

# EMPOWERING NUESTRO FUTURO

THE DOMINICAN  
BAR ASSOCIATION



14TH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

*Gala*

BATTERY GARDENS

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2017

1 BATTERY PARK, NEW YORK, NY 10004

6:00 P.M. — 10:00 P.M.

[WWW.DOMINICANBARASSOCIATION.ORG](http://WWW.DOMINICANBARASSOCIATION.ORG)

# HIMNO 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 la 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 la frente alzará  
que si fuere mil veces esclava  
otras tantas ser libre sabrá!





## QUIENES SOMOS

### **The Dominican Bar Association (The DBA)**

is an incorporated, non-profit, association which seeks to assist, support and elevate Dominican-American, native Dominican and Latino attorneys, judges, law professors, and law students in the United States and the Dominican Republic.

Formally founded in New York City in the 1990's as The American Society of Dominican Attorneys, The DBA has grown exponentially and encourages all Latino attorneys, as well as others within the profession, who subscribe to the goals and philosophy of The DBA to become members.

### **Our Mission**

Among The Dominican Bar Association's many purposes are some of the following:

To support and assist members of the legal profession, specifically Latino attorneys and law students, particularly attorneys and law students of Dominican ancestry, in elevation to higher posts in all facets of influence.

To support and assist members of the legal profession who are interested and committed to improving the Latino community, specifically, the Dominican community and the Dominican legal community.

To encourage potential law students of Dominican ancestry to strive for the betterment of their individual lives and pursue a profession, preferably in the pursuit of a law degree, and to provide assistance to such students after their admission to law schools.

To support Latino jurists, and specifically Dominican jurists, to act as positive role models for our young people in and out of schools.

To encourage, advise and assist graduates of law schools of the Dominican Republic in their attempts to gain admission to the Bar of a state or states of the United States of America.

To improve public understanding of the function and importance of Latino lawyers, and more specifically, Dominican lawyers and to encourage respect thereof.

To aid the Latino community generally, and in particular, to aid the progress of Dominicans and other minorities.



**Educate our future leaders.  
Empower our community.**

## **VOLUNTEER WITH THE DOMINICAN BAR ASSOCIATION!**

### **High School Law Day**

*Encourage NYC H.S. students to excel in school and pursue a career in law.*

### **Legal Workshops**

*Educate the community on a legal topic.*



*Minor time commitment.*

*No experience required.*

*Law students and attorneys welcome.*

**[Dominicanbarassoc@gmail.com](mailto:Dominicanbarassoc@gmail.com)**

to volunteer or learn of future opportunities.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### DEAR DBA FAMILY AND FRIENDS!

Welcome to The Dominican Bar Association's 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Gala – *Empowering Nuestro Futuro!* On behalf of The DBA Board, we extend our congratulations to our Gala Honorees and Scholarship Recipients – each empower our community by example and represent *nuestro futuro*. We also thank each of our Sponsors and guests for celebrating The DBA's accomplishments this year and helping raise scholarships for law students. I first joined the Board in 2015 and it has been an honor and privilege serving as your DBA President this year – an organization committed to promoting and supporting Latinos and other minorities in the legal profession and community at large.

As I reach the end of my Presidency, I want to take this opportunity to reflect on the year so far and the great things to look forward to in the future. After being sworn in this past January, the Board and I have been hard at work creating dynamic programming and strengthening the foundation and reach of the organization. My goals this year included (1) continuing to elevate the profile of the organization; (2) strengthening our community through active involvement; and (3) promoting and celebrating diversity on the bench. This year was one of many firsts and I am beyond proud of everything this Board has accomplished.

In commemoration of Dominican Heritage Month, The DBA published its inaugural Dominican Judiciary Journal and hosted a panel and reception celebrating the Dominican Judiciary. We also established various committees to support our members in more effective and meaningful ways, including The DBA's first Women's Committee: *Las Mariposas*. *Las Mariposas* hosted several events this year, including two *Let's Chat* events featuring leading Latinas in government or formerly in government and an intimate conversation with NYC Public Advocate Letitia James in celebration of Women's History Month. This year we also proudly hosted The DBA's first Pride event tackling challenges facing LGBTQ+ identifying Dominicans in NYC and in the Dominican Republic.

As former Chair of The DBA's Youth Outreach Committee, I also was pleased to see the growth of The DBA's HS Law Day Program which brings powerful messages about the importance of education to high school students throughout New York City.

We also continued to provide legal workshops *en Español* on various topics, including immigration and employment issues. To ensure The DBA continues to grow successfully, we also promoted new membership initiatives including establishing two new membership levels for Lifetime members and non-attorneys. This year also has been a year of incredible growth and partnership with other organizations that also promote diversity in the profession.

As previous Boards, we have ensured that The DBA has the foundation to ensure continuity and flourish in the future. As my time as President comes to a close, I am confident that

The DBA is poised for continued success next year, particularly under the leadership of your next DBA President, Miguelina Camilo. I look forward to supporting Miguelina and The DBA and proud I had the opportunity to lead such an incredible organization this year. I am grateful for all of your trust and support and thank everyone who helped and supported me along the way, particularly my friends and family including my two amazing sons Avery and AJ. Lastly, big thank you to my Board and your incredible commitment this year: Miguelina, Patria, Maria, Elsa, Queenie, Renton, Jaclyn, Glenys, Edda, Shantal and Carla – We did it!

*Con Cariño,*

Vianny M. Pichardo  
President, The Dominican Bar Association

*President, Vianny M. Pichardo*



## **2017 DBA COMMITTEES**

### **2017 GALA PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Edda Santiago**

**Andrea Andrade**

**Shantal Sparks**

**Miguelina Camilo**

**Vianny M. Pichardo**

### **2017 SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Elsa Marte Hampton**

**The Honorable Llinét Beltré Rosado**

**Jaclyn Quiles**

**Patria Frias Colón**

**Glenys Rosario**

**Robinson Iglesias**

**Carla Tavares**

### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Renton Persaud**

### **YOUTH OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Omar Almanzar-Paramio, Principal at Almanzar-Paramio Law, LLC**

### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

**Co-Chairs:**

**Carla Taveras**

**WalsySaez, Aronson Rappaport Feinstein & Deutsch, LLP**

### **WOMEN'S COMMITTEE: Las Mariposas**

**Chair: Maria Felix**

**Massiel Ramos, Legal Outreach, Inc.**

### **YOUNG LAWYERS COMMITTEE**

**Co-Chairs:**

**ArianaMarte Acevedo, Wasserman Grubin& Rogers, LLP**

**Luisanna Del Rosario, Criminal Court of the City of New York**

### **LAW STUDENT COMMITTEE**

**Co-Chairs:**

**Lorena Michelle Jiron, Fordham University School of Law**

**Andrea Rodriguez, Fordham University School of Law**

### **PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Kenny Terrero, Sidley Austin, LLP**

**Manuel Lorenzo, Gibson Dunn, LLP**

# 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## **SAVE THE DATE!**

### **UPCOMING DBA EVENTS**

#### **Wednesday, September 20, 2017**

DBA Co-Sponsors – New York State Diversity Coalition  
New Age of Immigration: Impact on People of Color

#### **Sunday, October 15, 2017**

Join The DBA at the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk  
Coney Island Beach and Boardwalk

#### **Tuesday, November 14, 2017**

Election for the 2018 DBA Officers and Board of Directors  
Anderson Kill P.C.

