



## Spotlight: Miguel Pozo

presenting the numerous diversity initiatives he has a hand in at Lowenstein Sandler.

Miguel Pozo's introduction to the legal profession came through a valuable summer internship with SEO's Corporate Law program. Miguel says he gained a tremendous sense of community from SEO. "Being a first generation college and law school graduate, it was refreshing to meet so many talented young professionals from around the country." SEO also served as a significant launching pad for Miguel's career as it provided his first exposure to corporate America and the legal profession. "It was one thing to have an idea in my mind to be a lawyer, but SEO and my internship at Debevoise & Plimpton made it real by opening the door and teaching me firsthand about what it really means." Miguel's commitment to creating opportunities and championing diversity extends well beyond his efforts inside the firm. He also serves as Vice President for the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey and is the New Jersey Regional President for the Hispanic National Bar Association.

“People sometimes ask me, ‘How are you making a difference if you are not a public defender?’ Miguel Pozo, SEO '93, continues, “But I believe that long-term and lasting societal change will be a product of people addressing issues from a variety of angles - and I have an obligation to do it from my angle.” It is clear that Miguel takes this obligation to heart. His esteemed legal, professional and nonprofit commitments have created a valuable platform from which he can be an agent for change. “Somebody once told me that there are those that wonder what will happen, those that watch things happen and those that make things happen.”

Today, Miguel is a Partner in the Litigation department at Lowenstein Sandler PC, one of New Jersey's largest firms. At Lowenstein, Miguel is a member of the Diversity Initiatives Committee and the editor-in-chief of DiversityIsNatural.com, an initiative dedicated to fostering the advancement of women and minorities in the legal profession. Making his mark on the field, Miguel was named a “Rising Star” in 2007 by New Jersey Super Lawyers magazine, and in 2005 one of New Jersey Law Journal's “50 Leading Women and Minority Attorneys.” Just a few months ago The Metropolitan Corporate Counsel featured Miguel in “Lead by Example - A Timeless Message,” an article

“It is one thing to be committed [to diversity] and another thing to put my money where my mouth is, so to speak.” Miguel explains how the Associations' undertakings, including the expansion of opportunities for judges of color and continued efforts to diversify the legal profession, allow him the opportunity to shape dialogue and level the playing field while making a real difference.

To help open other doors outside of his field, Miguel is involved with the Newark Museum as a way to expose youth to art and culture, and serves on the board of directors of the Boys and Girls Club of Newark. “It is incredibly fulfilling as a board member to shape the direction of an organization's mission with a critical eye toward increasing the impact the organization can have on children. It is truly inspirational to interact with these young people. They are future leaders, but historically underserved, so it is important to know that the programs are catching them while they are still impressionable.”

A sense of duty drives Miguel to serve in this mentoring capacity, citing the powerful impact mentors had on him as a young kid, throughout his SEO internship and even as a young lawyer. Miguel asserts, “I will never forget where I came from and subsequently, will not overlook or abandon my social obligations.”