## THE NATIONAL LANJOURNAL MLJ.COM | November 2022

2022 NLJ Awards: Professional Excellence

## DC DIVERSITY INITIATIVE | Finalist

## Latham & Watkins

Describe your firm's key diversity initiatives. Although we have long focused on promoting and supporting diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI), we're particularly proud of our More Than Words initiative, through which we've increased our pro bono work that addresses systemic inequalities, offered training, and supported our frontline pro bono partners.

Tell us more about the impact of these initiatives both inside your firm and externally in court or with other external stakeholders? Two noteworthy civil rights matters include impact litigation challenging the federal government's effort to truncate the decennial census, which would have led to substantial undercounting of lower income and immigrant communities. We also served as outside counsel to the independent panel charged with investigating the death of Elijah McClain at the hands of law enforcement.

Our signature initiatives bring DEI experts to provide a deeper understanding of the history of inequality in the US, tying it to contemporary events and highlighting opportunities to change the system. Nearly 4,000 Latham colleagues and clients have participated to date.



Danny Dominguez, Vice Chair of Diversity Leadership Committee

■ How have your diversity initiatives changed how attorneys view working in your firm? Could you share some of the attorneys' feedback? At Latham, we take a comprehensive approach to our DEI efforts, working to advance equality in the legal profession and in the communities where we live and work. Collaboration between our respective groups on initiatives like More Than Words enables us to align our goals and amplify our impact.