#### **Thursday, December 7, 2017**

Tamarindo Nights: End of the Year Reception  
Morrison Foerster LLP

#### **Tuesday, January 23, 2018**

The DBA's 2018 Swearing In  
Ceremony and Reception  
(Installation of Officers and Directors)  
Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse (S.D.N.Y.)

#### **Tuesday, September 25, 2018**

The DBA's 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Gala  
Battery Gardens, NYC

**STAY CONNECTED TO THE DBA!**



**Dominican Bar Association**



**@DominicanBar**

**[www.DominicanBarAssociation.org](http://www.DominicanBarAssociation.org)**



# *Gala Program*

## **WELCOME REMARKS**

Introduction by **Queenie Paniagua**, DBA Immediate Past President

**VIANNY M. PICHARDO**

DBA President

## **PRESENTATION OF STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS**

Introduction by **Elsa Marte Hampton**,  
DBA Board Member and Chair of Scholarship Committee

**JULIA BÁEZ VALENTÍN**

**JOSE GRATERAUX**

## **PRESENTATION OF AWARDS TO HONOREES**

Introduction by **Patria Frias-Colón**, DBA Board Member

**THE HONORABLE MANUEL J. MENDEZ**

New York State Supreme Court, New York County

Introduction by **Shantal Sparks**, DBA Board Member

**LOURDES M. VENTURA**

Partner, Ahmuty, Demers & McManus

Introduction by **Miguelina Camilo**, DBA President-Elect

**THE LAW OFFICE OF ROBINSON IGLESIAS**

## **CLOSING REMARKS**

**VIANNY M. PICHARDO**

DBA President

## 2017 GALA HONOREE



**THE HONORABLE  
MANUEL J. MENDEZ**  
New York State Supreme Court,  
New York County

The Honorable Manuel J. Mendez of the Supreme Court, New York County, Civil Branch was elected to his position in 2012. He was first elected to New York City Civil Court (County-wide) in 2003. Judge Mendez was born in the Dominican Republic and moved to Washington Heights at the age of 9. He earned his Bachelor of Science in 1983 from Fordham University College of Business prior to returning to the Dominican Republic where he earned his J.D. from Universidad Central del Este School of Law in 1987. In 1989, he completed the Fordham University School of Law's Foreign Lawyers Program and began his private practice career. Judge Mendez is described as a down-to-earth person who does not forget his roots. When he was sworn in as Supreme Court Justice, he chose to have his ceremony at the Isabella Geriatric Center in Washington Heights. Judge Mendez is also a long time supporter of The Dominican Bar Association.

## 2017 GALA HONOREE

Lourdes M. Ventura is currently a partner at the law firm of Ahmuty, Demers & McManus. She formerly served as a prosecutor at the Queens County District Attorney's Office and the New York State Attorney General's Office. Ventura also served as deputy chief of staff and counsel in the New York State Senate. A lifelong Queens resident, Ventura is actively involved in Queens. She previously served on the Board of Managers, and continues to serve, on the Grievance Committee for the Queens County Bar Association as well as the Board of Trustees for the Queens Supreme Court Law Library. She has also served as a House Delegate for the New York State Bar Association. Ventura is also a former board member of The Dominican Bar Association and past president of the Latino Lawyers Association of Queens County. Ventura is currently the first Latina to serve as an officer of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York as Vice President and was the first Latina to serve as President of the venerable Queens County Women's Bar Association.



**LOURDES M. VENTURA**

Partner, Ahmuty, Demers & McManus

## 2017 GALA HONOREE

### Law Firm Honoree



#### THE LAW OFFICE OF ROBINSON IGLESIAS

The Law Office of Robinson Iglesias is located in downtown Manhattan. It was founded by Robinson Iglesias, a graduate from Hofstra Law School and a former Board Member of The Dominican Bar Association. Notably, he was the lead attorney who settled the Reynaldo Cuevas Police Shooting case against the City of New York. Iglesias has appeared as a guest speaker on CNN Español and his cases have been featured on various media outlets, including CBS, NY1, ABC, Telemundo and Univision. When he is not taking on big cases, you will find Iglesias giving back to the community. Currently, he serves on the Board of Legal Services NYC – the biggest provider of legal services – at no cost to clients who would otherwise not have representation in court. Robinson Iglesias was recently appointed by the Mayor of the City of New York to the Board of the Greenbelt Conservancy, to help protect and promote 2,800 acres of land in Staten Island.

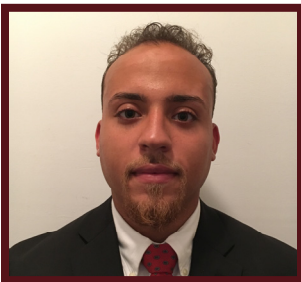
# 2017 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



**JULIA BÁEZ VALENTÍN**

Fordham University School of Law

Julia Báez Valentín was born in the Dominican Republic and immigrated to the United States in elementary school. She received her B.A. from Wesleyan University in 2014, where she majored in East Asian Studies and learned to speak Mandarin, Chinese. Following two years as a Litigation Assistant at Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP, she began law school at Fordham University School of Law in 2016. There, she serves as Secretary of the Latin@ Law Student's Association, Alumni Chair of the OUTLaws, and Staff Editor on the Environmental Law Journal. She spent her 1L summer as an Intern in the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York. This fall, she is an Intern for the Honorable Jenny Rivera in the New York State Court of Appeals. She would like to thank the Dominican Bar Association for allowing her to remain connected to the Latin@ legal community through its service and leadership.



**JOSE GRATERAUX**

Seton Hall Law School

Jose Grateraux is the son of Dominican parents from the areas of Santo Domingo and Constanza. Jose was born in Washington Heights in New York City and later moved to the Bronx. During his early academic career, Jose became interested in the legal field through his participation in Legal Outreach, a non-profit organization dedicated to educating low socioeconomic students using legal tools. This experience played a vital role in acquiring the full-tuition Posse scholarship to Franklin and Marshall College, where he double majored in sociology and history. During his time on campus, he participated in initiatives such as I.M.P.A.C.T (Intelligent Men Purposely Accomplishing College Together), Mi Gente Latina, and F&M's Student Government Association. Upon graduating, Jose committed himself to Teach For America, created with the intention of providing all students with an excellent education regardless of race or socioeconomic status. He served as a Social Studies teacher for three years in Miami, Florida. His commitment to children from undeserved communities directed him to pursue a law degree with a focus in public service. In the fall, he will be attending Seton Hall Law School with the hopes that he can utilize his past experiences to drive his promising future career.

