



For Immediate Release
November 6, 2017

Contact: Amanda Bosquez, abosquez@naleo.org
(202) 546-2536, (361) 548-6989 (cell)

Paula Valle Castañon, pvalle@naleo.org
(323) 253-6431 (cell)

More than 100 Resumes of Qualified Latino Candidates Sent to Gubernatorial Candidates in Advance of Election Day

Resumes shared by New Jersey Latino Gubernatorial Appointments Task Force will ensure incoming Governor has information needed to appoint skilled Latinos to administration from their first day in office

Trenton, N.J. – One day before Election Day, the non-partisan New Jersey Latino Gubernatorial Appointments Task Force announced that the group has shared binders with resumes of more than 100 qualified and talented potential Latino appointees with the Republican and Democratic candidates for Governor, Kim Guadagno and Phil Murphy.

The binders of resumes were shared with both candidates in advance of Election Day to ensure that the winner of the November 7, 2017 election will have the information needed to appoint qualified and talented Latinos to key posts during the transition period and from their first day in office.

“For the first time in history, our organizations are working together to help the state’s deep bench of qualified Latinos put their skills and talents to work for the good of New Jersey,” stated Roberto Frugone, NALEO Educational Fund northeast director. “The more than 100 resumes we have collected already show that New Jersey Latinos are ready to step up to the plate and do their part by serving in top positions throughout the new Governor’s Administration.”

The NJ Latino Task Force was formed in October by the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey (HBA-NJ), the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund and the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey (SHCCNJ) to increase the number of Latinos serving in appointed positions within the new Governor’s administration.

Following the gubernatorial election on November 7, 2017, the NJ Latino Task Force will continue to work to provide the new governor and administration with access to resumes of talented and qualified Latinos who are willing to put their skills to work to improve the lives of all New Jerseyans. To accomplish this goal, the NJ Latino Task Force will collaborate with leading statewide and local Latino organizations to facilitate the collection of additional resumes of qualified individuals who want to give back by serving in state government.

“By sharing the resumes of more than 100 qualified Latinos directly with the two leading candidates for Governor, we are removing many of the barriers that have prevented Latinos from serving in administration positions in the past,” stated Arlene Quinonez-Perez, HBA-NJ president. “Together with the other members of the NJ Latino Task Force, we are working to remove these obstacles and provide both gubernatorial candidates with access to Latino candidates who are willing to roll up

their sleeves and address the most pressing issues facing New Jersey today by serving in the incoming administration.”

Latinos account for one in five New Jerseyans, and more than 12 percent of all registered voters in the state. This growing population group is quickly becoming the future of the New Jersey electorate and an essential component of the economic and entrepreneurial activity in the state.

“Latinos in New Jersey have a wealth of expertise and experience,” stated Carlos Medina, SNCCNJ chairman. “As business owners, attorneys, health and education experts, social workers, union members, and more, our community’s combined contributions to the vitality of the state go beyond each election cycle. We are calling on both gubernatorial candidates to acknowledge our qualifications and talents by appointing Latinos to serve within the highest levels of the New Jersey state government from their first day in office.”

The NJ Latino Task Force is a volunteer driven collaborative made up of the leadership from each of the member organizations, HBA-NJ, NALEO Educational Fund and SHCCNJ, and is not affiliated with any specific campaign. The mission of the NJ Latino Task Force is to ensure that Latinos are ready to engage in the transition process for the future Governor-Elect of New Jersey.

For more information on the NJ Latino Task Force or to submit a resume, please email NJTaskforce@naleo.org.

###

About the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey (HBA-NJ)

Founded in 1980, the HBA-NJ is a 501(c)(6) nonprofit association that is comprised of attorneys, judges, law professors, law students, and other professionals who share a common interest in addressing the issues affecting Hispanics within the legal community.

The purpose of the Association is to serve the public interest: (i) by cultivating the art and science of jurisprudence, (ii) by advancing the standing of the legal profession, and (iii) by preserving high standards of integrity, honor, and professional courtesy among Hispanic lawyers.

About NALEO Educational Fund

NALEO Educational Fund is the nation's leading non-profit, non-partisan organization that facilitates full Latino participation in the American political process, from citizenship to public service. For more information about NALEO Educational Fund please visit www.naleo.org.

About the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey (SHCCNJ)

SNCCNJ was founded in 1989 when Business leaders met with Governor Tom Kean and were encouraged to start a Chamber to foster, mentor and train Hispanic Owned business in New Jersey. Over the years, various publications have ranked our chamber among the largest in the state. As a not-for-profit organization for over 27 years, SHCCNJ has become the voice of the 119,000 Hispanic-Owned Businesses that contributes over \$20 Billion to the State's economy. The Chamber is the premier vehicle to access the Latino community and its formidable purchasing power, as evidenced by our growth of non-Hispanic membership reaching 45 percent.