

# HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION OF ORANGE COUNTY



The Hispanic Bar Association of Orange County promotes education, unity, and excellence in the Hispanic legal community.



## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

I am so thrilled about 2024 for the HBA! In March, our members, judges, justices, other dignitaries, past presidents, and sponsors attended the 46th Annual Gala Scholarship Fundraiser, Awards, & Installation Dinner, our organization's biggest fundraising event! Deserving law students Brandon Martinez (Harvard), Astrid Cardona (Western State College of Law), Christian Valenzuela-Cabral (UCI), Joshuel Calderon (UCLA), and Claudia Diaz Martinez (UCI), were awarded the HBA's Wally Davis Scholarship each receiving \$5000 to help fund their law studies. Andrea Cervantes (UCI) received the HBA's \$5000 Bar Stipend to help support her in her preparation for the Bar Exam.

At our Gala, we were privileged to honor Father Gregory Boyle, Founder and Director of Homeboy Industries, with the Hon. Francisco Briseño Lifetime Achievement Award for his extraordinary devotion to his work helping young adults and teenagers escape gang life by providing jobs and critical resources. Governor Newsom's Judicial Appointments Secretary Luis Céspedes, was honored with the Guardián de Justicia Award for his amazing work increasing diversity on the bench throughout California, and commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion on the bench and in the legal community. We also proudly honored Deputy Public Defender Amber Poston with Attorney of Year for her incredible work with the Public Defender, representing marginalized clients in minority communities, and for her commitment to the Unity Bar in California. Our Corporate Citizen was awarded to Target Corporation for their dedication to serving and strengthening the community through their positive impact on people's lives.

The HBA is committed to promoting education, unity, diversity, and excellence in the Hispanic legal community. Loyal members and Sponsors of the HBA provide the support and financial resources necessary for us to continue our mission of strength in areas where our community needs it. Thank you to our Membership and all our Sponsors for your amazing support! We are committed to social justice, community outreach, student mentoring, and diversity in the Latinx legal community and on the bench. Join us this year as we work together to continue to make a positive impact on the Latinx community. We have many exciting events planned, including our traditional Cinco de Mayo Mixer on May 2nd, at Avila's El Ranchito in Santa Ana, and our 1st Annual Salsa Dancing Night on June 20th at Perla Restaurant in Santa Ana! Please join us!!

Warmest regards,



Shelly Aronson

**President**

**Orange County Hispanic Bar Association**





### **2024 OCHBA EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Shelly Aronson, *President*; Frank Chirino, *President-Elect*; Laura Hassan, *Vice President*; Patricia Santamaria, *CFO*; Catherine Navarro, *Secretary*; Jeannette Garcia, *Immediate Past President*.

### **2024 OCHBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Violetta Schultz, Adrian Canzoneri, Alejandro Ruiz, Angela Chavez, Christopher Hernandez, Crystal De Aenlle-Fernandez, Elizabeth Alamillo, Griselda Rodriguez, Jennifer Corona, Manohar Sukumar, Maria Elena Parada, Melissa Padilla, Gardenia Montero, Miguel Alvarez Ramirez.



## Dear HBA Members & Colleagues,

It is with profound sadness to inform you of the passing of our cherished friend and colleague, Retired Judge Francisco Briseño. Judge Francisco Briseño passed away peacefully early this past Thursday morning at the age of 85, surrounded by family and loved ones. He was a beloved judge, colleague, and friend, of the HBA and entire bench and bar. Judge Briseño's legal journey began almost 55 years ago with his admission to the California State Bar in 1969. He enjoyed a meteoric rise in the Orange County District Attorney's Office from deputy district attorney to lead the D.A.'s Elite Homicide Unit from 1975 to 1979! He was appointed judge to the Santa Ana Municipal Court in 1977 by Governor Jerry Brown, becoming one of the youngest judges in the state and the second Hispanic judge in Orange County. Elevated to the Orange County Superior Court Judge in 1979, Judge Briseño holds the distinction of being one of the longest actively serving judges in Orange County's history. Even in retirement, he continued his service as an Assigned Judge for over a decade.