# 2017 SWEARING-IN

## INSTALLATION OF DBA OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Tuesday, January 17, 2017  
SDNY Ceremonial Courtroom



The Board was honored to have opening remarks by the Honorable Roland T. Acosta, Presiding Justice of the First Department and founding member of The DBA; and Congressman Adriano D. Espallat, the U.S. Representative for New York's 13th congressional district. The Honorable Manzanet-Daniels, Associate Justice of the New York Appellate Division, First Department performed the swearing-in ceremony. Each spoke about the important roles of attorneys in elevating and supporting our legal community and community at large.



Special thanks to our speakers, Judge Daniels and Elizabeth Vega of the Southern District of New York.

**This event was graciously sponsored by Anderson Kill P.C.**



# DOMINICAN HERITAGE MONTH

## CELEBRATING DOMINICAN JUDGES

Wednesday, February 22, 2017  
Fordham University School of Law



In commemoration of Dominican Heritage Month, The Dominican Bar Association prepared its inaugural 2017 Dominican Judiciary Journal and hosted an evening panel and reception celebrating the Dominican Judiciary and networking with DBA members and colleagues. Thank you to our participating Dominican Judges and special guests, including the late Hon. Sheila Abdus-Salaam; Hon. Carmen Beauchamp-Ciparick; Hon. Carlos Castillo, Consul General of the Dominican Republic; Hon. Luis Gonzalez; Hon. Shawn Kelly; Hon. Dakota Ramseur; Hon. Jenny Rivera; Hon. Carol Sharpe; and Hon. Joseph Zayas.

**Panelists:** Hon. Rolando T. Acosta, Associate Justice, Appellate Division, First Department; and the Hon. Manuel J. Mendez, Justice, Supreme Court, Civil Branch, New York County delivered opening remarks and were joined on a Judiciary Panel by Hon. Lisa S. Headley; Hon. Rita Mella; Hon. Emily Morales-Minerva; Hon. Bianka Perez; Hon. Diccía Pineda-Kirwan; Hon. Victoria Pratt; Hon. Leticia Ramirez; Hon. Fiordaliza A. Rodriguez; Hon. Julia Rodriguez; Hon. Llinét Beltré Rosado; and Hon. Faviola A. Soto.

Special thanks to Dean of Student Affairs and Diversity Initiatives Nitza Escalera and Shanelle Holley; Judge Acosta; Judge Mendez; Judge Beltré Rosado; Judge Zayas; DBA board members Miguelina Camilo, Shantal Sparks, Elsa Marte Hampton, and Patria Frias Colon; and DBA Student Committee Chairs: Lorena Jiron and Andrea Rodriguez and the Fordham LALSA members.

**This event was graciously sponsored in part by Liza A. Milgrim,  
Sullivan Papain Block McGrath & Cannavo P.C.**



# CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

## LET'S CHAT: A CONVERSATION WITH NEW YORK CITY PUBLIC ADVOCATE LETITIA JAMES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Morrison Foerster LLP



In commemoration of Women's History Month, The DBA hosted a *Let's Chat* event featuring NYC Public Advocate Letitia James. It was also the inaugural event by The DBA's Women's Committee: *Las Mariposas*. DBA Treasurer and Director Edda Santiago served as moderator and ask the "tough questions" about the role of the public advocate, protecting immigrants in NYC, achieving diversity in the legal profession as well as in why it's important for women to run for NYC Council, among many other topics.



Special thanks to Laura Acosta, Kat Mateo, Annie Flores, and Jaclyn Quiles.

**This event was graciously sponsored by Morrison Foerster LLP**



# LET'S CHAT: A CONVERSATION WITH LATINAS IN GOVERNMENT

Wednesday, May 3, 2017  
Chadbourne & Parke LLP



The Dominican Bar Association Women's Committee: *Las Mariposas* hosted an evening panel and reception exploring the panelists' cultural roots and their path to public service at various levels in City, State and Federal government.

**Panelists:**

Julissa Reynoso, Partner, Winston & Strawn LLP, and Former United States Ambassador to Uruguay;  
Laura Acosta, Deputy Chief of Staff, NYC Public Advocate;  
Vilda V. Mayuga, Chairperson, NYS Industrial Board of Appeals;  
Lilliam A. Perez, Senior Advisor/Deputy Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Office of NYS Attorney General Eric Schneiderman



Special thanks to our dynamic Latina leaders that comprised the panel;  
Women's Committee Chair Maria Felix and committee member Massiel Ramos.

This event was graciously sponsored by Julissa Reynoso and Chadbourne & Parke LLP



# LET'S CHAT: DOMINICAN PRIDE

Thursday, June 29, 2017

Arent Fox LLP



The DBA hosted its first-ever LGBTQ+ Pride Event where panelists discussed the challenges facing lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer-identifying Dominicans in NYC and in the Dominican Republic. Panelists explored various topics including homelessness, HIV/AIDs, machismo culture, immigration, and the criminal justice system.

#### Panelists:

Danny Alicea, Special Counsel, The King's County District Attorney's Office;  
Joanna Rivera, Director of Transgender Housing, The Ali Forney Center; and  
Vladimir Martinez, Director of Budget & Projects, Office of Manhattan's Borough President



Special thanks to Hunter Carter and Jonathan Castellanos of Arent Fox, LLP

The event was graciously hosted at Arent Fox, LLP and sponsored by Eileen Vega-Lamboy, Beacon Hill Staffing.

# 2017 NATIONAL DOMINICAN DAY PARADE

August 13, 2017

The DBA was proud to march alongside our community leaders and celebrate the Dominican Community. Congratulations to Maria Khury (Chair of the Dominican Day Parade, Inc. Board) and the rest of the Board for a successful year as well as this year's honorees, including Ambassador of Justice, the Hon. Llinét Beltré Rosado!



