



August 15, 2017

Following the display of hate witnessed this weekend in Charlottesville, Virginia, the President of the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA) issued the following statement. As an affiliate organization of the HNBA, Los Abogados joins the HNBA in their call to protect all Americans against hate, and would like to share their statement with our membership.

HNBA President: We Must Protect All Americans from Hateful Violence

WASHINGTON, DC -- The National President of Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA) issued the following statement in response to the events in Charlottesville, Virginia this past weekend that resulted in the death of three and dozens of injuries.

"The HNBA condemns the violent acts committed in Charlottesville by white supremacists, and calls for the perpetrators to be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law, including, where appropriate, federal hate crime and terrorism charges," said HNBA National President Pedro J. Torres-Díaz. "We welcome the announcement by the Justice Department of an investigation into these lawless acts, and stand ready to assist in any way we can to ensure that justice prevails."

"The events of this past weekend make it clear that our organization's mission to work for greater diversity, inclusion, and equal protection under the law is as vital today as it was the day of our founding in 1972. As lawyers, we have a moral obligation to speak up when others can't, and rise in the face of injustice. We have been proud to work hand in hand with other organizations of color in order to advance the principles of justice and equality that we hold dear."

"We cannot defeat hate and bigotry if we pretend it does not exist, or refuse to call it by name, or neglect to take concrete steps to stop it. While the HNBA welcomes the calls of our nation's leaders denouncing these heinous acts, they must now show the American people the steps they will take to protect all Americans from hateful violence."

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Los Abogados is Arizona's Hispanic Bar Association. Founded in 1976 and incorporated in 1988, members of Los Abogados include private and public attorneys, judges, businesspeople, paralegals, and law students. Members practice throughout Arizona and presently serve as officers and directors of county, state, and federal bar associations. The mission of Los Abogados is to enhance the legal profession by promoting diversity, improving the quality and administration of legal services, encouraging education in the Latino community, supporting the just application of Civil Rights, and advocating for the Latino community. Los Abogados is an affiliate of the National Hispanic Bar Association.

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