalis & Nohavicka, LLP. She was commended for writing a winning appellate brief to the Third Department on an employment law issue.

Vivianna desires to uplift the Latino community, enhance the public perception about the role of Latinos in the law and continue making notable contributions to the legal profession. We congratulate Vivianna on being the recipient of the Dominican Bar Scholarship 2013. We are confident Vivianna will be an outstanding member of the legal profession.





Las palabras de un padre son las que ayudan a construir el futuro de sus hijos. El Hispanic Scholarship Fund tiene la información para ayudar a que tus hijos vayan a la universidad. Es gratis y en español. Visita TusPalabrasdeHoy.org o llama al I-877-HSF-87II.





LUIS R. SEPÜLVEDA Assemblyman 87° Distric

THE ASSEMBLY STATE OF NEW YORK ALBANY

Aging
Agriculture
Banks
Correction
Housing

TASK FORCE Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force

LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS
Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic &
Asian Legislative Caucus



It is with great honor that I congratulate the Dominican Bar Association on its 10 years of organization. A remarkable group that connects Dominican-American attorneys throughout the United States, the Dominican Bar Association provides much more than just a network for lawyers.

Many Latino groups that come to the United States face hardships with assimilating to societal expectations. While they held prestigious jobs and titles in the Dominican Republic, in the United States many were forced to take blue collar positions to earn a living.

Consequently, these educated men and women began to organize collectively to empower their community and future generations to rise up against societal barriers. They began to pursue collegiate opportunities throughout the country, network with influential people, join groups and form entities to alleviate their status in society.

Not only does the Dominican Bar Association provide a space in which Dominican-American attorneys can discuss the issues that affect Latinos today, they also provide community organization building, education and scholarships opportunities for young professionals, and legal assistance to Latinos faced with little access to resources.

I am proud that this organization continues to inculcate the spirit of community and education to the future generations. It is this drive to empower our communities that brings much joy and satisfaction that the future of our people will be in very capable hands.

Very truly yours,

Luis R. Sepulveda Assemblyman

87th District

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Yudelka Tapia





District Leader 86th AD and candidate for NY
State Assembly District 86, congratulates the **DBA**in its Tenth Annual Scholarship Dinner Gala
and all honorees.

The Committee to Re-Elect Judge Julia I. Rodriguez

Congratulates Tonight's Honorees:

Professor Cristina Rodriguez, Jaime Mercado, Esq., Associate Justice Rolando T. Acosta, Appellate Division & Assemblymen Carl E. Heastie & Keith L.T. Wright

Paid for by the Cmte to Re-Elect Judge Julia I. Rodriguez to the Civ. Ct. c/o Hillary Sheiowitz, Treasurer, 1067 Allerton Ave., Bronx, NY 10469



Congratulations to the Honorees:
CRISTINA RODRÍGUEZ
JAIME MERCADO
THE HONORABLE ROLANDO T. ACOSTA
and to

Carl Heastie & Keith Wright for their recognition.



The National Organization for Women New York State (NOW-NYS)

Salutes The Dominican Bar Association on its

Tenth Annual 2013 Scholarship Dinner

Congratulations to

Hon. Rolando T. Acosta

Associate Justice New York Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, First Judicial Dept.

&

Cristina Rodriguez
Professor of Law
Yale Law School

NOW-NYS

Zenaida Mendez, President Barbara Kirkpatrick, Executive Vice President Heidi Siegfried, Legislative Vice President Gaby Moreno, Secretary

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2012-13 HIGHLIGHTS





















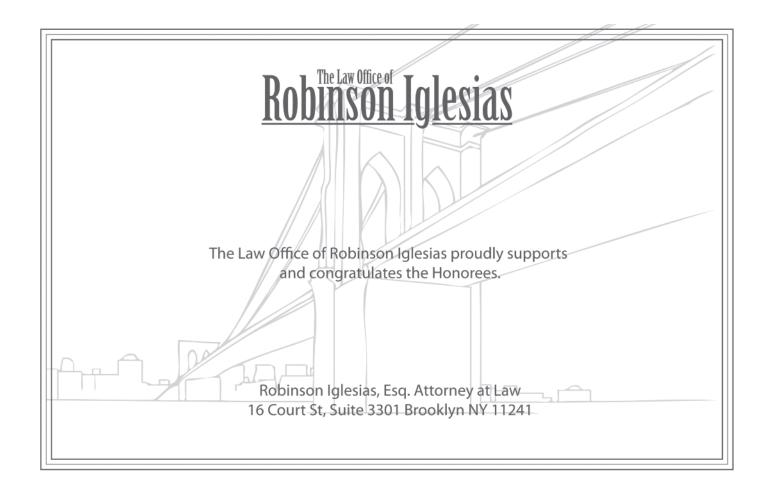












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2012-13 HIGHLIGHTS



























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Thank you



The Dominican Bar Association

thanks the following individuals for
their professional skills and assistance
in preparing this year's journal.
We greatly appreciate your work and support.

Sandy Baez of SYB Multiservice

Pamela Aquino, Volunteer

Elba and Robert Torres of Able Media Group, LLC.

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Dominican Bar Association's Tenth Annual

2013 SCHOLARSHIP DINNER DANCE

Trailblazers: Latinos & Latinas Shattering the Glass Ceiling



Miguel Alexander Pozo National President-Elect Hispanic National Bar Association (HBNA)



At Lowenstein Sandler we believe diversity is natural. The result is a workplace rich in talent and creativity, where exceptional individuals work together to provide worldclass service.

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Congratulations to our 2013 DBA Honorees

HON. ROLANDO T. ACOSTA CRISTINA RODRIGUEZ JAIME MERCADO

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