# 2017 DBA PROGRAMMING

## HIGH SCHOOL LAW DAY PROGRAM

BRONX HIGH SCHOOL FOR LAW AND COMMUNITY SERVICE  
GEORGE WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL FOR LAW & PUBLIC SERVICE  
HERBERT H. LEHMAN HS  
MANHATTAN ACADEMY FOR LANGUAGE AND ARTS

REPERTORY COMPANY HIGH SCHOOL FOR THEATRE ARTS  
THE AMERICAN DREAM SCHOOL  
THE BRONX LEADERSHIP ACADEMY 2  
URBAN ASSEMBLY SCHOOL OF LAW AND JUSTICE



## LEGAL WORKSHOPS

LEGAL WORKSHOPS IN ESPAÑOL: Employment, Immigration, Tenant rights  
(El Centro Civico Cultural Dominicano; La Casa de la Herencia Cultural Puertorriqueña)



# 2017 DBA CO-SPONSORSHIPS & PARTNERSHIPS

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**YOGA NIGHT WITH THE OFFICE OF  
THE BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT**



**METROLALSA PA'LANTE VII:  
CONTRA LA CORRIENTE**



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The Association of Mexican Professionals and Entrepreneurs  
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The Jewish Lawyers Guild  
Kaufman Dolowich Voluck  
Latino Lawyers of Queen County  
Latinos Judges Association  
The LGBT Bar Association of Greater New York  
Long Island Hispanic Bar Association  
MetroLALSA  
Metropolitan Black Bar Association  
The Office of Governor Cuomo  
The Puerto Rican Bar Association  
The Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey  
The HNBA Latina Commission  
The Puerto Rican Bar Association

# THE DBA ON THE MOVE 2017 EDITION



# THE DBA ON THE MOVE 2017 EDITION



ANDERSON KILL PROUDLY SUPPORTS

**THE DOMINICAN BAR ASSOCIATION**

Congratulations to The Dominican Bar Association  
on their 14th Annual Scholarship Gala  
and to this year's  
Honorees and Scholarship Winners



Vianny M. Pichardo, Esq.  
President, *The Dominican Bar Association*  
vpichardo@andersonkill.com

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We are proud to congratulate the  
Dominican Bar Association on its  
14th Annual Scholarship Gala

and commemorate the accomplishments of

***LOURDES M. VENTURA, ESQ.***

*and fellow honorees  
The Honorable Manuel J. Mendez  
The Law Office of Robinson Iglesias*

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STATE OF NEW YORK  
**EXECUTIVE CHAMBER**  
ALBANY 12224

**ANDREW M. CUOMO**  
GOVERNOR

September 19, 2017

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to send greetings to everyone gathered for the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Gala of the Dominican Bar Association (DBA).

New York State is proud to host this event which brings together your members who share a common professional affiliation and pride in your Dominican ancestry. For over thirty years, the DBA has exemplified a proud tradition of responsible jurisprudence upheld by justices and attorneys across this state and nation who work to preserve the civility of our society, protect individual rights, and improve the quality of life for all.

This evening you pay tribute to several distinguished honorees – the Honorable Manuel J. Mendez, Lourdes M. Ventura, and the Law Office of Robinson Iglesias – for their valuable contributions to the Latino community, notably the advancement of those seeking to enter the legal profession. I join in congratulating them on being expressly acknowledged for their efforts to promote and support the DBA's mission.

All New Yorkers recognize that educational opportunities can open doors for youth, and I applaud your commitment to supporting the goals of aspiring students of law through your generous scholarship program. Your intellect, leadership, and accomplishments as members of our legal and judicial systems are certain to inspire the next generations to achieve great things.

With my warmest regards and best wishes to all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrew M. Cuomo".

ANDREW M. CUOMO

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BAR ASSOCIATION AND HIS HONOR MANUEL MENDEZ ESQ.**



ERIC T. SCHNEIDERMAN  
ATTORNEY GENERAL



STATE OF NEW YORK  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

September 19, 2017

The Dominican Bar Association  
Canal Street Station  
P.O. Box 203  
New York, NY 10013

Dear Friends:

It is truly my pleasure to congratulate the Dominican Bar Association on its 14th Annual Scholarship Gala and to offer a warm welcome to everyone who is participating in tonight's festivities. Your presence at this special event supports the Association's crucial mission.

Over the years, the Dominican Bar Association has worked tirelessly to ensure that members of the Latino community, regardless of their background, not only have access to our justice system, but also have the opportunity to be active participants in it. The DBA's law student scholarship fund serves as a critical part of this mission by opening doors for deserving students. I applaud this essential work.

Let me also join you in saluting tonight's honorees: Justice Manuel J. Mendez of the New York Supreme Court; Lourdes M. Ventura of Ahmuty, Demers & McManus; and the Law Office of Robinson Iglesias. You can certainly take great pride in being recognized for your outstanding contributions to the legal and Latino communities by this distinguished organization.

Once again, congratulations to The Dominican Bar Association and best wishes on your Annual Gala. I am sure it will be a memorable event. I wish you much continued success with your important work.

Warmest Regards.

Sincerely,

ERIC T. SCHNEIDERMAN

# *Congratulations*

to the 2017 DBA Gala Honorees  
and Scholarship Recipients  
for their leadership and integrity,  
and support of and inspiration  
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Congress of the United States  
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Washington, DC 20515-3605

September 19, 2017



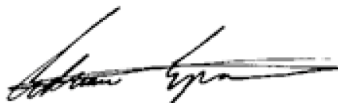
Welcome to the Dominican Bar Association's 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Gala!

New York's Dominican American population has made, and continues to make, invaluable contributions throughout every sector within New York City including, but not limited to: government, public safety, education, corporate, legal and judicial fields. The Dominican Bar Association has been committed to providing quality professional development programs and networking opportunities to its members as well as vital services to the Latino legal community across the United States for over thirty years.

I am proud of the work that the organization has done on behalf of the Dominican-American community through its mentor programs, scholarships, and advocacy, and applaud each of its members for their continued efforts to unite and elevate the next generation of New York's Dominican leaders.

This evening, we pay tribute to several eminent honorees - The Honorable Manuel J. Mendez, Lourdes M. Ventura, and The Law Office of Robinson Iglesias – for their incomparable contributions to the Latino community. The collective intellect and accomplishments of the members of the Dominican Bar Association and among our Dominican community, are inspirational and serve as a standard of excellence and achievement for the next generation of Latino leaders.

With highest esteem and best wishes,



Adriano Espaillat  
United States Congress  
New York's 13<sup>th</sup> Congressional District

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14th Annual Scholarship Gala  
and congratulates this year's honorees  
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**PERKINS COIE** is proud to sponsor the Dominican Bar Association's 14th Annual Scholarship Gala. We congratulate the 2017 Gala honorees—the Honorable Manuel J. Mendez, Lourdes M. Ventura, and the Law Office of Robinson Iglesias—and applaud their exceptional accomplishments within the legal profession.

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THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
NEW YORK, NY 10007

September 19, 2017

Dear Friends:

It is a great pleasure to welcome everyone to the Dominican Bar Association's 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Gala.

New York's legal sector is integral to the strength and vitality of our city, and the more diversified it becomes, the more effective, fair, and dynamic it will be. The Dominican Bar Association is an important partner in helping us achieve this goal, and it has been a tremendous advocate for Latino legal professionals and law students. Through its career development resources, scholarships, mentorship programs, and workshops, DBA has been a champion of opportunity and inclusion and worked to create a stronger legal community in our city and beyond. I am proud to applaud this organization's tremendous efforts and its leadership that continues to forge a more progressive and equitable future.

On behalf of the City of New York, congratulations to this year's honorees. I offer my best wishes for a wonderful gala and continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Bill de Blasio".

