



**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF LANGUAGE ACCESS IN FEDERALLY FUNDED SERVICES**

Endorsed July 2014

**WHEREAS**, the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color (CBAC), organized in 1992, is a coalition created to act as a collective voice for issues of common concern to its member organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, the member organizations of the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color are the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA), the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), the National Bar Association (NBA), and the National Native American Bar Association (NNABA); and

**WHEREAS**, increasing access to justice for limited English proficient individuals has long been a high priority for CBAC; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2010 U.S. Census reports that 20 percent of the entire American and Native American populations are limited English proficient; and

**WHEREAS**, according to research gathered from the 2010 U.S. Census, limited English proficient individuals are more likely to live below the federal poverty line compared to the overall U.S. population; and

**WHEREAS**, Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and Executive Order 13166 requires all agencies receiving federal financial funding to make meaningful efforts to provide language access (e.g., qualified interpreters, translated documents) for limited English speaking persons; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates the employment of interpreters and translators will increase by 46 percent in the next 20 years – much faster than the average of all occupations – due to projected demand and continued growth of language diversity in the U.S; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that CBAC calls upon all courts and other adjudicatory tribunals to prioritize effective implementation of the *ABA Standards on Language Access in the Courts*; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that CBAC calls upon state and federal executive branches to provide adequate funding to allow courts and other adjudicatory tribunals, including all tribal courts, to effectively provide service to limited English proficient individuals; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that CBAC supports efforts to increase access to all federally funded services for limited English proficient individuals, including within the courts and larger justice system, as well as in the health care system, voting, schools, and other institutions; and

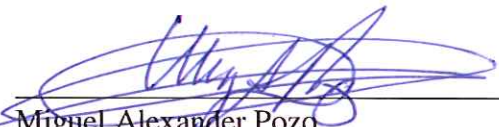
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that CBAC authorizes its officers and staff to communicate the content of this resolution to other minority bar association members, members of the U.S. Congress, the press, and to whomever else the CBAC Board deems suitable to receive the information; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that this resolution shall be the legislative priority of the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.


#### **CERTIFICATION**

**WE**, the duly-elected Presidents of the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA), the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), the National Bar Association (NBA), and the National Native American Bar Association (NNABA), hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly enacted by a duly noticed meeting of the Board of Directors.

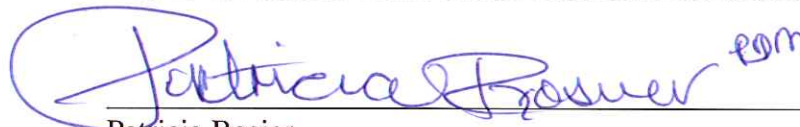


  
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 Miguel Alexander Pozo  
 President, Hispanic National Bar Association


7.15.14  
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 Date

  
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 William J. Simonitsch  
 President, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association

7-15-14  
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 Date

  
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 Patricia Rosier  
 President, National Bar Association

July 15, 2014  
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 Date

  
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 Mary Smith  
 President, National Native American Bar Association

15 July 2014  
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 Date

