

BASF Announces Bay Area Minority Law Student Scholarship Recipients for 2015

FOUR LOCAL LAW STUDENTS BENEFIT FROM GENEROSITY OF LEGAL COMMUNITY

July 13, 2015 – San Francisco -- The Justice & Diversity Center (JDC) of The Bar Association of San Francisco recently announced the recipients of its 2015 Bay Area Minority Law Student Scholarships. Thanks to the generosity of donors, four scholarships will be awarded to minority students attending Bay Area law schools this Fall.

2015 scholarship donors include: AT & T, Morrison & Foerster Partners Scholarship, Shanna Bradford Scholarship of the Arthur & Charlotte Zitrin Foundation and the BASF Lawyer Referral & Information/Sey Hey Foundation.

The 2015 scholarship recipients are Allyssa Villanueva, Luis Beltran, Adriana Mendez and Lucina Natividad Rios.

Allyssa Villanueva, who is a second-year law student at UC Hastings College of the Law, received her undergraduate degree in ethnic studies/African American studies at UC San Diego. She assumes leadership positions with local organizations because she wants to create opportunity for at-risk populations. Her personal philosophy is to only give her energy and focus to further justice. Her goal is to be the most powerful and educated advocate possible.

Luis Beltran, will attend UC Hastings College of the Law as a first year this Fall. He received his undergraduate degree in political science from University of Nevada. Beltran believes that exposure and facilitation of equal educational and economic opportunities serve as equalizers in overcoming disadvantages. Upon completion of law school, he is eager to begin defending youth within the juvenile justice system.

Adriana Mendez, will attend UC Hastings College of the Law as a first year this fall. She received her undergraduate degree in political science and criminal justice from Gonzaga University. Mendez desires to ease suffering and provide benefits to socio-economically challenged individuals involved with the legal system. Upon graduation from law school, she intends to be a public defender.

Lucina Natividad Rios will attend UC Hastings College of the Law as a first year this Fall. She received her undergraduate degree in politics from UC Santa Cruz. Rios is sensitive to inequities of women of color and is keenly aware of the lack of diversity in the legal community.

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 2015-2016 school year, which may be renewable for an additional one to two years.



BASF Announces Bay Area Minority Law Student Scholarship Recipients for 2015 (continued)

Since its inception in 1998, BASF's Bay Area Minority Law Student Scholarship program has awarded more than \$1.7 million in support. The program was established to reaffirm a commitment to diversity in legal education and the legal profession.