



SELECTS SMALL, MEDIUM AND LARGE HISPANIC CHAMBERS OF THE YEAR – Awards were given during USHCC 32nd Annual National Convention in Miami Beach –

WASHINGTON D.C. (SEPTEMBER 19, 2011) -Today, the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (USHCC) recognized three outstanding Hispanic chambers from across the country at the 2011 Chamber Awards breakfast. Senator Bill Nelson (D-FL) and San Antonio Mayor Julian Castro addressed the audience, along with Antonio Mora of Good Morning America who emceed the event.

The Small, Medium and Large Chamber Award Winners were selected from Hispanic Chambers and Professional Trade Associations from cities throughout the country. They were judged on a variety of criteria including, leadership, community service and advocacy for local Hispanic enterprises.

"The success of the Hispanic business community in America is largely due to the strength, dedication and determination of our local chambers," says Javier Palomarez, USHCC President and CEO. "Today we recognize three chambers for their business acumen, and their instrumental efforts in helping create opportunities for businesses in their cities. This type of local leadership is what will drive national economic recovery."



(Asusena accepting the award for 2011 Chamber of the Year, USHCC Chair, Nina Vaca, USHCC President, Javier Palomarez and President of the Milwaukee Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and recipient of the 2010 Small Chamber of the Year, Nelson Soler.)

The Small, Medium and Large Hispanic Chamber of the Year Awards honor accomplished Hispanic chambers of commerce that serve fewer than 249 members, between 250 and 499 members, and over 500 members, respectively.

The Small Hispanic Chamber of the Year Award was presented to the Irving Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (IHCC), led by Chamber President Asusena Reséndiz. The IHCC was founded in 1998 and chartered in 2001 as a 501(c) 6 voluntary organization of dedicated individuals and businesses who have come together to advance the commercial, financial, educational and civic interests of the growing Hispanic Community in Irving. The mission of the IHCC is to serve as a resource center and forum to advocate for Hispanic and Minority owned businesses, as well as businesses seeking to serve the Hispanic market. To learn more about IHCC, visit www.IrvingHCC.com

The Medium Hispanic Chamber of the Year Award went to the Greater Philadelphia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (GPHCC), led by President & CEO Varsovia Fernandez. The GPHCC was established in 1990 by a committed group of Hispanic business professionals and individuals in response to the pressing need to create an organization that would respond to the various needs of the growing Hispanic business community. The GPHCC is a not-for-profit organization devoted to promoting the advancement and economic growth of Hispanic businesses and professionals in the greater Philadelphia region, through educational programs, and a broad range of services and special events. For more information about the GPHCC, visit www.philahispanicchamber.org.

The Large Hispanic Chamber of the Year Award was presented to the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey (SHCC), and President & CEO, Daniel Jara. The mission of the SHCC is to promote the continued growth and development of New Jersey business while upholding the highest standards of conduct and excellence. That mission is accomplished by helping members (both Hispanic and non-Hispanic) find expanded business opportunities - through networking and mutual support and encouraging, and facilitating mutually beneficial ties between the private and public sectors. To learn more about the SHCC, visit www.shccnj.org.

About the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Founded in 1979, the USHCC actively promotes the economic growth and development of Hispanic entrepreneurs and represents the interests of nearly 3 million Hispanic-owned businesses in the United States that combined generate in excess of \$400 billion annually. It also serves as the umbrella organization for more than 200 local Hispanic chambers in the United States and Puerto Rico. For more information, visit www.usbcc.com.

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