2017

Graciela Olivarez Award, The

Hispanic Law Students Association, NDLS

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The Graciela Olivarez Award

The Notre Dame Hispanic Law Student Association annually recognizes The Outstanding Hispanic Lawyer or Judge that best exemplifies the principles and ideals of the pioneer for whom this award is named, including commitment to community service, demonstration of the highest ethical and moral standards, and dedication to justice.

1997 – Justice Cruz Reynoso, (retired) California Supreme Court
1998 – Judge Martha Vazquez, U.S. District Court for the District of New Mexico
1999 – Honorable Reynaldo G. Garza, Senior Judge of the Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit
2000 – Norma V. Cantú, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education
2001 – Antonia Hernandez, President and General Counsel of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund
2002 – Margaret Montoya, Professor, University of New Mexico School of Law
2003 – Judge Richard A. Paez, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
2005 – Mercedes Colwin, Partner, Correspondent, & Community Activist
2006 – Jimmy Gurule, Professor, Notre Dame Law School
2007 – Judge Philip R. Martinez, U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas
2008 – Judge Cecilia M. Altonaga, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida
2009 – Rudy Monterrosa, Founding Attorney, Monterrosa Law Group, LLC and Adjunct Professor, Notre Dame Law School
2010 – Associate Justice Sonia Sotomayor, U.S. Supreme Court
2011 – Judge Emilio Garza, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit
2012 – Judge Carlos T. Bea, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
2013 – Dean Rachel F. Moran of UCLA School of Law
2014 – Luz E. Herrera, Assistant Professor, Thomas Jefferson School of Law
2015 – Thomas A. Saenz, President and General Counsel of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund
2016 – JoAnn Chávez, Vice President, Legal & Chief Tax Officer for DTE Energy
2017 – Susana Martinez, Governor of New Mexico