Bill de Blasio  
Mayor

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**We congratulate  
The Dominican Bar Association's  
distinguished Honorees and  
Student Recipients on the occasion of the  
14th Annual Scholarship Gala**

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and Congratulate  
This Year's Honorees

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***CONGRATULATIONS TO THE  
DOMINICAN BAR ASSOCIATION  
ON IT'S 14TH ANNUAL  
SCHOLARSHIP GALA!***

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**Miguelina Camilo, Esq.**  
(President-Elect of the Dominican Bar Association)

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# The Public Advocate for the City of New York

**Letitia James** – Public Advocate

1 CENTRE STREET  
NEW YORK, NY 10007  
TEL 212 669 7200  
FAX 212 669 4701

[WWW.PUBADVOCATE.NYC.GOV](http://WWW.PUBADVOCATE.NYC.GOV)



September 19, 2017

Dear Friends:

It is with great pleasure that I extend greetings to all who have gathered for The Dominican Bar Association's (DBA) 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Gala Event.

The DBA's noble work in assisting the successes of Dominican professionals and students is a great example of meaningful work in service to one's community. Their legal professionals work tirelessly to promote a strong and ethical civil justice system. Additionally, by offering scholarships and educational opportunities to youth, the DBA assists our city at large by contributing to the next generation of educated professionals.

As Public Advocate for the City of New York, I thank the Dominican Bar Association and its dedicated membership for their service to our community.

I hope everyone has a wonderful evening and may you enjoy continued success in all of your endeavors.

Sincerely,

Letitia James

Public Advocate for the City of New York

**ALL OF US AT DUFFY & DUFFY, PLLC**

ARE PLEASED TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND SUPPORT THE EXTRAORDINARY DEDICATION  
AND COMMITMENT OF

**THE DOMINICAN BAR ASSOCIATION**

WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO EXTEND BEST WISHES AND CONGRATULATIONS TO  
THIS YEAR'S HONOREES:

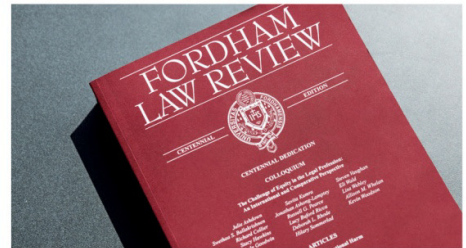
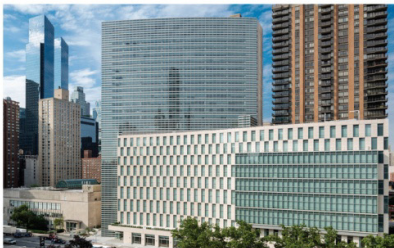
**ROBINSON IGLESIAS, ESQ.**  
**LOURDES M. VENTURA, ESQ.**  
**THE HONORABLE MANUEL J. MENDEZ**  
&  
**THIS YEAR'S SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**



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join with the Dominican Bar Association  
to recognize the accomplishments of award recipients

**Hon. Manuel J. Mendez, Lourdes M. Ventura, and The Law Office of Robinson Iglesias.**

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THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER  
SCOTT M. STRINGER

September 19, 2017

The Dominican Bar Association  
Canal Street Station  
P.O. Box 203  
New York, NY 10013

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to extend greetings to all attending the Dominican Bar Association's 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Gala.

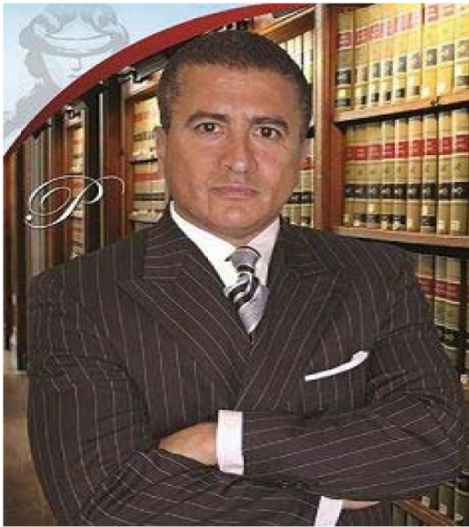
For more than a decade, the Dominican Bar Association (DBA) has been dedicated to supporting Dominican and Latino legal professionals in New York City and across the country. The DBA provides a wide range of invaluable programs and resources, including pro-bono legal workshops, career development events, and scholarships for law students. In addition, the DBA is committed to empowering Latin American communities, and promoting the importance of education and public service. By continuing this important work, the DBA expands opportunities and has made a positive impact to many New Yorkers.

Thank you to the Dominican Bar Association for bringing us together tonight to celebrate community and service. Please accept my best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

Scott M. Stringer  
New York City Comptroller

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**and**  
**Lourdes M. Ventura**

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**We congratulate**

**The Dominican Bar Association on the  
14th Annual Scholarship Gala  
and its distinguished honorees:**

**Hon. Manuel Mendez**  
**Lourdes M. Ventura, Esq.**  
**and**

**The Law Office of Robinson Iglesias**

**Raphaelson & Levine Law Firm**  
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**Gale A. Brewer, Borough President**

September 19, 2017

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to join you in celebrating the 14th annual Dominican Bar Association scholarship gala.

For three decades, the Dominican Bar Association has brought those with a shared profession and heritage together to support one another. The Dominican Bar Association shares their expertise with the Latino community at large, organizing pro bono legal workshops and providing mentorship and scholarships for law students.

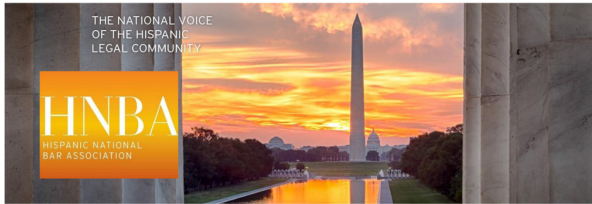
I thank you for your contributions to the Dominican community in Manhattan and wish you another year of success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gale A. Brewer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Gale" and last name "Brewer" clearly legible.

Gale A. Brewer

**THANK YOU TO OUR SISTER BAR ASSOCIATIONS FOR THEIR SUPPORT!**



**THE HISPANIC NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION (HNBA)  
REGION II (NEW YORK)**

**Regional President Matthew Fernandez  
Konigsberg and the Region II Board of  
Deputies congratulate HNBA Affiliate the  
Dominican Bar Association  
on their 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Gala and  
for another amazing year of service to  
our Latino community.**

**HNBA REGION II (NEW YORK)** proudly serves the Latino community in the New York City area. We are a nonprofit, nonpartisan, national membership organization that represents the interests of tens of thousands of Hispanic legal professionals in the United States and its territories. We are also committed to advocacy on issues of importance to the 54+ million people of Hispanic heritage living in the U.S. While we are proud of our more than four decades of accomplishments, we are mindful that our mission is as vital today as it was the day of our founding in 1972.



