

DATE: 03/07/2012

TO: City Clerk

FROM: Representative Susie Byrd

ADDRESS Two Civic Center Plaza, 10<sup>th</sup> floor

TELEPHONE 915-541-4416

Please place the following item on the (Check one): CONSENT XXX REGULAR \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda for the Council Meeting of March 13, 2012

Item should read as follows: Appointment of Gabriela A. Gallegos to the Ethics Review Commission by Representative Susie Byrd, District 2.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

**BOARD COMMITTEE/COMMISSION APPOINTMENT/REAPPOINTMENT FORM**

NAME OF BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION: Ethics Review Commission

NOMINATED BY: Representative Susie Byrd DISTRICT: 2

NAME OF APPOINTEE Gabriela A. Gallegos  
(Please verify correct spelling of name)

BUSINESS ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: El Paso ST: TX ZIP: 79930 PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: El Paso ST: TX ZIP: 79930 PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

WHO WAS THE LAST PERSON TO HAVE HELD THIS POSITION BEFORE IT BECAME VACANT?

NAME OF INCUMBENT: Raymundo Rodriguez

EXPIRATION DATE OF INCUMBENT: 02/20/2011

REASON PERSON IS NO LONGER IN OFFICE (CHECK ONE): TERM EXPIRED: XX  
RESIGNED \_\_\_\_\_  
REMOVED \_\_\_\_\_

CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL DATE: 03/13/2012

TERM BEGINS ON : 02/21/2011

EXPIRATION DATE OF NEW APPOINTEE: 02/20/2013

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING: 1<sup>st</sup> TERM: XX

2<sup>nd</sup> TERM: \_\_\_\_\_

UNEXPIRED TERM: \_\_\_\_\_

# GABRIELA A. GALLEGOS

## EXPERIENCE

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**President, A REAL BIG, LLC DBA RACE EL PASO** (El Paso, TX) 2009 – present

Directs and produces high-quality multisport and endurance events in El Paso. Secures local and national sponsorships, develops and implements athlete education, markets and promotes events through web-based, traditional, and social media, works with multiple governmental entities, secures and manages medical and public safety staff, engages vendors and executes events to meet national safety standards, recruits and trains volunteers. Eagle in the Sun Triathlon 2010, El Paso's only USA Triathlon-sanctioned event, sold out in 20 days and over 5 months before the race.

**Attorney, VINSON & ELKINS L.L.P.**, Appellate Section (El Paso & Dallas, TX) 2004 – 2011

Represented clients in a variety of appellate and trial matters in state and federal courts; analyzed issues, developed and drafted briefs and other submissions involving complex procedural questions, issues of first impression, and trials and appeals of disputes in many areas of law, including contracts, real estate, class actions, defamation, and legal malpractice. Representative clients included media organizations, health care organizations, municipalities, major financial institutions, real estate and general investment groups, and law firms.

- Lead attorney successfully defending major credit card company against claims of breach of contract and violation of federal consumer credit regulations before the Fifth Court of Appeals in Dallas.
- Member of team securing reversal and rendering of \$366 million jury verdict against a hospital in *Poliner v. Texas Health Systems*, 537 F.3d 368 (5th Cir. 2008), and defending the decision against certiorari review by the United States Supreme Court.
- Lead associate developing and presenting briefing in *Grotti v. Belo Corp.*, 188 S.W.3d 768 (Tex. App.—Fort Worth 2006, pet. denied), successfully defending a news media organization in a defamation action.
- Researched constitutional issues and drafted expert statement for presentation to the Texas Senate Committee on Regulated Industries in connection with the largest-ever private equity buyout.
- Lead attorney managing a multi-state class settlement for one of the nation's largest property and casualty insurers; lead associate successfully defending settlement before the Oregon Court of Appeals.

**Law Clerk, U.S. DISTRICT COURT**, Honorable Jerry Buchmeyer, (Dallas, TX) 2003 – 2004

Researched substantive and procedural legal issues, drafted court orders and opinions, and served as first point of contact for attorneys practicing before the court.

**Editor-in-Chief, CALIFORNIA LAW REVIEW** (Berkeley, CA) 2002 – 2003

Managed 90-person staff in the selection and publication of 6 books of legal scholarship; edited legal articles written by law professors; proposed and instituted policy changes to increase efficiency and uniformity of publications, member satisfaction, and access to membership for underrepresented students.

**Financial Analyst, CITY OF PALO ALTO** (Palo Alto, CA) June-Oct. 2000

Drafted staff policies and City Manager Reports for a fee election; ensured compliance with first municipal fee election under new California statute; conducted financial research, reviewed and analyzed the year-end budget.

**Director, COUNT ME IN** (El Paso, TX) 1998 – 1999

Directed a non-partisan, non-profit organization aimed to increase voter turnout in El Paso. Designed methodologies and organizational systems for voter-turnout program, performed statistical analyses of voter databases and prepared annual budget, supervised and trained staff and volunteers in public speaking and information management, met regularly with local community and business leaders and elected officials.

## EDUCATION

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### UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

Boalt Hall School of Law, Juris Doctor 2003

Goldman School of Public Policy, Masters in Public Policy 2002

*Honors:* Public Policy and International Affairs Fellowship (Summer Institute: University of Michigan, 1997); Victor Van Bourg Scholarship; *California Law Review* (Editor-in-Chief)

*Activities:* Graduate Student Assembly Representative, Student Assembly Finance Committee, *Berkeley La Raza Law Journal* (Executive Editor), East Bay Workers' Rights Clinic; Intramural Basketball (co-ed team finals 2001; all-female team champions 2000)

### CORNELL UNIVERSITY, Ithaca, NY

College of Arts and Sciences, Bachelors of Arts 1998

Double Major in Government and Philosophy, Concentration in Law and Society

*Honors:* Dean's List, Cornell Tradition Fellow, Cornell Tradition Senior Recognition Award; COSEP Academic Excellence Award

*Activities:* Admissions Recruiter, Educational Policy Committee, Arts & Sciences Ambassador

## ORGANIZATIONS, AWARDS & CERTIFICATIONS

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- Paso del Norte Group (Executive Committee; Program Co-Chair; Young Leaders Group Steering Committee) (2009-present)
- USA Triathlon Certified Race Director (2009-present)
- Board of Directors, Community Scholars, Inc. (2008-present)
- Texas Rising Star, Appellate & Business Litigation, *Texas Monthly Magazine* (2008)
- Recipient, State Bar of Texas President's Award (2008)
- El Paso Bar Association (2008-present)
- Dallas Hispanic Bar Association (Director; Secretary; Scholarship Committee) (2003-07)
- Board of Directors, California Law Review (2003-04)

Admitted to Practice: Texas (2003); U.S. Supreme Court (2008); U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit (2003); U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas (2009); U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas (2003)

## PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

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- Presenter, *Federal Appellate Procedure*, Federal Civil Practice Seminar, Fed. Bar Assoc. of Dallas, 2007.
- *Border Matters: Redefining the National Interest in U.S.-Mexico Immigration and Trade Policy*, 92 CALIF. L. REV. 1729 (2004).
- Panelist, Equal Justice Society, Third Annual National Conference, University of Michigan Law School, 2004.
- Presenter, *Latina/o Advocacy Groups: Strategies for Affecting Policy Change in the House*, National Association of Chicana and Chicano Studies, Mexico City, Mexico, 1998.