



Hispanic/Latin American Lawyers Group

Mission Statement and Goals

The Hispanic/Latin American Lawyers Group (HLA) brings together Latham lawyers with personal and business ties to or a general interest in the Hispanic/Latino community to enhance the diversity of the firm; to actively support the recruitment, retention, and promotion of Hispanic/Latin American lawyers; and to cultivate networking opportunities and use business relationships to deepen the firm's connection to the Hispanic/Latin American community.



“At Latham, it is readily apparent that everyone, up to the highest level of firm leadership, is engaged in the area of diversity. This engagement is evident not only by the firm's resounding support of the HLA's goals but by the participation and many contributions of individual attorneys to the HLA.”

– JC Olivares, HLA Global Leader, Los Angeles associate

About Us

- The HLA uses mentoring to support the professional development of its members.
- We engage with law students and other diverse groups.
- We encourage involvement in the Latino community, including through volunteer work, pro bono opportunities, and serving Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking clients.
- We promote awareness of and sustain the firm's broader diversity efforts.
- We foster business relationships in Latin America.
- We welcome speakers and host events to address and educate about issues affecting the Latino community.

Recent Events

- Organized a tamale cooking class for associates and staff to celebrate the end-of-year holidays.
- Organized a “Jeans Day” to raise funds for Puerto Rico hurricane disaster relief efforts.
- Volunteered at Miriam's Kitchen, a nonprofit organization working to end chronic homelessness in Washington, D.C.
- Organized a Cuban event with live music followed by a Cuban food dinner in Madrid.
- Sponsored members' attendance at the Hispanic National Bar Association Annual Convention.
- Organized, jointly with other affinity groups and our Training and Career Enhancement Committee, a panel with Glen Collyer (retired Latham partner), Doreen Murakami (director of retirement benefits), and Todd Reynolds (analyst at Morgan Stanley) addressing the basics of financial planning.
- Organized a Mexican dinner in celebration of *Día de los Muertos*.
- Sponsored a Hispanic Heritage Month Cuban food lunch with informal conversation regarding the observance and Hispanic/Latino culture in general.
- Organized a documentary screening of “The Hand that Feeds” in celebration of the Hispanic Heritage Month.
- Hosted events with summer associates and new hires, including cocktail- and mocktail-making and a salsa dancing class.
- Event with US Representative (and former Latham lawyer) Nanette Barragan to hear how her experience at Latham gave her tools to succeed.
- Attended a performance of John Leguizamo's *Latin History for Morons*, followed by a meeting with Mr. Leguizamo to discuss Latino heritage.
- Hosted attorney-turned-comedian Eli Castro for a performance of *Law & Disorder*, which offered his perspective on criminal justice and his Puerto Rican heritage.

“Participating in HLA provides an opportunity for attorneys to connect with their colleagues across the firm, develop leadership and language skills, and stay up to date on legal issues affecting the Hispanic/Latin American community.”

– Blanca Vázquez de Castro, HLA Global Leader, Madrid associate



The Hispanic/Latin American Lawyers Group is one of eight affinity groups at the firm. Our affinity groups provide a firmwide platform to share experiences, advice, and interests, and to partner with clients and other groups interested in fostering a more diverse and inclusive profession.