Judge Briseño's attributes extended beyond the courtroom. Presiding Judge Maria Hernandez adds, "[H]is military service in the United States Marine Corps spanned over three decades, earning him both the Bronze Star and the Joint Service Commendation Medal. His commitment to the community was further evident in his pivotal role in launching the Program SHORTSTOP, a Spanish-language adaptation of the SHORTSTOP program aimed at assisting Hispanic youths aged 9 to 17."

In 2010, in recognition of the judge's significant contributions to the legal, Latinx, and educational communities, the Orange County Hispanic Bar Association Honored Judge Briseño with the Lifetime Achievement Award, later renamed the Francisco P. Briseño Lifetime Achievement Award. This Award has been given out annually to a member of legal, educational, and minority communities, who best embody the attributes and qualities of a lifetime of service in our community, changing lives, improving our legal justice system, and bettering the lives of the community. Judge Briseño's legacy is a testament to a remarkable legal career and a profound impact on the lives of many. The HBA remembers Judge Briseño as a brilliant legal mind, who brought compassion, humor, dignity, and kindness to the bench and to everyone he encountered. We extend our heartfelt condolences to Judge Briseño's two daughters and his extended family. The HBA plans to honor Judge Briseño's with an Event to celebrate his legacy and memory which will be planned as soon as possible.

With sympathy and gratitude for Judge Frank Briseño's amazing Legacy,

*Shelly*

Shelly Aronson  
President, 2024  
Orange County Hispanic Bar  
Association



## 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Fundraiser & Installation Gala

On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, we held our 46th Annual Gala. The evening included the Installation of our 2024 OCHBA Executive Board and Board of Directors, Recognition of our 2024 Outstanding Wally Davis Scholarship and Bar Stipend Recipients, and Presentation of OCHBA's 2024 Award Honorees.



## 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala—Honorees

**Hon. Francisco Briseño Lifetime Achievement Award:**  
*Father Gregory Boyle, Founder/Director Homeboy Industries*

**Guardián de la Justicia Award:**  
*Judicial Appointments Secretary Luis Céspedes*

**Attorney of the Year:**  
*Amber Poston*

**Corporate Citizen Award:**  
*Target Corporation*



# 46<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GALA— WALLY DAVIS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

*Claudia Diaz-Martinez- UCI*  
*Brandon Martinez - Harvard*  
*Astrid Cardona - Western State*  
*Joshuel Calderon - UCLA*  
*Christian Valenzuela-Cabral UCI*  
*Andrea Cervantes - UCI - Bar Stipend Winner*





## 46<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GALA— SPONSORS

The Orange County Hispanic Bar Association Gala is our biggest Fundraiser of the year. The event would not have been possible without the generous donations of our Sponsors. We want to take a special moment to THANK all our sponsors. We look forward to seeing you next year!

# 2024 OCHBA GALA

PLATINUM SPONSOR



THANK YOU!



# 2024 OCHBA GALA

SILVER SPONSOR

# SIGNATURE RESOLUTION



THANK YOU!



# 2024 OCHBA GALA

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Perez and Perez  
Trial Lawyers

CALLAHAN & BLAINE

*California's Premier Litigation Firm™*

 Frost  
Brown Todd  
ATTORNEYS

**brownrudnick**



THANK YOU!



# 2024 OCHBA GALA

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CUSTOM SPONSOR

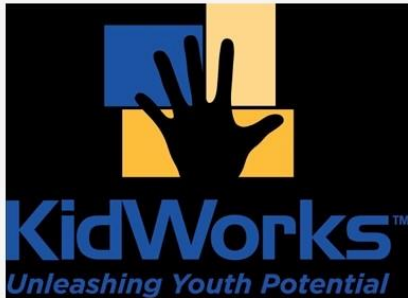


THANK YOU!



