



# National Hispanic Leadership Agenda

## MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

American G.I. Forum  
ASPIRA Association  
Avance Inc.

Casa de Esperanza

Cuban American National Council

Farmworker Justice

Hispanic Association of Colleges & Universities

Hispanic Federation

Hispanic National Bar Association

Inter-University Program for Latino Research

Labor Council for Latin American Advancement

LatinoJustice PRLDEF

League of United Latin American Citizens

MANA, A National Latina Organization

Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund

National Alliance of Latin American and Caribbean Communities

National Association of Hispanic Federal Executives

National Association of Hispanic Publications

NALEO Educational Fund

National Association of Latino Independent Producers

National Conference of Puerto Rican Women, Inc.

National Council of La Raza

National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators

National Hispana Leadership Institute

National Hispanic Council on Aging

National Hispanic Environmental Council

National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts

National Hispanic Medical Association

National Hispanic Media Coalition

National Institute for Latino Policy

National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health

National Puerto Rican Coalition

Presente.org

SER Jobs for Progress – National

Southwest Voter Registration Education Project

United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

United States Hispanic Leadership Institute

United States-Mexico Chamber of Commerce

U.S.- Mexico Foundation

December 1, 2014

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda (NHLA), a coalition of 39 of the nation’s preeminent Latino civil rights and public policy organizations, I write to urge you to vote to swiftly re-confirm Mr. David Lopez to his current position as General Counsel of the Equal Employment and Opportunity Commission (EEOC).

As a group of Latino leaders working to advance the representation of Latino interests in public policy, we created the NHLA Latino Appointments Program. Through this program we support highly qualified candidates in their efforts to serve our nation in the Executive branch of government. We fully support David Lopez’s re-nomination because of his outstanding record of accomplishment and recorded leadership abilities.

General Counsel Lopez has an intimate knowledge of the EEOC, having served in the agency in various capacities over the past 20 years. He started as a field trial attorney before moving up to various positions within the Commission. He served as Supervisory Trial Attorney in the EEOC Phoenix District Office, where he worked for twelve years. Mr. Lopez is the first EEOC field trial attorney to have served as General Counsel, which demonstrates his contributions to the agency’s mission.

His extensive experience and strong belief in the merits of collaboration best qualify him to continue to manage and provide guidance to the agency’s staff of over 325 lawyers and legal professionals who conduct or support Commission litigation, as well as its 15 Regional Attorneys. As a General Counsel, Mr. Lopez has led the EEOC’s trial program to new heights of success. In fiscal year 2013, the EEOC won 9 out of 10 of its trials, including significant verdicts involving race discrimination. These victories include the EEOC’s largest award ever, for \$240,000,000, awarded by a jury in a case defending the rights of over thirty intellectually disabled individuals.

In 2013 General Counsel Lopez also obtained appellate victories for disabled individuals seeking to telework, victims of sexual harassment, lactating mothers, older workers and immigrants. He is also the Chair of the EEOC’s Immigrant Worker Team, which seeks to coordinate the EEOC’s enforcement and outreach on employment discrimination issues affecting immigrant and other vulnerable workers. Before 2013, Mr. Lopez was directly responsible for obtaining significant jury verdicts for the first "post-9/11 backlash" religious accommodation case brought by the EEOC, and a national origin and religion retaliation case involving Moroccan Muslims. He has more than demonstrated his ability to advance the EEOC’s mission to provide fair opportunities to all Americans.

General Counsel Lopez’s hard work has earned him recognition among his peers and within the Latino community. In 2014, the National Law Journal named him one of "America's 50 Outstanding General Counsels." In 2011, Hispanic Business added him to its list of “100 Influentials” in the Latino community.

Latino workers are among those who have been most affected by America's economic crisis, making them particularly vulnerable to the types of discrimination that General Counsel Lopez combats on a daily basis. General Counsel Lopez brings his experience and expertise with the issues affecting Latinos and other underrepresented communities to his work with the EEOC, and his appointment will help ensure that our government more fully reflects the diversity of our nation.

We urge you to vote in favor of General Counsel Lopez's nomination to complete the work he has already started. We want to continue to work with you to add other skilled and qualified Latinos to the Administration from the pool of talented and dedicated professionals eager to become public servants with the federal government. Should you have any questions, please contact Carmen Orozco-Acosta, NHLA Senior Program Coordinator, at [carmen@nationalhispanicleadership.org](mailto:carmen@nationalhispanicleadership.org) or 512-787-6508.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Sanchez", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hector E. Sanchez  
*Chair, National Hispanic Leadership Agenda*  
*Executive Director, Labor Council for Latin American Advancement*