**The Latino Judges Association**

**congratulates**

**The Dominican Bar Association  
and its distinguished honorees:**

**The Law Office of Robinson Iglesias**

**Lourdes M. Ventura, Esq.**

**And most especially,  
our colleague and friend,  
Hon. Manuel Mendez**



***Congratulates***

**THE DOMINICAN BAR ASSOCIATION**

*on their*

***14th Annual Scholarship Gala***

*Congratulations to all the Honorees  
and especially our own*

**LOURDES M. VENTURA  
PARTNER, AHMUTY, DEMERS & McMANUS**

*Past President of the Latino Lawyers Association of Queens County*





OFFICE OF THE BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT  
The Bronx County Building  
851 Grand Concourse, 161<sup>st</sup> St.  
Bronx, New York 10451

Ruben Diaz Jr.  
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

TEL: 718-590-3500  
FAX: 718-590-3537

September 19, 2017

Dear Friends:

Congratulations on the occasion of your 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Gala, a time to reflect and be proud of your organization's accomplishments in New York City and The Bronx throughout the years.

This wonderful event offers us a chance to recognize your organization's efforts and commitment to create and sustain a supportive community for Dominicans and Dominican-Americans across our great borough and throughout New York City. Over the years, your organization has actively promoted and advanced the achievements of our Dominican population; in the workplace, across the community, and in the legal field; helping advance the next generation of Dominicans to develop a more active role in the empowerment of the Dominican and Latino community politically, professionally, educationally, civically, artistically and culturally.

I am happy to support this great institution that also awards scholarships to deserving students striving to achieve their college dreams, providing help in avoiding financial constraints experienced in the pursuit of higher education.

This year, the DBA will also honor the Honorable Manuel J. Mendez of New York Supreme Court, Civil Branch, New York County; Lourdes M. Ventura, Partner at Ahmuty, Demers & McManus; and the Law Office of Robinson Iglesias. Each has demonstrated a dedication and commitment to promote the advancement of Latinos within the legal community and empower the Latino community at large.

On behalf of the 1.4 million residents of The Bronx I salute The Dominican Bar Association, wishing you all continued success.

Sincerely,

Ruben Diaz Jr.

## THANK YOU TO OUR SISTER BAR ASSOCIATIONS FOR THEIR SUPPORT!



### THE LONG ISLAND HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION

Congratulates  
The Dominican Bar Association  
for its  
14<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Gala  
and to its distinguished honorees  
The Hon. Manuel J. Mendez  
&  
The Law Office of Robinson Iglesias  
&  
Lourdes M. Ventura, Esq.



President Paula Edgar  
and the Board of the  
Metropolitan Black Bar Association  
support the  
**Dominican Bar Association**  
We congratulate the  
DBA on the celebration of their  
14<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Gala.

SAVE THE DATE  
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**May 18, 2018**

[mbbanyc.org](http://mbbanyc.org)



### The Network of Bar Leaders

Sends a Warm Thanks  
to the DBA and its President, **Vianney M. Pichardo**  
for their Support and Participation

### Congratulations to the DBA's 2017 Gala Honorees:

The Honorable Manuel J. Mendez Supreme Court,  
New York County, Civil Branch

Lourdes M. Ventura Partner, Ahmuty, Demers & McManus

The Law Office of Robinson Iglesias

Formed over 25 years ago, the **Network of Bar Leaders** is a coalition  
of member bar associations dedicated to bringing together the leadership  
of the diverse bar associations of the greater New York Metropolitan area.

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CONGRATULATES

HONOREES

JUSTICE MANUEL J. MENDEZ

LOURDES M. VENTURA, ESQ.

ROBINSON IGLESIAS, ESQ.

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**PUERTO RICAN BAR ASSOCIATION**  
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DARCEL D. CLARK



THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
BRONX COUNTY

September 19, 2017

Ms. Vianny M. Pichardo, President  
The Dominican Bar Association  
Canal Street Station, P.O. Box 203,  
New York, NY 10013

Dear Ms. Pichardo and Friends,

It brings me great joy to extend greetings to everyone who has come together for the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Gala of the Dominican Bar Association.

I express my most sincere gratitude to DBA for its continued commitment to scholarship. For over three decades, DBA has promoted diversity in the legal world, aiding and empowering those in the legal profession while uplifting Latino students to further their promising careers. Through legal workshops, mentoring, networking and participating in career fairs, among other initiatives, you remind students that justice will always prevail and that education is the most powerful tool to change the world.

Congratulations to tonight's honorees -- Honorable Manuel J. Mendez of New York Supreme Court, Lourdes M. Ventura, Partner at Ahmuty, Demers & McManus and the Law Office of Robinson Iglesias -- for their dedication and service to the legal world and the Latino community at-large.

On behalf of my Office, I wish you all a magnificent night of celebration as well as reflection on the generation of leaders and thinkers you are inspiring.

Sincerely,

Darcel D. Clark  
Bronx District Attorney



OFFICE OF THE BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT

**ERIC L. ADAMS**  
President

September 19, 2017

Vianny M. Pichardo  
President  
Dominican Bar Association  
Canal Street Station  
P.O. Box 203  
New York, NY 10013

Dear Ms. Pichardo:

Brooklyn has a time-honored tradition of paying tribute to extraordinary individuals and organizations that are dedicated to upholding the law and protecting the rights of our citizens, as well as who work tirelessly to maintain and strengthen the law, greatly contributing to the betterment of our borough and city. We are pleased to extend my warmest greetings and congratulations to you, the officers, directors, and supporters of the Dominican Bar Association as you gather on the occasion of your 14<sup>th</sup> annual Scholarship Gala.

The Dominican Bar Association has been steadfastly committed to supporting Latino members of the legal profession, particularly attorneys and law students of Dominican ancestry in their pursuit of higher posts in the legal professional and other facets of influence in the United States. We applaud the Dominican Bar Association for organizing pro-bono "Know Your Rights" legal workshops for members of the public by providing mentorships and scholarships to law students, and by conducting career information activities for high school students at their schools. We join with you as we honor individuals and organizations that have made noteworthy contributions to the Latino community and support the mission of the Dominican Bar Association: Honorable Manuel J. Mendez of the New York Supreme Court, Civil Branch, New York County; Lourdes M. Ventura, partner at Ahmuty, Demers & McManus, and the law office of Robinson Iglesias. The unwavering dedication and support that the Dominican Bar Association has given to our communities is truly remarkable.

On behalf of all 2.6 million Brooklynites, we salute you, President Pichardo, for the exemplary and steadfast leadership you have shown. We commend the Dominican Bar Association for their ongoing commitment to provide legal services for the community and to address the concerns of the Latino community. Furthermore, we congratulate those distinguished individuals who have generously supported the noble mission and work of the Dominican Bar Association through the years. Finally, we thank everyone for helping us move forward together as *One Brooklyn*.