# 2024 OCHBA GALA

NONPROFIT SPONSOR



**Fowler School of Law**

TABLE & TEQUILA SPONSOR



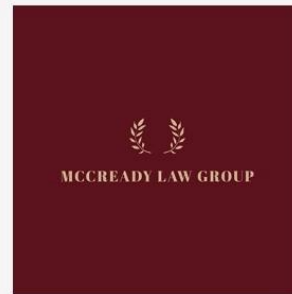
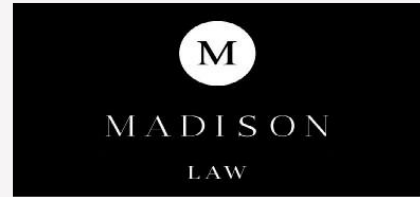
LAW OFFICES OF  
**DUARTE & ASSOCIATES**

**THANK YOU!**



# 2024 OCHBA GALA

## TABLE SPONSORS



THANK YOU!



# 2024 OCHBA GALA

## TABLE SPONSORS



PAYNE & FEARS

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**JULIANA  
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AGGRESSIVE REPRESENTATION  
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**BOCK & PLUMMER**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

**GED LAWYERS, LLP**

A T T O R N E Y S A T L A W



**THANK YOU!**



# 2024 OCHBA GALA

## TABLE SPONSORS



THANK YOU!



## OUR APOLOGIES

Orange County Hispanic Bar Association apologizes for inadvertently omitting the following two ads on our 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala Program. We appreciate your continuing support and understanding!

**THE GARCIA SISTERS TAKE GREAT PRIDE IN SPONSORING THE 46TH ANNUAL INSTALLATION DINNER OF OCHBA!**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR'S DESERVING HONOREES, SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS, AND DEDICATED BOARD MEMBERS.**

**A BIG THANK YOU GOES OUT TO OUR GUESTS AND ALL THOSE WHO PLAYED A PART IN MAKING THIS EVENT A SUCCESS**

**Juliana Garcia**  
Immigration Attorney  
(213) 290-5116  
www.juliana-garcia.com

**Jeannette Garcia**  
Family Law Attorney  
714-855-6474  
www.garcialawoffice.org

**JULIANA GARCIA • LAW**

**LAW OFFICE OF JEANNETTE GARCIA • APC**



Perez and Perez  
Trial Lawyers



# Felicidades

**Perez & Perez**  
Congratulates

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Father Greg Boyle  
*Founder & Director of Homeboy Industries*  
**OCHBA LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

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Luis Cespedes  
*Governor Newsom's Judicial Appointment Secretary*  
**GUARDIAN DE JUSTICIA AWARD**

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Amber Poston  
**OCHBA ATTORNEY OF THE YEAR**

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Target Corporation  
**CORPORATE CITIZEN AWARD**

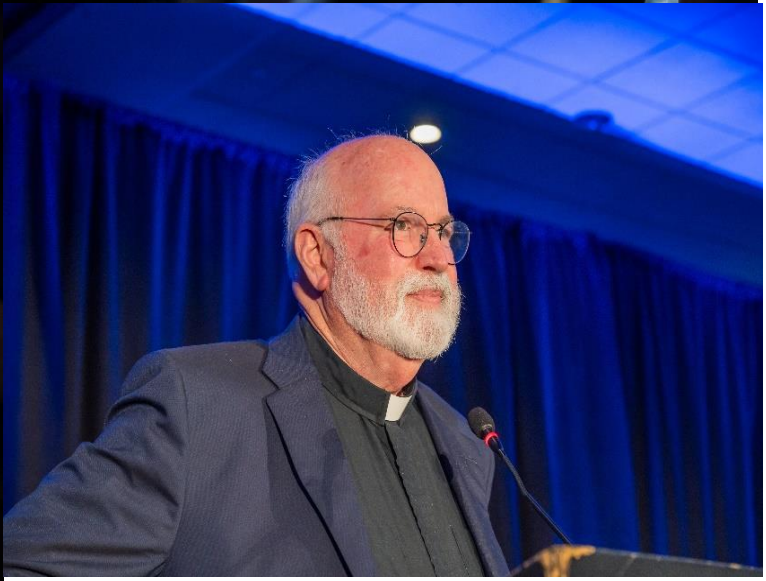
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**Perez & Perez**  
1150 S. Olive Street, Suite 600, Los Angeles, CA 90015  
Tel: (213) 745-6300  
Fax: (213) 745-6060  
Proudly Housing MABA's Main Office

## 46<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GALA— HIGHLIGHTS









## AFFILATE EVENTS

### OCAABA 2024 JUDICIAL RECOGNITION DINNER



# UPCOMING EVENTS IN OUR COMMUNITY

We have a number of events coming up in our community. Please be sure to check them out and register. The events are always fun, and you get plenty of opportunities to mingle and network with fellow community members. Don't miss out!!



