



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NFPA Celebrates National Hispanic Heritage Month

National Hispanic Heritage Month is observed from September 15 to October 15 to celebrate the culture and traditions of U.S. residents who trace their roots to Spain, Mexico, and the Spanish-speaking nations of Central America, South America, and the Caribbean. The national observance was first established by Public Law 90-498, authorizing the President to proclaim National Hispanic Heritage Week each year. On August 17, 1988, the 100th Congress enacted Public Law 100-402, which extended the observance from a week to a month.

September 15 was chosen as the starting point for the celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month because it is the anniversary of the independence of five Central American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively, and Belize celebrates its independence day on September 21.

Hispanic/Latino leaders continue to make great strides in the legal profession. From Sofia Adrogué, an immigrant from Argentina who did not speak English and is now one of the top attorneys in Texas, to Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor, a Puerto Rican New Yorker and the first Latina Supreme Court Justice, Hispanic/Latino leaders continue to positively impact the legal profession.

In 2020, the Afro-Latin, Chicano, Latin, and Indigenous population in the United States reached 62.1 million, constituting 19% of the nation's total population, the second-largest racial or ethnic group, and representing 48% of New Mexico's population, 39% of the populations of both California and Texas, and 26% of Florida's population.

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To all of our members celebrating National Hispanic Heritage Month, thank you for your important contributions to NFPA.

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