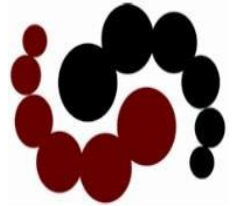




WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

## Civil Rights Law Section



August 31, 2016

To: Civil Rights Law Section Members

From: Alec Stephens, Section Chair

### **Announcing Civic Leader Award Recipient for 2016**

Each year, the Civil Rights Law Section recognizes individuals or organizations who have made a notable contribution to the cause of civil rights. Recipients are persons or entities who have championed the cause of equality for impoverished, underserved, minority or disabled populations in Washington State. Examples of exemplary work in this area would include, but are not limited to, those who regularly fight on local or state government levels for expansion or defense of civil rights protections, or who represent or advocate on behalf of people or issues concerning civil rights or basic human rights.

**Civic Leader Award:** Recipients are attorneys, individuals or organizations that represent or advocate on behalf of people or legal issues regarding civil rights, civil liberties, or basic human rights such as freedom from discrimination, protection from abuse, or obtaining essential human services such as food, healthcare and shelter. The following persons are being recognized for their distinguished service, with a brief statement from their nominator:

**2016**

#### **Luis Moscoso**

State Representative Luis Moscoso represents Legislative District No. 1, which includes northeast King County and south Snohomish County. Rep. Moscoso was elected to this position in 2010. Prior to his legislative service he was a bus driver for Community Transit in Snohomish County and active in union leadership, including with the Washington Public Employees Association. He is a first generation Peruvian American. Rep. Moscoso has a remarkable record of sponsoring bills promoting civil rights in his three terms in the legislature. Many of those bills are ones the Civil Rights Law Section supported, such as the Washington Voting Rights Act, the Washington Fair Chance Act (also known as the "ban the box" bill), the bill to reform Legal Financial Obligations, and the bill to abolish the death penalty in Washington. Each of these bills involved championing equality for people of color and communities that have been disenfranchised. In 2012, he passed a piece of legislation to keep at-risk youth out of gangs by focusing on prevention and intervention tactics in schools and community centers. Rep. Moscoso has shown bold leadership in the civil-rights related bills he has been willing to sponsor, and in his willingness to have difficult conversations on issues like police practices, even when advocating on such issues poses political risks. While he will be leaving the Legislature at the end of his current term, having lost a bid to move to the Washington Senate, his record of civic engagement indicates that his work on civil rights issues will continue.

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**Presentation of Awards**

The Civil Rights Law Section plans to present the 2016 Civic Leader Award to Rep. Moscoso, along with the previously announced 2015 & 2016 Distinguished Service Award Recipients (Prof. Michele Storms and Adam Moore), and the 2015 Civic Leader Award recipients (Joint Award to Hon. Larry Gossett and posthumously to Bob Santos) at the Civil Rights Law Section Annual Meeting on September 23. Please look for further announcements regarding the Annual Meeting.

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