*Continue Making a Difference!*

The Hispanic Bar Association of Orange County is reaching out to our members, asking for in-kind or cash donations for educational games, school supplies, and hygiene kits for children who are in transitional housing or at risk of displacement.

Hygiene products we need:

- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Dental floss
- Small lotion
- Hand sanitizer
- Soap
- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Deodorant
- Small detergent

We will be accepting donations from now until April 30th, 2024

Drop-off location:  
1800 N. Broadway, Suite 101  
Santa Ana, CA 92706

Donation Link:  
<https://ochba.org/Donate>

.....  
Contact: Violeta Schultz  
vschultz@publiclawcenter.org



Together we make a difference in people's lives!

¡Mil Gracias!

[Hispanic Bar Association of Orange County - Donate \(ochba.org\)](https://ochba.org/Donate)



# In-Person Citizenship Legal Clinic

Public Law Center will assist eligible lawful permanent residents with preparing and filing Form N-400, Application for Naturalization (Citizenship) with USCIS, including fee waiver applications for those who are eligible.

**When:** Friday, April 26, 2024

**Where:** Public Law Center,  
615 Civic Center Drive West, 3rd floor  
Santa Ana

**How:** Please call (714) 541-1010, ext. 332 to make an appointment. Walk-in appointments will not be available.

**Interpretation is available.**



**Public  
Law  
Center**



OCWLA & OCHBA PRESENTS

# May Day

## COFFEE MEETUP

WEAR FLOWERS OR SPRING ATTIRE & ENJOY COFFEE AND BREAKFAST WITH COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS.

**MAY 1, 2024**

• **FROM 8:15 AM TO 10AM** •

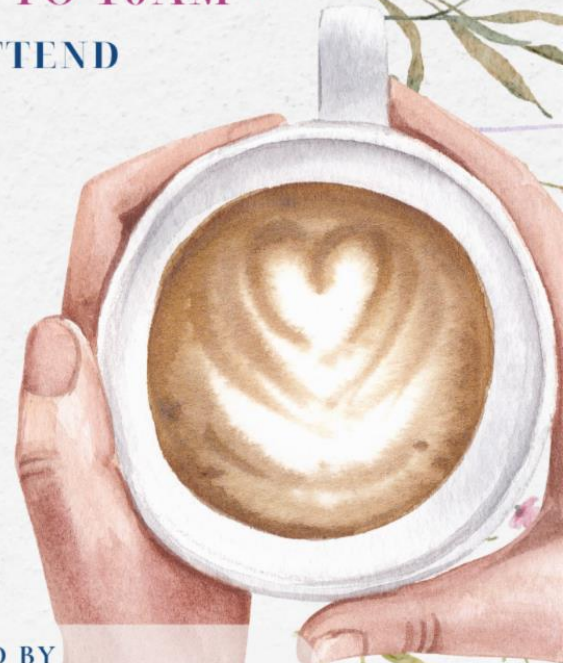
**FREE TO ATTEND**

**CORNER BAKERY  
IRVINE/TUSTIN  
MARKETPLACE**

PLEASE RSVP WITH QR  
CODE BY APRIL 27:



SCAN ME



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OCHBA MIXER



# Cinco de Mayo

MAY 02, 2024

**LIGHT DINNER & COCKTAILS**

5:30-8:00PM

TICKET PRICE:

LAW STUDENTS: FREE

JUDGES: \$10

OCHBA MEMBERS: \$35

NON-OCHBA MEMBERS: \$45



AVILA'S EL RANCHITO

2201 E. 1st STREET, SANTA ANA, CA 92705

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GARNETT, PC

[OCHBA.ORG/EVENTS](https://ochba.org/events)



The Hispanic Bar Association of Orange County  
Presents  
MCLE SEMINAR MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND 2024  
**PANAMANIAN JUNGLE**



Gamboa Rainforest Resort, Panama 2024  
An HBA Continuing Legal Education Travel Seminar  
May 23-27, 2024 (Flight departs May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 pm)  
5 Days/4 Nights at Gamboa Rainforest Resort in Panama  
Includes Roundtrip Nonstop Airfare LAX-Panama City-LAX  
**All for the incredible HBA member price of \$1725.00\*\***  
(Plus air taxes and fees of \$256.00\*, subject to change at the time of ticketing)

A \$500.00 Nonrefundable deposit must be received by **February 2, 2024**

Space and room types are limited and subject to availability on a first come, first serve basis.

