



MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

March 29, 2021

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Endorsement of Irasema Garza for U.S. Department of Justice Director of Community Relations Service

Dear Mr. President,

The National Hispanic Leadership Agenda submits this letter to recommend Irasema Garza for the position of Director of the U.S. Department of Justice Community Relations Service (CRS).

The National Hispanic Leadership Agenda (NHLA) is a premier coalition of over 40 leading national Hispanic civil rights and public policy organizations. Collectively, NHLA leads the advocacy behind the pressing civil rights and policy issues, impacting the 60 million Latinos living in the United States. NHLA strives to increase Latino visibility and leverages its efforts to build a stronger Latino influence in our country's affairs.

Irasema Garza has demonstrated her leadership skills in several governmental and non-governmental positions. She is an attorney who has worked in the labor movement, in the women's rights movement and in several senior-level capacities in the federal government. During the Clinton Administration, Ms. Garza served in the Department of Labor's International Affairs Bureau and then was the Director of the Women's Bureau. Under the Obama Administration she served as Senior Counselor to the Secretary of Labor.

Ms. Garza's demonstrated executive leadership skills, ability to communicate effectively with diverse constituencies, and experience working with diverse communities on a broad range of important issues, as well as her commitment to addressing discrimination and injustice, make her an exceptional candidate to lead the CRS.

Please have your staff contact the NHLA Chair and Civil Rights Committee Co-Chair Thomas Saenz, MALDEF, at tsaenz@maldef.org or Civil Rights Committee Co-Chair Juan Cartagena, LatinoJustice PRLDEF, at jcartagena@latinojustice.org, if you have any questions about NHLA's position regarding this recommendation.

Sincerely,

- Alianza Americas
American G.I. Forum
ASPIRA Association
AVANCE Inc.
Casa de Esperanza: National Latin@ Network
Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute
Farmworker Justice
Green Latinos
Hispanic Association of Colleges & Universities
Hispanic Federation
Hispanic National Bar Association
Hispanics in Philanthropy
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
Mi Familia Vota
NALEO Education Fund
National Association of Hispanic Federal Executives
National Association of Latino Arts and Culture
National Association of Latino Independent Producers
National Conference of Puerto Rican Women, Inc.
National Day Laborer Organizing Network
National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators
National Hispanic Council on Aging
National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts
National Hispanic Media Coalition
National Hispanic Medical Association
National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice
National Latinx Psychological Association
Presente.org
SER Jobs for Progress National
Southwest Voter Registration Education Project
U.S.- Mexico Foundation
UnidosUS
United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
United States Hispanic Leadership Institute
United States-Mexico Chamber of Commerce
Voto Latino



Thomas A. Saenz  
Chair, National Hispanic Leadership Agenda  
NHLA Civil Rights Committee Co-Chair  
President & General Counsel  
Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF)



Juan Cartagena  
NHLA Civil Rights Committee Co-Chair  
President & General Counsel  
LatinoJustice PRLDEF