Sincerely,

Eric L. Adams  
Brooklyn Borough President

Sincerely,

Diana Reyna  
Deputy Brooklyn Borough President



**DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
KINGS COUNTY**  
350 JAY STREET  
BROOKLYN, NY 11201-2908  
(718) 250-2000  
WWW.BROOKLYNDA.ORG



**Eric Gonzalez**  
Acting District Attorney

September 19, 2017

Dear Friends,

Greetings to everyone gathered for The Dominican Bar Association's 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Gala tonight.

The Dominican Bar Association ("The DBA") is an organization, which supports Latino members of the legal profession, particularly attorneys and law students of Dominican ancestry. The DBA also provides integral services to the community at-large through initiatives like its "Know Your Rights" legal workshops, held in both English and Spanish, and the mentoring the organization affords to young people throughout the city of New York. It is because of the work and commitment of organizations like The DBA, that together, we can ensure that the people of Brooklyn and New York City have equal access to justice.

Tonight this organization, along with its members and supporters, all gather to recognize individuals that have made noteworthy contributions to the Latino community. Congratulations to the evening's honorees—Hon. Manuel J. Mendez, New York Supreme Court, Civil Branch, Lourdes M. Ventura, Partner at Ahmuty, Demers & McManus and the law office of Robinson Iglesias. Congratulations as well, to this year's deserving scholarship recipients.

On behalf of the people of Brooklyn, please accept my best wishes for a successful evening. I look forward to your continued work toward creating a fairer and just New York City for all.

Sincerely,

Eric Gonzalez  
Acting District Attorney,  
Kings County

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ZONING AND FRANCHISES

**September 19, 2017**

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the New York City Council's 45<sup>th</sup> District, I would like to congratulate the Dominican Bar Association (DBA) on their 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Gala.

For more than a decade, the DBA has supported Latinos by helping those pursuing a profession in the legal industry, and providing free legal workshops to community members.

As the representative of the 45<sup>th</sup> District of the New York City Council, I know how important mentorship and guidance is to the community. The DBA's loyalty to their members and the community is an invaluable gift.

I would like to congratulate the DBA, and this year's honorees on their commitment and service to the Latino community.

This year's honorees include:

- **Honorable Manuel J. Mendez**
- **Lourdes M. Ventura**
- **Law Office of Robinson Iglesias**

I hope there will be more occasions for us to celebrate together in the future. I look forward to seeing the impact of your work for years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J.D. Williams".

Jumaane D. Williams,  
Council Member, 45<sup>th</sup> District

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ALCANTARA@NYSENATE.GOV

WEBSITE:  
ALCANTARA.NYSENATE.GOV

September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to send my regards and praise to everyone at the Dominican Bar Association's 14<sup>th</sup> annual gala.

New York's Dominican community can take great pride in the contributions we have made to New York's society and culture. There is a beauty to the American legal system, where equality before the law is a central feature. It falls upon members of the Dominican Bar Association to help uphold those laws that create and sustain a civil society, by promoting justice for all. I would like to offer a special word of congratulations to this year's honorees: Manuel J. Mendez, Lourdes M. Venture and the Law Office of Robinson Iglesias. They serve as exemplars to everyone in the Dominican community who aspire to achieve great things.

As a Dominican-born immigrant myself, I know how important it is for our community to have positive, public role models for the next generation. The members of the Dominican Bar Association lead the way in a fight for a better, fairer tomorrow and serve as a beacon for young Dominican boys and girls to learn from and recognize that they can achieve whatever they set their minds to.

I am proud to offer my heartfelt thanks and best wishes to everyone gathered for the Dominican Bar Association's 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Gala. May this grand organization and tradition continue for many years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Marisol Alcántara".

Senator Marisol Alcántara  
New York State Senate  
31<sup>st</sup> Senate District





CARMEN DE LA ROSA  
Assemblymember 72<sup>nd</sup> District

# THE ASSEMBLY STATE OF NEW YORK ALBANY

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September 19, 2017

Welcome to the Dominican Bar Association's 14th Annual Scholarship Gala!

I salute with great delight the Dominican Bar Association. As a legislator in the great State of New York I take this opportunity to extend my congratulations for the remarkable work that this association has done to provide qualified professional programs and networking opportunities to its members. New York is glad to count with the outstanding contributions made by the Dominican American population in many sectors including but not limited to: government, corporate, education, not-for-profit, entrepreneurship, legal, and judicial fields.

I can proudly say that the DBA has made immeasurable work as an organization to impact legal professionals and law students, supporting Latino members of the legal profession, particularly attorneys and law students of Dominican ancestry, in their pursuit of higher posts in the legal profession and other facets of influence in the United States.

As a Dominican woman, it is an honor to be part of an event that celebrates with enormous distinction the efforts and achievements made by an institution committed to the law industry in our great State of New York and beyond. As the largest Latino community in New York City, we must continue to thrive to succeed in our respective walks of life to leave an exemplary blueprint for the upcoming generation of young leaders from Dominican descent and in this occasion, those seeking careers in the study and practice of law.

This evening, we pay tribute to several eminent honorees – The Honorable Manuel J. Mendez, Lourdes M. Ventura, and The Law Office of Robinson Iglesias – for their invaluable contributions to the Latino community. The well accomplished professionals and those emerging who are members of the Dominican Bar Association are dynamic individuals that through their tirelessly efforts are inspiring the next generation of leaders in the vibrant Latino community. Congratulations to this year honorees and again to the Dominican Bar Association for its members, advocacy, mentorship programs, scholarships, and finally for its indelible mark in the field of law across the State.

With warm regards and best wishes,

Carmen De La Rosa  
Assemblywoman, 72 A.D.

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September 19, 2017

Dear Friends,

It is with great pleasure that I extend my support to the 2017 DBA Annual Scholarship Gala.

For the 14th year, the DBA is making its contribution to ensure the legal field keeps growing its Latino representation. As a dominican, and a Latina, I would like to thank you for your commitment.

The DBA's mission to assist underrepresented latinos in achieving their dreams of becoming lawyers, is not only commendable, but it is an important step toward ensuring that our community can have access to culturally competent legal representation.

Congratulations to the Board of Directors on another successful gala, and congratulations to this year's honorees: the Honorable Judge Manuel J. Mendez, from the New York Supreme Court and the New York City Civil Court; Lourdes M. Ventura, Partner at Ahmuty, Demers & McManus; and the law office of Robinson Iglesias, who are being recognized by the DBA for their achievements and commitment to promoting diversity and inclusion in the legal field.

Thank you, again, for ensuring that latinos have access to fair opportunities in the legal field. Saludos y felicidades a todos en esta noche tan especial.

In Service,

Council Member Julissa Ferreras-Copeland  
*Chair, Finance Committee*  
*21<sup>st</sup> Council District*

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August 22, 2017

Dear Friends:

I am honored to welcome everyone to The Dominican Bar Association's 14th Annual Scholarship Gala at Battery Gardens.

