

# Common Council

## City of Buffalo

**DAVID A. RIVERA**  
 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE  
 NIAGARA DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBER

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Erie County Legislature  
 92 Franklin Street  
 Buffalo, NY 14202

March 3, 2011

**Re: Erie County Community Corrections Advisory Board**

Dear Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature:

As you know, members of the Hispanic Community appeared before the Erie County Community Corrections Advisory Board on February 15, 2011 to discuss an extremely important issue. Specifically, David Rivera, Niagara District Councilman, and Lourdes Iglesias, Executive Director of Hispanics United of Buffalo, testified and expressed very serious concerns that the Advisory Board currently has **NO** representatives from the Hispanic Community despite the fact that Hispanics constitute a considerable portion of the incarcerated population. After their powerful testimony was heard, the Advisory Board voted to recommend to the Legislature that the Board be expanded to include a representative from Hispanics United of Buffalo.

We understand that the Legislature, acting on the suggestion of the Advisory Board, recently passed a resolution to expand the Board to include an additional member "to be recommended by the Hispanic Community of Erie County." **We would like to THANK** both the Advisory Board and your Honorable Body for taking these important steps in ensuring that the Hispanic Community has representation on the Board.

It is with great pleasure that we, the Hispanic Community of Erie County, recommend to your Honorable Body, Mr. Kenneth Colon. As an employee of Hispanics United of Buffalo, Mr. Colon works with individuals on alternatives to incarceration. He also serves on the Re-entry Task Force and has intimate knowledge of the incarceration system. As you know, Mr. Colon has expressed ongoing interest in serving on the Advisory Board and previously submitted his resume for consideration of the Legislature's Public Safety Committee in January.

We thank you again for the leadership your Honorable Body has shown on this important issue. We look forward to Mr. Colon's service on the Advisory Board and the insights and experience he will most certainly be able to provide.

Very Truly Yours,

David Rivera  
 Common Council, Niagara District

Lourdes Iglesias  
 Hispanics United of Buffalo

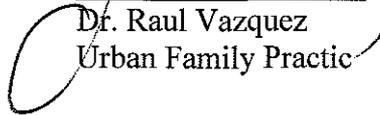
Ralph Hernandez  
 Buffalo Public Schools Board

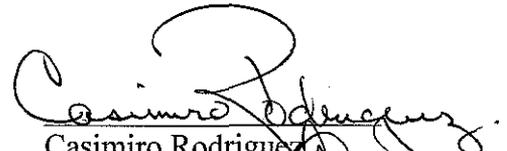
  
Mike Rivera  
Housing Coordinator

  
Pastor Rivera  
Hispanic Pastor's Assoc.

  
Wilmer Olivencia  
President PUCHO, Inc.

  
Carmen Melendez  
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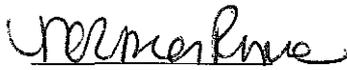
  
Dr. Raul Vazquez  
Urban Family Practice

  
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Community Activist

  
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