

Ana Nuñez Receiving Citizen Lawyer Award

The Citizen Lawyer Committee of the NCBA Young Lawyers Division, in conjunction with the NCBA Local Bar Outreach Committee, provides expanded coverage of the Citizen Lawyer Award recipients in recognition of their volunteer service and leadership in their communities and beyond. The following article is submitted for your consideration by the North Carolina Bar Association. The 2017 Citizen Lawyer Awards will be presented on Friday, June 23, at the NCBA Annual Meeting in Asheville, but the recipients have been notified of their selection and there is no embargo on this information. A photo of the recipient is attached.

By Dena Griffin

RALEIGH – The North Carolina Bar Association has recognized Ana Nuñez with its Citizen Lawyer Award. This award honors attorneys who dedicate their time and talents to serving their communities and inspire others to do the same.

Since graduating from North Carolina Central University School of Law, Nuñez has been a member of the NCBA's Minorities in the Profession Committee. Through her work while on the Committee, Nuñez has successfully co-chaired its ¡Adelante! Program. This award winning program aims to provide minority and first-generation law students with critical advice about managing debt, networking, and maximizing their internship experiences.

Nuñez is not only dedicated to serving the next generation of lawyers, she is also a zealous immigration law advocate. In 2016, because of her dedication to the area of immigration law, Nuñez was appointed to the Governor's Advisory Council on Hispanic/Latino Affairs.

Nuñez has also volunteered with the CARA Pro Bono Project in Dilley, Texas. This pro bono project is designed to provide women and children who are detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement pro bono legal representation. Nuñez, along with the other volunteers for the project, are committed to ending the practice of family detention.

In explaining why service to her community is so important, Nuñez says, "It is my opinion that as lawyers we have a social responsibility to our community. Being involved in my community makes me a better lawyer. It provides me with opportunities to learn about my community and to help folks with everyday problems. As a Latina, it is also important to me that Hispanic/Latino community members see themselves represented in the legal field."

Nuñez's continued work in the community and legal profession is invaluable and reminds those around her why it is ever so important to be a citizen lawyer.

END

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