



Washington State Bar Association

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Chach Duarte White Receives 2012 Excellence in Diversity Award

(SEATTLE) — The Washington State Bar Association (WSBA) has presented attorney **Chach Duarte White** with the 2012 Excellence in Diversity Award. This award is made to a lawyer, law firm, or law-related group that has made a significant contribution to diversity in the legal profession's employment of ethnic minorities, women, persons with disabilities, and other persons of diversity. WSBA President Stephen Crossland presented the award at the WSBA Annual Awards Dinner on Sept. 20, 2012, at the Hyatt at Olive 8 in Seattle.

"Chach has worked tirelessly to make a significant contribution to diversity in the legal profession's employment of ethnic minorities, women, persons with disabilities, and other persons of diversity," said Professor **Paula Lustbader**, director of the Seattle University School of Law's Academic Resource Center. "Chach serves as an example of the type of commitment to and leadership for diversity issues that this award seeks to acknowledge."

Duarte White received her undergraduate degree in industrial engineering from Stanford and her law degree from Seattle University School of Law. Her legal career began as a staff attorney with the Northwest Justice Project, where she provided civil legal advice primarily to monolingual Spanish-speaking clients through the CLEAR line, Washington's centralized intake, advice, and referral service for low-income people seeking free legal assistance with civil legal problems. Since 2005, she has maintained a solo practice, Duarte White Law, LLC, where she has provided Title 26 guardian ad litem services to monolingual Spanish-speaking clients. She later worked as an associate director of Seattle University School of Law's Academic Resource Center, where she taught as an adjunct professor for its

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Working Together to Champion Justice

Legal Writing ARC program, and taught criminal law study strategies. From 2008–12, she was the WSBA diversity program manager, tasked with advancing and promoting diversity, equality, and cultural understanding throughout the legal community.

Duarte White is a regular speaker on diversity issues in the legal profession. This year, she played an integral role in the creation and execution of the inaugural Judicial Institute, a collaborative program developed to encourage and assist minority attorneys run for judicial office in Washington state.

In January, the Latina/o Bar Association of Washington awarded Duarte White its highest honor, the Abogada Excepcional/Extraordinary Attorney Award, given to an LBAW member whose professional and civic activities have significantly contributed to the advancement of LBAW's purpose and mission.

About the Washington State Bar Association

The WSBA is part of the judicial branch, exercising a governmental function authorized by the Washington State Supreme Court to license the state's 34,800 lawyers. The WSBA both regulates lawyers under the authority of the Court and serves its members as a professional association — all without public funding. The WSBA's mission is to serve the public and the members of the Bar, ensure the integrity of the legal profession, and to champion justice.

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