Throughout its existence, The Dominican Bar Association (DBA) has supported the advancement of Latino(a) legal professionals and law students alike. Particularly, the DBA has inspired leadership within the Dominican legal community with many of them serving on its Board. The DBA aims to support its members and encourages them to thrive in their profession.

The DBA's ongoing commitment to providing free legal workshops and aiding communities facing barriers and experiencing hardships reminds us how a united front is a prosperous one.

Tonight, I join the DBA in congratulating this year's honorees The Honorable Manuel J. Mendez, Supreme Court, New York County, Civil Branch, Lourdes Ventura, partner at Ahmurty, Demers & McManus, and The Law Office of Robinson Iglesias.

My best wishes for a delightful evening and the ongoing advancement of all Latinos within the legal professions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ydanis Rodriguez".

Ydanis Rodriguez  
Council Member for District 10th



# NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

One Elk Street, Albany, New York 12207 • 518.463.3200 • [www.nysba.org](http://www.nysba.org)

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**Sharon Stern Gerstman**

President, New York State Bar Association

716-856-3500

[sgerstman@magavern.com](mailto:sgerstman@magavern.com)

September 19, 2017

The Dominican Bar Association  
New York City, NY

To the leaders and the members of The Dominican Bar Association:

On behalf of the New York State Bar Association, I offer congratulations to everyone at The Dominican Bar Association on the occasion of your 14th Annual Scholarship Gala.

For a small bar, you have an outsized impact. “Let’s Chat,” which offers informal talks with leaders in the Latino legal community, recently won a NYSBA Bar Leaders Innovation Award. Tonight’s gala raises funds to support Latino law students, and they get practical experience because you bring them into the community to talk to residents about legal issues such as housing and immigration. This is mentorship at its finest.

Your pipeline programming brings the law to high schools, to encourage students to pursue a career in the law; then you take that encouragement to the next level, by providing scholarships to students like the recipients being celebrated tonight.

I also join you in celebrating the Gala Honorees: the Hon. Manuel J. Mendez, a justice of state Supreme Court, New York County, and a founding member of your Association; Lourdes M. Ventura, a partner at Ahmuty, Demers & McManus, who, I am proud to say, is a 20-year member of the State Bar Association who also served on our House of Delegates; and The Law Office of Robinson Iglesias for its commitment to diversity and the community in which it serves, and for its support of your Association.

But most of all, I want to congratulate The Dominican Bar Association. You are committed to Latino and Latina youth and law students, and work for the advancement of Latinos and Latinas in the legal community and in the community as a whole. I look forward to your continued success and hope to collaborate with you on projects of mutual interest during my term as NYSBA President.

Warm regards,



BRET L. PARKER  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
PHONE: (212) 382-6620  
FAX: (212) 768-8116  
bparker@nycbar.org

September 19, 2017

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the New York City Bar Association, we wish to extend our warmest wishes to the Dominican Bar Association (DBA) on another year of providing vital support to the Dominican and Latino communities, improving equal access to justice, and valued contributions to the legal community at large.

Through the City Bar's Office for Diversity and Inclusion and our 160 committees including several in our diversity and inclusion cluster, our commitment to enhancing diversity in the profession continues to be strengthened in large part by our collaboration with affinity bar associations, including the DBA.

We applaud the work of this year's honorees and their dedication to serving and empowering Dominican New Yorkers. Their contributions to the legal community and the future of the profession ensure that the next generation of New Yorkers will serve as exemplary leaders in the law and beyond.

Congratulations to everyone involved in tonight's 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Gala. Here's to another year of continued success!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bret Parker".

Bret Parker

THE ASSOCIATION OF THE BAR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
42 West 44<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10036-6689 [www.nycbar.org](http://www.nycbar.org)



## 14TH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP GALA SPONSORS

The Dominican Bar Association thanks its sponsors for contributing to the success of its 14th Annual Scholarship Gala and for their support of its ideals and mission throughout the year.

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## THANK YOU

The Dominican Bar Association wishes to thank the following individuals and entities for their support and commitment to the organization this year. We look forward to your continued support!

The late Honorable Sheila Abdus-Salaam	The Honorable Manuel J. Mendez
The Honorable Rolando T. Acosta	The Honorable Emily Morales-Minerva
The Honorable Angela Badamo	The Honorable Bianka Perez
The Honorable Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick	The Honorable Diccía Pineda-Kirwan
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The Honorable Sallie Manzanet-Daniels	The Honorable Joseph Zayas

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Danny Alicea	Jeremy A. Garcia
Dennis Hopkins	Joanna Rivera



## THANK YOU

The Dominican Bar Association wishes to thank the following individuals and entities for their support and commitment to the organization this year. We look forward to your continued support!

Joey Jackson  
Jonathan Castellanos  
Jorge Rodriguez  
Jose Almanzar  
Jose Arocho  
Jose Perez  
Julissa Reynoso  
Justin Daly  
Kanishka Agarwala  
Kat Mateo  
Kaylin Whittingham  
Kelin Ramos  
Kenny Terrero  
Laura Acosta  
Lidia Virgil  
Lilliam A. Perez  
Liza Milgrim  
London Williams  
Lorena Jiron  
Lourdes M. Ventura  
Luisanna Del Rosario  
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**Educate our future leaders.**

**Empower our community.**

**VOLUNTEER WITH**

**THE DOMINICAN BAR ASSOCIATION!**

**High School Law Day**

*Encourage NYC H.S. students to excel in school and pursue a career in law.*

**Legal Workshops**

*Educate the community on a legal topic.*



*Minor time commitment.*

*No experience required.*

*Law students and attorneys welcome.*

**[Dominicanbarassoc@gmail.com](mailto:Dominicanbarassoc@gmail.com)**

to volunteer or learn of future opportunities.



## **SAVE THE DATE!**

### **UPCOMING DBA EVENTS**

#### **Wednesday, September 20, 2017**

DBA Co-Sponsors – New York State Diversity Coalition  
New Age of Immigration: Impact on People of Color

#### **Sunday, October 15, 2017**

Join The DBA at the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk  
Coney Island Beach and Boardwalk

#### **Tuesday, November 14, 2017**

Election for the 2018 DBA Officers and Board of Directors  
Anderson Kill P.C.

#### **Thursday, December 7, 2017**

Tamarindo Nights: End of the Year Reception  
Morrison Foerster LLP

#### **Tuesday, January 23, 2018**

The DBA's 2018 Swearing In  
Ceremony and Reception  
(Installation of Officers and Directors)  
Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse (S.D.N.Y.)

#### **Tuesday, September 25, 2018**

The DBA's 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Gala  
Battery Gardens, NYC

**STAY CONNECTED TO THE DBA!**



**Dominican Bar Association**



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**[www.DominicanBarAssociation.org](http://www.DominicanBarAssociation.org)**



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Sidley proudly  
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We look forward to continuing to work with the  
DBA to advance diversity in the legal profession  
and to empower the Latino community.

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