United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Announces New Board Members ahead of 2023 National Conference







From L to R: César Vargas, Patty Juarez, Jaime di Paulo

WASHINGTON, D.C. – **September 7, 2023** – The United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (USHCC) proudly announces the selection of talented business leaders to its Board of Directors in the lead-up to the 2023 USHCC National Conference, <u>The Future is Now: Elevating Latino Business for Tomorrow,</u> taking place September 24th to 26th in Orlando, FL. Bringing years of experience in the private sector, the strategic guidance of these industry leaders will further USHCC's access to capital, connections, and capacity building for the nearly 5 million Hispanic-owned businesses across the United States.

In 2023, the following industry leaders will serve a 2-year term on the USHCC Board of Directors:

- César Vargas, Chief External Affairs Officer at Anheuser-Busch: For nearly four decades Anheuser-Busch has worked with USHCC to support Hispanic entrepreneurs and small business owners and drive economic prosperity. Vargas brings more than 25 years of private sector experience and will help fortify the Chamber's network in both public and private sectors.
- Patty Juarez, Head Hispanic/Latino Affairs for Wells Fargo: Boasting an impressive 29-year track record in banking, Juarez's finance expertise will be pivotal in steering the Chamber's business-focused endeavors.
- Jaime di Paulo, President & CEO of the Illinois Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (IHCC): Renowned for cultivating strategic partnerships and providing small businesses with financial literacy education, di Paulo is an expert in expanding job prospects for the Latino community and forging invaluable connections.

These new members will work alongside the broader USHCC leadership team, leveraging their collective expertise to drive growth on behalf of America's Latino entrepreneurs. The Hispanic Business community contributes over \$800 billion to the American economy every year, with a collective GDP of over 2.85 trillion dollars.

"The addition of our newest USHCC board members reflects the highest caliber of leadership across business sectors to represent and support the growth of our thriving Latino community"

said Ramiro Cavazos, USHCC President & CEO. "As a whole, the board's diverse backgrounds, spanning the public and private sectors, facilitate expanded access for our members looking to foster partnerships across industries and sectors and pursue new opportunities to secure capital, connections, and capacity-building. Their invaluable expertise and insights will advance the landscape of Hispanic business."

The USHCC Board of Directors boasts visionary leaders representing various sectors, including local Hispanic Chambers of Commerce, Hispanic Business Enterprises (HBEs), and Corporate Partner Members.

New Board Member Profiles

César Vargas is Chief External Affairs Officer at Anheuser-Busch where he serves on the executive Management Committee and is responsible for overseeing the company's legal and corporate affairs agenda in the U.S. Drawing on a global perspective gained over more than 25 years managing domestic and international public affairs activities, César leads a dynamic team of in-house attorneys and public affairs professionals that protect and advance Anheuser-Busch's reputation and enable company growth. Before joining Anheuser-Busch, César held senior level roles with other Fortune 100 multinational companies and with international consultancies.

Patty Juarez was recently appointed Wells Fargo's first-ever head of Hispanic/Latino Affairs. Prior to that she worked in commercial banking for 28 years where she held various leadership positions. She is involved in several professional and community organizations, including the Orange County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Chapman University's Board of Governors, and the Latino Donor Collaborative Advisory Board. Juarez is focused on serving Latino clients and employees at Wells Fargo, managing a portfolio of community organizations serving the Latino community, diversity, inclusion and representation. She is immediate past president of Hispanic and Latino Connection which represents over 34,000 Latinos internally at Wells Fargo. Juarez is passionate about empowering and supporting diverse owned businesses and advocating for millions of HBEs.

Jaime di Paulo is the President & CEO of the Illinois Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (IHCC), a leading Hispanic business networking, advocacy, and development organization in the Midwest. Since 2019, he has led IHCC in intensifying its commitment to assist the Latino business community, resulting in a substantial increase in job creation and retention, as well as access to financial resources for small businesses. Under his leadership, IHCC has established strategic partnerships with the Aspen Institute, The Economic Club of Chicago, and the Government of Mexico. Through his tireless efforts, di Paulo continues to provide crucial support, education, and resources to empower Latino entrepreneurs and drive progress for the community.

For a full list of the USHCC Board of Directors, visit the USHCC website.

About USHCC

The United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (USHCC) actively promotes the economic growth, development, and interests of five million Hispanic-owned businesses that, combined, contribute over \$800 billion to the American economy every year. The USHCC is America's largest small business advocacy group, representing more than 260 local chambers and business associations nationwide, and partners with hundreds of major American corporations. For more information, please visit ushcc.com. Follow us on Twitter @USHCC.

About USHCC Educational Fund

Founded in 2017, the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Educational Fund (USHCC) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Washington, D.C., affiliated with the USHCC. The mission of the USHCC is to educate, train, build capacity, conduct research, provide leadership development opportunities, expand access to capital, and create grant funding for Hispanic businesses through a national network of 260+ Hispanic chambers of commerce. Leveraging the USHCC's board sponsor and support network, the USHCC has secured more than \$10 million in philanthropic dollars in support of its mission since its founding.

Media Contact:

Kelsey Flitter, Chemistry Cultura for USHCC KFlitter@chemistryagency.com

Alma L. Molina, VP of Communications and Marketing, USHCC amolina@ushcc.com