Cash discounted price of \$1725.00, plus air taxes/fuel/security charges and fees (currently \$256.00, subject to change) per person includes: Roundtrip airfare on Copa Airlines, non-stop direct flight from LAX-Panama City-LAX, transfers for Panama City Airport to Gamboa Resort, 4 nights at Gamboa Rainforest Resort in a Standard garden view room, Daily Breakfast, visit to Panama Canal, full day tour to "Embera" Indigenous village and some HBA events. Seminar fees for attorneys are \$275.00 in addition to package price.

**IMPORTANT:** Your \$500.00 deposit is Non-Refundable regardless of circumstance. We highly suggest purchasing travel insurance at the time of leaving your deposit which is not included in your package price. Space is limited and is on a first come first served basis. Upgraded rooms and airfare are available but limited. Prices are listed for upgrades on the registration form.

\*\*Price is per person and based on double occupancy (2 people per room). Single supplement (1 person per room) in a Standard room needs to pay an additional: \$545.00. Children (under 12 yrs. as of date of departure) please call. Payments with credit card (Visa, Mastercard, AX or Discovery only) pay a convenience fee of 3.9% of the credit card charge. Travel insurance NOT included. Upgraded airline seats and upgraded rooms are available for an additional price. Please see registration form for this information.

#### SEMINAR INFORMATION

The seminar fees include 6-8 hours of CLE credit, syllabus materials and light refreshments. Seminar topics/speakers to be announced, (This activity is approved for Minimum Continuing Legal Education credit by the State Bar of CA in the amount of 6.0 -8.0 hours, as appropriate to the content of the activity).

#### DISCLAIMER

In that we are traveling to a foreign country whose culture, customs, habits and lifestyle may be different than those of the U.S., we wish to advise you that we cannot guarantee the availability of non-smoking rooms, wheelchair/handicap access, quality of service or noise restrictions. Music from nightclubs, other guests of the hotel and/or animals in their natural habitat, may produce noise at earlier or later hours than might be expected by us in the U.S. Please understand that once on site, Festival Travel/HBA cannot compel the hotel to change their customs and habits to suit our group's specific wishes; nor can the hotel be held financially responsible for any inconvenience or discomfort caused as a result of local cultural norms.

For complete itinerary and registration details, please contact:

Robert White at Festival Travel & Tours · 120 S. Chaparral Court, Suite # 160 · Anaheim Hills, CA 92808  
(714) 221-6381 e-mail: [Robert@toursfestival.com](mailto:Robert@toursfestival.com)



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**FIRST ANNUAL**  
**SALSA NIGHT**

JOIN US FOR  
COCKTAILS,  
APPETIZERS, &  
DANCING

WHEN: JUNE 20, 2024  
TIME: 5:30PM - 8:30PM  
WHERE: PERLA RESTAURANT  
400 WEST 4TH STREET  
SANTA ANA, CA. 92701

[OCHBA.ORG/EVENTS](http://OCHBA.ORG/EVENTS)



## **JOIN US**

If you want to make a difference in the community, join the Orange County Hispanic Bar Association. Help us reach more members of the Hispanic Community so that, together, we can further our mission.

[Hispanic Bar Association of Orange County - Membership \(ochba.org\)](https://ochba.org)

## **FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

<https://www.facebook.com/ochba2.0?mibextid=7B2xO4>

<https://www.instagram.com/ochba2.0?igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==>

Best Regards,

## **HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION OF ORANGE COUNTY**



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E-mail: [info@ochba.org](mailto:info@ochba.org) Web: [www.ochba.org](http://www.ochba.org)



*1st Quarter - 2024 - Newsletter*