

Dear Legal Scholars,

It is my true privilege to welcome you to this inaugural issue of the *South Texas College of Law Houston Hispanic Journal of Law and Policy*. I am confident this publication will inform and significantly impact the Hispanic legal community in Texas and across the nation. By establishing and sponsoring this journal, our esteemed alumnus Benny Agosto Jr. unquestionably has provided an important voice for Houston's Hispanic legal community and ushered in a new vehicle for professional development, education, and activism.

At South Texas College of Law Houston, we are proud that Mr. Agosto has founded such a relevant vehicle for inspiring thoughtful discourse on issues of importance to legal scholars. We are honored to serve as the academic home for this journal, which is sure to unite attorneys – as well as leaders in social work, public policy, government, and other fields – around pressing current topics.

As president of the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA), Mr. Agosto identified the need for an association journal and spearheaded the creation of the *HNBA Journal of Law and Policy*. Using that and other publications as inspiration, he has funded and championed this journal to benefit current practitioners and students alike.

While this inaugural issue includes contributions from prominent Houston lawyers, judges, and academic leaders, the goal is for law students to assume authorship of the journal, enabling them to become advocates on these key issues.

South Texas College of Law Houston faculty and administrators look forward to hosting a symposium on campus to introduce the journal and congratulate Mr. Agosto on his important work in making it a reality. Under his direction, I am confident that the *South Texas College of Law Houston Journal of Law and Policy* quickly will become a leader in our state and country on legal issues impacting the Hispanic community.

Sincerely,

Donald J. Guter  
Rear Admiral, JAGC, USN (Ret.)  
President and Dean  
South Texas College of Law Houston