



March 30, 2011

Media Contact: Diane Alverio  
diane@dalverioco.com, 860-548-1136

## Gov. Malloy Recognizes the increasing role of Latinos in Connecticut

*U.S. census data indicates that Connecticut's Latino population has grown by 50% in the last decade to almost a half million residents*

Coming on the heels of the latest U.S. Census figures, Gov. Dannel Malloy joined Latino leaders from across Connecticut for Latino Advocacy Day at the Capitol in recognition of the significant contributions of Latinos in Connecticut.

"Gov. Malloy has sent a strong signal to the people of Connecticut today that Latinos are an increasingly important part of our state's economy, politics and our communities," said Rep. Andres Ayala (D-Bridgeport), event chair.

Data from the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute's (USHLI) Latino Index released in 2008 mirrors the growth found in census data. There were 1,281 Latino businesses with 8,762 paid employees with an annual payroll of \$224 million in 2002. In 2009, Latino purchasing power in Connecticut was \$9 billion, and the Pew Hispanic Center's 2008 data shows that Hispanic homeownership in Connecticut has reached 33%.

Carmen Sierra, Executive Director of CAUSA, Inc., which represents 18 social service agencies in the state, took the opportunity to thank Gov. Malloy for his support of the social service agencies which provide services to the state's most vulnerable populations. "He understands that non-profit Latino agencies are part of the 'safety net' and that our work is a cost-effective part of the solution in moving our state ahead."

"Latinos are without a doubt reshaping our communities and culture throughout Connecticut as evidenced by the new Census data. Latinos in Connecticut are consumers, business-owners and most importantly, a growing segment of our state workforce. We at LPRAC are convinced that if we work together we can help improve our state's economic future," says Isaias T. Diaz, Esq., LPRAC Chairman.

"Census results suggest steady movement by Latinos toward parity in numbers, even as the effort toward full equality and integration in our society is ongoing," said Sen. Toni N. Harp (D-New Haven).

###

*Latino Advocacy Day* is led by the Latino legislative Caucus and sponsored by AT&T, CAUSA, Inc., LPRAC, the Spanish American Merchants Association, and 23 of the state's leading Latino organizations.

### SPONSORING AGENCIES

Alpha Community Services/  
Branch of the Central Coast YMCA

Brighter Future Youth Center

Casa Boricua

Chemical Abuse Services  
Agency, Inc. (CASA)

CT Association for United  
Spanish Action (CAUSA, Inc.)

Centro de la Comunidad

Connecticut Puerto Rican Forum

Hispanic Health Council

Hispanic Center of  
Greater Danbury

Junta for Progressive Action, Inc.

Latino Community Services, Inc.

Latino and Puerto Rican  
Affairs Commission

La Via Latina

New Life Corporation

San Juan Center

South Norwalk Community Center

Spanish American Merchants  
Association (SAMA)

Spanish Community of  
Wallingford, Inc.

Spanish Speaking Center

Optimus Health Care, Inc.

Greater Bridgeport Latino  
Network (GBLN)

Hispanic Coalition of Greater  
Waterbury Inc.

The Puerto Rican Caucus of the  
Connecticut General Assembly



**Latino Agencies ARE the Safety Net!**