



June 14, 2016

Dear LIHBA member, colleague and friend, I hope that this letter finds you doing well and enjoying a successful year. I'm writing to let you know about some of what we have accomplished over the past year, and to inform you about what we have planned for the ensuing twelve months.

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We had a very successful Gala last September, with over two hundred guests and members in attendance. We were able to raise close to six thousand dollars (\$6,000) for our scholarship fund. In that regard, as some of you may recall, we established an endowment fund with Touro Law School for a total of \$25,000, payable in \$5,000 installments. The last payment will be made in the spring of 2017. Also, as part of our ongoing relationship with the law schools and LALSA, we set up an internship program in conjunction with Hofstra, St. John's and Touro Law Schools, together with six law firms and the Suffolk County District Attorneys Office. Through this program we will be placing eight students in summer internships, one each at the law firms and two at the DA's office. The internships are fully paid for by the respective law firms and through a \$10,000 grant from Bethpage Federal Credit Union for the two students placed at the Suffolk DA.

The foregoing is just a sampling of what has transpired in the past year, and we are excited to share with you the plans for the up-coming twelve months:

General Membership meeting on June 29th (site to be determined); sandwiches and beverages will be served; membership dues collected. Allow no less than two hours for the meeting.

East Meets West—a joint free networking event with the Dominican Bar Association to be held in the City on June 16th. See the enclosed flyer and visit the event section of our website in order to register.

Speed Mentoring—We were selected and received a grant from the HNBA to host a speed mentoring program at Hofstra Law on August 31st; we anticipate that many of you will volunteer and participate.

Gala—Our Gala will be held on Friday, September 30th at Villa Lombardi's from 7-midnight. We have some improvements for this year, including a sit down dinner, valet parking and a much improved cocktail hour menu.

Networking Event Will be held on November 3rd at Rivkin and Radler, which was arranged by one of our illustrious past presidents, Frank Valverde.

On Your Feet—trip into the City for dinner and the show, On Your Feet, on November 19th. You may purchase your tickets through our website. The deadline is August 31st. Dinner details to follow.

Holiday party—January 13th—details to follow.

Supreme Court admission—We are planning a trip to DC in May of 2017 for admission to the Supreme Court; we hope to have Justice Sotomayor do the swearing in. More details will follow.

Gala—September 15,2017. More details to follow.

As you can see, we have a full agenda. There are other plans in the works, and there were many more events which the LIHBA participated in and sponsored during this past year. If you have missed any of these events , we hope that you will join us this year in many of our upcoming activities.

In addition to the many planned activities, we have been very busy with some changes to our day to day operations. The website, as you may have noticed, has been revamped and we have a new logo. We are now on LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Besides these technical improvements, we are working on restructuring and updating our bylaws. Once completed, we will put it to the general a membership for a vote. After its approval, we will be make it available, and accessible, through the website.

Now turning to some housekeeping. As a member of the LIHBA, your benefits include the option to join the HNBA through its website for only \$50 instead of the regular price of \$250. Another benefit of membership is that you are listed on the LIHBA website. We receive calls on a regular basis from individuals seeking legal assistance in the various fields of law and we refer them to our members who have paid their dues.

The dues for the calendar year 2016 are \$75 for attorneys, \$35 for associate members and student membership is free. Fees for all membership type are due by April 30th, as such, if you have not paid your dues yet, please do so through the website; we have extended the deadline to June 29th,the day of our next general membership meeting. At the meeting we will accept the payment of dues by checks only. If you wish to continue to appear on the LIHBA website and have cases referred to you, you have to be a member in good standing and have your dues paid in full. Those of you who have not paid by then, will have to be removed from the website. Remember that the dues are the lifeblood of the LIHBA, because every dollar collected at the Gala after expenses goes to the Scholarship Fund.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our meetings and future functions. I remain,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank Torres", with a long, sweeping underline.

Frank Torres
LIHBA President