Minority Law Students Benefit from Generosity of the Legal Community

July 29, 2011 – San Francisco -- BASF recently announced the recipients of its 2011 Bay Area Minority Law Student Scholarships.

Due to increased funding and the generosity of new donors, four scholarships will be awarded to minority students attending Bay Area law schools. In 2010, BASF gave two scholarships. Scholarships were awarded based on financial need, scholastics, involvement in public service, and barriers faced in life. Each recipient will receive a $10,000 scholarship for the 2011-2012 school year. The scholarship may be renewable for an additional two years.

BASF’s scholarship-winning students are Edelmira Diaz, Antonio Ingram, Elva Linares, and Everardo Mora.

Edelmira Diaz, UC Hastings College of the Law, worked with the Office of the San Diego Public Defender on Welfare Cases and Felony Arraignments as a UCLA undergraduate student. She has also received her Master of Social Work from San Francisco State and advocates for families, children, seniors and disadvantaged adults throughout the Bay Area. Antonio Ingram, UC Berkeley Boalt Hall School of Law, has advocated for economically marginalized communities throughout the world, including Boston, Nepal, New Orleans, Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic. He graduated from Yale University in Spring 2011 with a degree in Religious Studies.

Elva Linares, UC Hastings College of the Law, is actively involved in leadership organizations with the mission of helping minority communities and has advocated for the rights of undocumented students. Elva is a graduate of the University of California, Davis with a double major in Psychology with an emphasis in child development and International Relations with an emphasis in South America.

Everardo Mora, University of San Francisco School of Law, is a BASF Diversity Pipeline Programs volunteer and has given countless hours to BASF’s Destination Law School program for diverse students on the path to law school. After graduating from UC Berkeley with a degree in American Studies, he was awarded the prestigious Judith Lee Stronach Baccalaureate Prize to continue his oral history research on the culture of work and family at Del Monte Plant 3.

Since its inception in 1998, BASF’s Bay Area Minority Law Student Scholarship program has provided financial assistance to more than 65 law students. The program was established to reaffirm a commitment to diversity in legal education and the legal profession.

The scholarships to be awarded in 2011 are the Morrison & Foerster LLP Scholarship, the Brosnahan Scholarship, the Shanna Bradford Scholarship from the Arthur and Charlotte Zitrin Foundation, and the Pacific Gas & Electric Scholarship. BASF continues to seek the assistance of law firms, corporations and individuals who are willing to help sustain this
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impactful and unified effort.

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The Bar Association of San Francisco (BASF) is a nonprofit voluntary membership organization of over 8,000 attorneys, law students and legal professionals in the Bay Area. Founded in 1872, BASF is one of the largest and most dynamic metropolitan bar associations in the U.S., with a long and distinguished record of community action, public service and service to the legal profession.