



For Immediate Release
Friday, April 13, 2012

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Northwest Justice Project Director César Torres to Participate in White House Forum on Legal Aid

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Washington, DC – Northwest Justice Project (NJP) Executive Director César Torres is one of six legal services program directors selected to participate in a White House forum examining the state of civil legal assistance for low-income Americans. The forum, co-hosted by the Legal Services Corporation (LSC), will take place on Tuesday, April 17.

Other speakers will include: U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder; Deputy Chief of Staff to the President Mark Childress; former Pennsylvania Governor and U.S. Attorney General Richard Thornburgh; U.S. Department of State Legal Advisor Harold Hongju Koh; Department of Veterans Affairs General Counsel Will A. Gunn; White House Counsel Kathryn Ruemmler; Justice Jess H. Dickinson of the Mississippi Supreme Court; Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan; American Bar Association President William T. Robinson; LSC Board Chairman John G. Levi and Harvard Law School Dean Martha Minow, who is also vice chair of the LSC board.

“The Northwest Justice Project is a leader in the delivery of legal services,” said LSC President James J. Sandman, who will moderate a panel of directors from LSC-funded programs. “Their innovative approach to technology led to the creation of a statewide, centralized, point of access for a full range of legal services, and a dynamic website with extensive self-help materials in multiple languages. NJP is also a strong partner with the Washington Supreme Court’s pioneering Access to Justice Board.”

Torres is one of six directors chosen from among the 135 organizations nationally that receive federal funding through LSC. In addition to Washington, other states to be represented on the panel are Arizona, Georgia, Montana, Ohio and Virginia.

Established by Congress in 1974, LSC is the single largest funder of civil legal assistance in the nation. LSC grants help address the civil legal needs of the elderly, victims of domestic violence, veterans seeking benefits to which they are entitled, persons with disabilities, tenants facing unlawful evictions, and other civil matters.

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