



JOSÉ R. RODRÍGUEZ
EL PASO COUNTY ATTORNEY
500 EAST SAN ANTONIO
ROOM 503, COUNTY COURTHOUSE
EL PASO, TEXAS 79901

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For More Information Contact:
Elhiu Dominguez
Public Affairs Officer
Phone: (915) 546-2016
Cell: (915) 472-1354
FAX: (915) 546-2133
Elhiu.dominguez@epcounty.com

**EL PASO COUNTY ATTORNEY NAMED AMONG THE TOP 25
MINORITY LAWYERS IN THE STATE BY TEXAS LAWYER
MAGAZINE**

El Paso County Attorney José R. Rodríguez has earned a spot among 2009 Texas top 25 “Extraordinary Minorities in Texas law” by Texas Lawyer magazine.

The announcement was made this week in the publication of a tabloid-sized special section inside the September 28 edition of the Texas Lawyer magazine. The publication profiles 25 leading lawyers of color, selected by the editors of *Texas Lawyer* for their impact on Texas firms, government, nonprofits, academia and/or the corporate world within the past five years.

In a press release to introduce the profiles of the attorneys featured in the publication, Texas Lawyer editor in chief Colleen McGushin said: “There is no doubt that the 25 attorneys profiled in these pages have made significant contributions to law and lawyering in Texas. They write the laws that shape our state; stand up for the powerless; guide powerful corporations; and extend a helping hand to the next generation of attorneys.”

County Attorney Rodríguez was recognized for his many community achievements including winning water, sewer and other infrastructure development for low-income unincorporated border communities known as colonias. Rodríguez also exposed inequities in state funding (El Paso Court of Inquiry) to bring more tax dollars to El Paso and other border communities. He implemented a teen court, and an environmental task force which takes on issues such as illegal dumping. In addition, Rodríguez is involved in legislative matters, including the passage of the County Code of Ethics Legislation, the first of its type in the state. Outside the office, Mr. Rodríguez is heavily involved in several social justice organizations relating to health care, border and immigrant rights.

The 25 “Extraordinary Minorities in Texas law” will be honored at a luncheon on October 23 at the Hotel Crescent Court in Dallas. The keynote luncheon speaker will be Texas Supreme Court Chief Justice Wallace B. Jefferson. To view the section online, visit www.texaslawyer.com. or <http://www.law.com/jsp/tx/PubArticleTX.jsp?id=1202434126600>.

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